

Liberty for America

Journal of the Libertarian Political Movement

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There Is No Building!

Liberty for America Facelift

We are not abandoning our past. We are not abandoning our accurate, detailed investigative reporting. We are looking to expand substantially our coverage of state and local Libertarian political news. We are looking to expand significantly our coverage of international Libertarian news. Note in this issue a letter from Norbert Geng, leader of the German *Partei der Vernunft* (Party of Reason). Your support in sending us news items will be most appreciated.

The War on America

Back in 2008 when I ran for our Presidential nomination against Republican Bob Barr, Republican Wayne Root, and their LNC supporters, I discussed what was then known about electronic spying on all Americans. I said at the time

- 1) **Electronic Warfare is Warfare.** If you don't believe me, look up how much money the military spends on it.
- 2) **America is the American People.** America is not a flag, or a piece of hemp paper: America is its people.
- 3) **Waging electronic warfare on the American people,** listening to their phone messages and reading their email, **is waging war on the America.**
- 4) **Waging War on America is treason.** It's one of the three crimes enumerated in our Constitution.

Therefore: Fair trials for the electronic warriors against America. When I was asked how we would try and imprison so many people, well, we tried and imprisoned drug users. We can try these people, too. There are fewer of them. Some of them may even be innocent. That's why we have judges and juries. As for the rest, well, after we free the drug users, there will be plenty of space in Federal prisons for twenty or forty or even a hundred thousand new prisoners.

The world has not changed since 2008. Be pleased to note that NSA recruiters recently appearing on at least one major university campus (Wisconsin) encountered hostile student hecklers.

The above is excerpted from my forthcoming book, working title *The War on America*.

Donors to the David F Nolan Memorial Building effort should note that the LNC took your money, but they are not buying your building. They are buying an "office condominium". Yes, it's the **David F. Nolan 2% of a Building**, a little part of a large office tower, 70% of which is for rent by one property management company. Some LNC members claim that an office condo had been an option allowed all along. I am quite sure there was no public mention of this **bait and switch scheme** until the actual purchase loomed.

Much more on this on page 4, but first some

Good News Oregon Lawsuit Ends Our State Affiliate Is Victorious!

The Oregon Court dismissed the case by the Reeves faction, leaving Wes Wagner and his state committee, and their 10,000+ members, as the Libertarian Party of Oregon. The ruling was based on a strong body of law and precedent that the legal system should not enter into the internal affairs of political parties. The Reeves faction attempted to claim that their judicial committee was therefore entitled to decide which side was the state party. The Court said "no". Our affiliate has won.

There is now a suit by the Wagner faction asking that the court award legal fees. The Wagner group must demonstrate that the suit was entirely lacking in merit. If so, we are advised that the Wagner group will be entitled to collect their legal fees — now closing on \$300,000 — from the Reeves faction litigants, making the Wagner defendants whole.

Massachusetts Special Election for Congress Massachusetts-05, Senator Markey's District

Massachusetts Libertarians have a probable candidate or even two. A candidate will need about 3000 raw signatures...perhaps \$6000 less volunteer support...to get on the ballot.

LP-Sacramento Raises a Quarter-Million

Yes, that is a quarter-million dollars, including \$40,000 now and
Continued Page 2. Column 2

Editorial: Who is the enemy?

We have bipartisan agreement.

Vice President Dick Cheney: Snowden is a “traitor”.

Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.): “I think it’s an act of treason.” ...

Republican Speaker of the House Boehner: Snowden is a “traitor”

Democratic Senator Bill Nelson on Snowden: an “act of treason.”

Former U.N. Ambassador John Bolton: “Edward Snowden is a “traitor” who has “committed an act of war against the United States”

Republican Senator Saxby Chambliss “If he is not a traitor, then he’s pretty darn close to it”.

But if Snowden’s deed was treason, who was the enemy he helped?

The people most affected by Snowden’s revelation are not foreign spies. They know no communication lines are secure.

The people most affected by Snowden’s revelations are us, the people of America. We’re the ones just now learning that we live in a police state. The NSA records all our telephone calls, all our internet messages, and all our bank and credit card transactions.

The NSA may search electronically for anything, anywhere. Cheney, Feinstein, Boehner, Bolton, Chambliss, Nelson, and all their friends have revived the Writ of Assistance, the general search warrant of King George III that was a primary cause of the American Revolution.

We the People are the ones who just now learned that Democratic and Republican politicians, standing together behind Cheney, Feinstein, Boehner, Bolton, Chambliss, Nelson, and all their friends, have shredded our Constitution and Bill of Rights.

We’re the people who Snowden helped.

Cheney, Feinstein, Boehner, Nelson, Bolton, Chambliss, and all their establishment friends have made very clear:

Americans are the people they do not trust. Americans are the people who must be watched and monitored and spied upon. Americans are the menace. Americans are the enemy.

Cheney, Feinstein, Boehner, Nelson, Bolton, Chambliss, and all their establishment friends prove by their deeds that we are their enemies. They wage electronic warfare on all of us.

But that coin has a second side.

If we are their enemy, it must be the case:

They are our enemies.

Cheney, Feinstein, Boehner, Nelson, Bolton, Chambliss and their establishment cronies. They’re the enemies of all Americans.

We need to correct matters, with the boxes that count:

The soap box.

The donation box.

The ballot box.

Excerpted from George Phillies’ forthcoming book, working title *The War on America*.

LP-Sacramento Raises a Quarter-Million Dollars (continued)
\$200,000 in pledges, raised by the Sacramento County, California county affiliate. Their achievement sets a standard for Libertarians across America to emulate.

Joe Wendt Launches Presidential Poll

Libertarian Joe Wendt of Florida has launched a SurveyMonkey poll asking people who they would support as our next Presidential candidate. The poll may be used at

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/K8QVGCs>

The candidates are a somewhat eclectic list, including Jim Burns, Darryl Perry, Robert Milnes, George Phillies, Adam Kokesh, Jesse Ventura, Michael Badnarik, Kip Lee, John Wayne Smith, Thomas Knapp, Jim Gray, Adrian Wyllie, Lee Wrights, Mary Ruwart, and Tom Stevens. We will report on results when they are announced.

LP-Illinois State Convention

Libertarian Party of Illinois Convention! September 20-22 at the Bolingbrook Holiday Inn, 205 Remington Blvd, Bolingbrook, IL 60440. A list of speakers (there is also a business meeting) includes

Mary Ruwart, Keynote address: “Why Liberty Is the Only Solution to the Health Care Crisis”

Dianna Visek “Dealing with Drones”

Saturday luncheon, Radley Balko “Police -State America”

Robert Murphy, “Teaching Keynesians Real Economics”

Thomas Hill and R. Lee Wrights, “Nullification!”

Debate: “Resolved, non-intervention is the most effective and moral policy for the defense of America” Ken Prazak, Lee Wrights, Bruno Behrend, David Applegate

Tom Woods, “Radical and Effective Libertarian Politics”

Steve Horwitz, “Engaging Progressives with Libertarian Solutions”

LP-Texas Local Training Effort

Texas Libertarian Regional Leadership Conferences

Beginning in late September, the Libertarian Party of Texas will host at least four regional leadership conferences to train and empower local leaders, candidates, and volunteers. Speakers will teach Libertarians how to participate in politics. Candidates will learn how to keep up with State filing requirements, fundraising, and general campaign advice. County leaders will be trained to run business meetings and conventions and how to grow their local organization. Volunteers will be empowered to become convention delegates and to do outreach to further the cause of Liberty.

Liberty for America is edited by George Phillies, 48 Hancock Hill Drive, Worcester MA 01609 (508 754 1859). To Subscribe, go to LibertyForAmerica.com and click on the 'subscribe' button. Subscriptions, sent by email to your computer, are free. Back issues of Liberty for America magazine are available on the web at <http://LibertyForAmerica.com/LFAMagazine.htm>.

LP Texas Hires New Executive Director

Lauren Daugherty has been hired as the LP-Texas Executive Director. She recently returned to Texas after spending time in DC. The Texans write of her: "While in DC, Lauren worked as a fundraiser at **FreedomWorks** and as a programs officer for both the **Leadership Institute** and **Clare Boothe Luce Policy Institute**. She has MAs from the Institute of World Politics and Johns Hopkins University. **She is a 7th generation Texan.** She is quoted as saying: "**I am excited to be joining the team at LP Texas. I look forward to getting to know everyone and working together to advance our Party, ideas, and candidates.**" Her contact email is director@lptexas.org.

We wish her well, and hope that Texas is the state that proves that a state party can have hired staff without going broke.

Restore the Fourth Demos Held Across America

Here, slightly late, is a press release, but expect Restore the Fourth to be back next year. Their demonstrations attracted considerable crowds in some places.

Restore the Fourth is a grassroots, non-partisan, non-violent movement that seeks to organize and assemble nationwide protests on July 4th, 2013. Protesters in over 100 cities across America will gather to demand that the government of the United States of America adhere to its constitutionally dictated limits and respect the Fourth Amendment. RestoretheFourth.net

**Sample—This is your sample issue of
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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.

provides a detailed list of protest locations. reddit.com/r/restorethefourth gives far more information.

And no matter where you are you can always send a message with

Wear Black on the Fourth <https://www.facebook.com/events/351363251656735/>

Here is the Restore the Fourth Press Release:

RESTORE THE FOURTH TO HOLD PROTESTS ON JULY 4TH FOR FOURTH AMENDMENT RIGHTS

United States of America (June 18, 2013) -

Restore the Fourth is a grassroots, non-partisan, non-violent movement that seeks to organize and assemble nationwide protests on July 4th, 2013. Protesters in over 100 cities across America will gather to demand that the government of the United States of America adhere to its constitutionally dictated limits and respect the Fourth Amendment. <http://www.RestoretheFourth.net> provides a detailed list of protest locations.

Restore the Fourth maintains that justification of the Fourth Amendment beyond the original text need not be given; the legitimacy of which is self-evident. "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized." The Fourth Amendment of the Bill of Rights clearly protects all citizens' assets, both digital and physical, against searches and seizures without warrant; they aim to assert those rights. They insist that the proper channels of government work to ensure that all policy complies with the supreme laws of the United States of America in their entirety.

Restore the Fourth requests that American citizens' right to privacy is respected and stands with the Electronic Frontier Foundation and StopWatching.us on their open letter to Congress. As informed members of the American electorate, they endorse and echo the letter's demands.

1. Enact reform this Congress to Section 215 of the USA PATRIOT Act, the state secrets privilege, and the FISA Amendments Act to make clear that blanket surveillance of the Internet activity and phone records of any person residing in the U.S. is prohibited by law and that violations can be reviewed in adversarial proceedings before a public court;

2. Create a special committee to investigate, report, and reveal to the public the extent of this domestic spying. This committee should create specific recommendations for legal and regulatory reform to end unconstitutional surveillance;

3. Hold accountable those public officials who are found to be responsible for this unconstitutional surveillance.

The July 4th demonstrations seek to demand an end to the unconstitutional surveillance methods employed by the U.S. government and to ensure that all future government surveillance is constitutional, limited, and clearly defined.

Restore the Fourth aims to ensure that the will of the people is reflected in the government of the United States of America. This movement intends to bring an end to twelve years of Fourth Amendment abuses, and demonstrate the need for a return to the Constitution. All Americans should stand with them in this cause to protect the Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution.

-30-

For a list of protests:

<http://www.restorethefourth.net/protests/>

I will note two, because in a sense it started here Boston, MA the Old State House Please join us in planning and attending a protest at 10:00 am on the 4th of July against the NSA, PRISM, and the Patriot Act. We will be meeting to quietly and respectfully listen to the reading of The Declaration of Independence at the Old State House at 09:30 am.

Organizational Meeting: Sunday 6/23 - 2pm - Boston Common - Soldiers and Sailors Monument

and here

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Washington Square Park July 4, 2013 restorethe4thphilly@gmail.com / phillyrestore.tumblr.com

Utah State Convention

The new LP Utah Officers are:

Courtney White as Chair

Mark Hilgenberg as Vice-Chair

Shawn Curtis as Treasurer

Katie White as Secretary

Andy McCullough as Legal Counsel.

Other News

Johnson May Run as Republican

A June 12 column on Reason.com, under the byline of Zenon Evans, reports on a Gary Johnson *Google Hangout*. Johnson was asked about his political future. He expressed a lack of interest in running again for Senator or Congress.

Johnson was quoted as saying that he was "not discounting running within the Republican party" for Governor or President. Johnson has been quoting as describing the end of his Presidential campaign as being like being let out of prison. His remark is interpreted by some Libertarians as indicating that he is not interested in running for President again as a Libertarian.

Liberty for America's extremely highly placed sources within the Johnson campaign believe, to the contrary of the Reason report, that if Johnson runs again he will run as a Libertarian.

The Nolan 2% of a Building

The LNC in the form of its Executive Committee is currently

[Liberty for America](#)

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.

planning to take the building fund donations and buy a condo, a small section of a large office building.

The LNC ExComm voted to buy the space. Read the full minutes at <http://www.lp.org/files/ECMinutes2013-06-12.pdf>

Key excerpts from the minutes include: "The meeting discussed whether to purchase an office suite at 1101 King Street in Alexandria, VA as the Party HQ. ExComm members Geoff Neale, Lee Wrights, Tim Hagan, David Blau, Bill Redpath, Dan Weiner, and Jim Lark were all present.

Blau moved "To authorize executing a letter of intent to proceed with negotiations for 1101 King Street, Suite 160 in Alexandria, VA; preparing notice to the Watergate to exercise our 6 month exit clause; and obtaining a mortgage."

Neale said that he believed that the purchase cost projection presented to the EC prior to the meeting was within the bounds of the office purchase motion passed by the entire LNC. Cash on hand and costs were discussed. The building is 70% owned by Southern Management and 30% privately owned. The management company controls the building. There are current tenants. Additional space in the building is not available at this time. There is alternative space, 20,000 square feet for \$5.8M." The motion was passed unanimously. Voting yes: Blau, Hagan, Lark, Neale, Redpath, Wiener, Wrights.

We are not discussing a building here. We are discussing a condominium arrangement in a very large building.

Departing from the minutes, there is a realtor list for that address. The space is 3,841 Square Feet, and the asking price is \$1,275,000. That's \$332 a square foot.

Is \$332 a square foot a lot? Better office space in Manchester, NH is typically \$100 a square foot. Better office space in Colorado Springs, CO is typically \$100 a square foot, with distressed properties (meaning 'in foreclosure or the like', not 'falling apart at the seams') as low as \$60 a square foot.

Some members of the LNC apparently had sound questions. Sam Goldstein reportedly asked "Are we buying the naming rights to the building since the David Nolan Memorial Building Fund is based on the assumption that we would buy a building and not just a condo?"

Starchild raised a series of issues, notably "Some thoughts on the office space (1101 King Street, #160, Alexandria, VA

22314) that is being considered for purchase. I see two major issues:

It is in Alexandria, not Washington D.C. or Arlington — Arvin Vohra and others familiar with the area have said being in Arlington would be far preferable to an Alexandria location in terms of attracting volunteers, working with other libertarian groups located in Arlington, etc.;

We promised donors to the project that their money would be spent to buy a *building*, which would be named the "David F. Nolan Memorial Building" — not just office space in a building. I've seen nothing in this proposal to indicate that we would even have naming rights to the building as a whole.

The first point relates directly to our practical operational effectiveness, but the second point is actually the more critical one in my opinion, because we need to act with integrity and fulfill the promises we make to people when we ask them to give us their money. People are already calling this a "bait-and-switch", and they have a valid point. If we go forward with this, it will undermine the confidence of donors and supporters in the party.

It's good that the location appears to be in a high-pedestrian traffic area, and three blocks from a D.C. Metro stop. However being buried deep inside an office building where external signage is highly limited and we don't get much more than a "plaque on the door" as someone mentioned, means that we won't derive much benefit from the superficially high-visibility location."

We are advised that Mark Hinkle said:

"Starchild,

We've been over this at least several times before.

There are a few properties for sale in our size and price range in Alexandria, VA and very very few in Arlington or elsewhere for that matter. Remember every month we're in the Watergate and NOT out of the Watergate wastes \$5,000 per month.

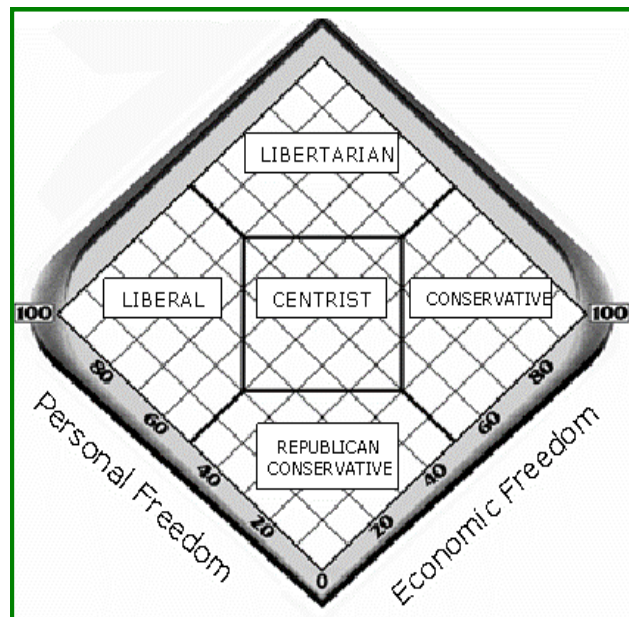
And your life size Nolan Chart on the roof of any building ain't going to happen, ever. So, give it a rest and drop it. The liability issue along kills it.

BTW, your statement "On the whole, I'm definitely not convinced this purchase is a good idea..." is in sharp contrast to almost 1,000 donors you've contributed or pledges in excess of \$325K. Who should the entire LNC listen to: you or almost 1,000 donors?"

to which Scott Lieberman reportedly responded

"The space that the Building Committee has selected for the LP to purchase is NOT a building. It is an office condo.

As you can see from this link: <http://loopnet.com/Office-Space-For-Sale/>



A Redesigned Nolan Chart—matching contemporary American political reality.

They clearly differentiate the office buildings from the office condos."

Lieberman quoted Hinkle:

"BTW, your statement "On the whole, I'm definitely not convinced this purchase is a good idea..." is in sharp contrast to almost 1,000 donors you've contributed or pledges in excess of \$325K. Who should the entire LNC listen to: you or almost 1,000 donors?"

The Immediate-Past-Chair"

Lieberman then continued:

I wonder if those "almost 1,000 donors" would have made their donations if they knew that their money was going to purchase an office condo that is over 30 minutes via subway from the Capitol Building; that the LP is making a bare-bones 20% down payment; and that the loan will almost definitely have to be refinanced in about 5 years at what will probably be much higher interest rates?

It would be fun to poll those donors and—without giving them the answers—see if they can guess the answers to the statements in the paragraph above. And then, report their reactions when they are told the actual answers :-)

Scott Lieberman

Arvin Vohra, who knows the area, responded: "Hi All—Just getting caught up here. In my view, the new location is a bit too far away from DC, as a few others have pointed out. The advantage would be solely saving money, assuming it does that. If we're trying to build a DC based hub of liberty, this is probably not the best location. If we are looking for just a reasonably active city, then this area is just as good as Austin, Cleveland, and a thousand others. If we just want the "prestige" of a DC-area location, this probably suffices.

Final note: more and more of what we do is online and remote. How often do we do media interviews in the current office, or use it for anything other than a general workspace?

If this meets the demands of those donors who paid for it, then I suppose there is no real issue. It's dramatically different from what I'd advise, though. -Arvin

David Blau then claimed that an office condo had always been viewed as an alternative: "I agree that we have been a bit lax informing the donors that we were investigating an office condo, rather than a full building. Since I'm the head of the "building fund", that's my mistake.

"The fund was started to find us a permanent home that we would own, rather than rent, and it was contemplated that we would look at both buildings and office condos. I'm pretty sure that this has always been the case. We all know what we've been up to. However, "The Building And/Or Office Condo And/Or Evacuate The Watergate Fund" takes too long to say, and even the committee has been lax internally with what we've called it. It looks like that imprecision crept into the fundraising letters, and while it wasn't intentionally deceptive, we could and should have done a better job. Nobody's perfect; my bad.

"Be that as it may, I don't think our donors are particularly misinformed as to what's going on and why we are asking for their money. I would expect that, as the amount of the donation increases, the donors will and have taken more of an effort to understand exactly what they're funding. I sure as hell do when I give my hard-earned money to someone. So it's not a surprise that I haven't heard any negative feedback from actual donors. The damage caused, if it even exists, is minimal, notwithstanding those who didn't donate and who are trying to make a mountain out of a molehill. If anyone who actually gave money to the project feels they were duped, they can feel free to send an email to David.Blau at lp.org and I'll be happy to refund them their money immediately. My own \$5k matching pledge still stands.

"As for being remembered "only" for buying a building for the Party: if all I'm ever remembered for is the new office, I'll be happy with my legacy. Because I did something instead of just talking about it. Something that will save our members north of \$60,000 per year (maybe as much as \$75,000) that we can use to support our affiliates. Something that will serve our party forever. If you want to curse me with "only" that, I'll take it any day."

Frankly, your editor is aware of absolutely no evidence to support the claim "it was contemplated that we would look at both buildings and office condos. I'm pretty sure that this has always been the case." However, David Blau was not there and is repeating sources.

To this Starchild added as part of a much longer letter "It isn't just the donors who weren't informed that the building committee's investigations were focused on buying an office condo rather than an actual building -- the LNC wasn't informed of this either, unless I somehow missed it. I spoke out in favor of making the search process more transparent and inclusive, but

my remarks were ignored by the LNC majority who voted to kick the decision-making upstairs. Now they have a situation."

The Starchild Motion

Starchild then offered a motion " MOTION:

Whereas it is important that the Libertarian Party act with integrity and fulfill any promises made in fundraising appeals to donors concerning how their donations will be spent, and

Whereas donors have a right to expect this of the Libertarian Party when making donations to the party, and

Whereas LP secretary David Blau as head of the building fund has acknowledged the "mistake" of having been a bit lax informing the donors that we were investigating an office condo, rather than a full building", and

Whereas fundraising appeals for the project to purchase a new LP headquarters building repeatedly referred to purchasing a building, rather than only purchasing space in a building, examples of which language can be seen in the fundraising letter published at <http://www.independentpoliticalreport.com/2013/04/libertarian-party-put-your-name-on-the-david-nolan-memorial-building/>;

Therefore if the Libertarian Party purchases the office space at 1101 King Street #160, in Alexandria, Virginia, which the Executive Committee voted to authorize the Building Committee to enter into negotiations concerning, or any other office space not comprising an entire building, the committee in charge of the building fund shall send all donors to this fund, by email or printed letter, a written explanation and apology for using the funds to buy a part of a building, rather than an entire building as was repeatedly described in fundraising letters seeking donations for the project. This letter shall ask each donor to send an email to LP secretary and building fund point man David Blau (secretary at lp.org), stating the donor's preference that his or her donation be (a) spent on office space in a building purchased under the authorization of the LNC in lieu of actually buying a building, (b) refunded, in which case a full refund shall be issued to that donor as soon as reasonably possible, or (c) put toward another Libertarian Party budget item of the donor's choice, which should be specified in the donor's email to the secretary; and inform them that if they have any further questions or concerns about the project to purchase a new office or how their donation is being handled they are welcome to contact one of their LNC representatives (listed at <http://www.lp.org/lnc-leadership>)."

Parliamentary Pettifoggery

Geoff Neale first ruled that Starchild's motion was out of order on the grounds that "Under my authority as Chair, I am ruling that your "motion" is out of order. LP Policy Manual states: "Electronic mail ballots shall not include an accompanying argument for or against passage of the motion.""

Starchild: "That can't be right. How could we ever vote on and pass a resolution under that interpretation?"

Neale responded: "The LNC rarely passes resolutions, because they require a 3/4 vote with previous notice, and a unanimous vote without. Besides, resolutions have "Resolved" rather than "moved"."

Scott Lieberman responded by quoting from Roberts: "From Robert's Rules, 11th edition, pg 37

"For more important or complex questions, or when greater formality is desired, he presents the motion in the form of a resolution"

In other words - a resolution is not debate. A resolution is a motion. In another section of Robert's, they give the example of a society using a Resolution to effect the sponsorship of an essay contest. That being said, the Chair's non-resolution motion is just as valid as Starchild's resolution motion."

Lieberman also proposed that the policy manual restriction on accompanying supportive language obviously referred only to language that was not part of the actual motion. He was obviously correct, but parliamentary pettifoggery seems to have held matters up. We may have more news on progress, come the next issue. We could go on covering this bit of the discussion, but enough is enough.

Where Your Money Went Johnson—January 2012...95% on Staff

At the end of December, 2011, Johnson announced that he was switching parties to pursue the Libertarian Party's Presidential nomination. We are now into Johnson's Libertarian nominating campaign. We remind readers that Johnson's January, 2102 disbursements are found in his "February" FEC filings, the filings made in February. In January 2012, the Johnson campaign had \$65,592 in income, spent \$73,103, and ended the month with \$901,219 in debt, an increase of more than \$70,000 over his end-of-2012 debt of \$828,738. That is, Johnson 2012 was spending money more than twice as fast as it was coming in, despite already having much of a million dollars in debt and the prospect (if victorious) of a Libertarian Presidential campaign, an operation that historically has brought under \$1.5 million during the General Election period.

In January, Johnson 2012 gave \$3000 to the Hackstaff Law Group, \$3253.46 to Zions Bank for Bank and Merchant charges, and \$66,500 to "Political Advisors". Many of the individual amounts given to Political Advisors had odd pennies in them, but the total was quite round.

Johnson 2012 paid off some old debts, and added new ones. In identifying line numbers, we are using the same scheme as in prior articles, namely that each debt is reported in the FEC Filings with an associated line number, so it is straightforward to track when debts were created, and when they were paid.

Old debts paid off were Lines #4173 for \$19046.37, #46741 for \$18,481.62, and #46742 for \$22001.29. Line #4172 had been created in April-June 2011, and had largely been paid off. Lines #46741 and #46742 had been created in July-September 2011. A partial payment was made toward #46743, namely \$7170.72 out of the total for that line of \$127,645.25. These are all lines created as part of Johnson's Republican campaign, being paid off by the donations of Johnson's presumptively-Libertarian supporters.

Johnson 2012 ran up new debts in January. #46898 for \$5849.55 referred to campaign expenses; #46899 for \$103,878 refers almost entirely to staff salaries. In detail:

#46898 includes (numbers rounded) \$1815 for placing web ads, \$233 for miscellaneous and office supplies, \$760 for shipping, and \$3041 for email marketing costs.

#46899 included: Senior political officer, 50 hours at \$325.00 per hour totally \$16,250; Mid-level management 612.43 hours at \$125.00 per hour totalling \$76553.75, and 10 hours of creative advertising at \$225.00 per hour for a total of \$2250. That's about four FTE staff members. Also in here were \$8824.25 of 'outside subcontracts as per agreement'.

In addition to these, the accountants/FEC filers were owed an additional \$5700, and EH2 Consulting (line #46654) was owed an additional \$26,754.08 for fundraising. Observe that the fundraisers were taking 40% of every dollar raised in January. Of the ~\$140,000 in new debts, under \$6000 went to real politics. That's 4% of the total going to politics, 96% going to administration, staff, and subcontractors.

Howell Out — Benedict In Howell Continues as Political Director

Carla Howell's term as LNC Executive Director is coming to an end. Subject to LNC approval, she is being replaced as Executive Director by Wes Benedict. She was offered the chance to become LNC Political Director and reportedly is accepting that opportunity.

The initial announcement came from LNC Chair Geoff Neale: "*Please consider this to be my official notice to the LNC that, under my authority as Chair, I have decided to NOT extend or renegotiate the existing contract with Carla Howell.*"

I am currently evaluating my options regarding a replacement, and will update you all at some later point in time.

In the meantime, I will not disclose my reasoning for this decision in any public forum, but will be happy to do so during Executive Session during our upcoming LNC meeting

For the record, I have offered to employ Ms. Howell on a month to month basis under the same compensation and benefits terms as are currently in effect during my search for a new Executive Director.

..Geoffrey Neale

Neale had previously expressed what might be interpreted as concern over staff activities. Following complaints from the LNC APRC that press material was going out without review, by taking advantage of several loopholes in the LNC instructions, Chairman Neale is reported by Starchild to have sent an order to staff reading:

As a result of our recent Executive Committee meeting, I am issuing the following Executive Orders to staff:

1) All publications submitted to the APRC will be submitted

ONLY to the APRC (and myself).

2) No “emergency” submissions to the APRC will be published until all APRC members have been informed by a phone call that there is an “emergency” submission to be reviewed. Attempts to circumvent full APRC review by things such as “middle of the night” submissions will be viewed harshly by the Chair.

3) Staff will note objections from the APRC as to the advisability of publications, and communicate the concern of APRC members to me. In cases where two or more of the APRC advise against the publication, I will decide. Please note that the current Policy Manual does not give the APRC the authority to stop a publication of this sort, but I do have the authority. I am hereby asking, but cannot mandate, that the APRC members raise concerns such as this.

4) Staff will prepare and present to the LNC no later than two weeks before the next LNC on our current branding. Staff will also recommend the scope of oversight appropriate to ensure LNC involvement with the branding process. From this document, the LNC will decide an effective policy for our branding. The term branding here should be construed to be any and all uses of images, color schemes, formats, logos, slogans, etc.

5) Staff will make no branding changes without my explicit approval until a formal branding policy is in place. I will decide if such changes warrant LNC review until a policy is in place.

Geoffrey Neale

PS: Since this document has NOT been reviewed by anyone, I reserve the right to change it once smarter people have told me where and how to improve it.

Mattson Elected LSLA Treasurer

Alicia Mattson has been elected Treasurer of the Libertarian State Leadership Alliance (LSLA). The LSLA was previously known as the State Chair’s Conference.

Nevada Members Appeal for LNC Assistance

Prominent LP-Nevada members have sent a call to the LNC, asking for them to intervene in the affairs of the LP-Nevada leadership, which to some observers apparently appears to be an effort to prolong the terms of the current LP-Nevada Leadership. Their full letter starts on page 11 of the electronic edition. The signers allege a wide variety of peculiar issues. So far, the LNC has shown no interest in acting on the matter. However, the LNC has a considerable record of allowing long-time state leaders to extend their terms for prolonged periods. Also, the historical record of the Arizona and Oregon affairs has tended to discourage National Committee interest in acting on these issues. The next LNC meeting is in Las Vegas. Many Nevada members apparently intend to appear at the LNC meeting to bear witness to their issue.

LNC In Action

Liberty for America

And How They Spent Your Money

The June 2013 LNC membership report shows that the national party has 14,158 dues-paying members, slightly fewer than in November 2012, but well up from the 12,870 members in June 2012. There are another 1070 donors who are not members.

Party finances might possibly raise a few concerns. For the first five months of the year, the National Party brought in \$501,676, of which \$123,773 was for the “building” and only \$378,136 was ‘general fundraising’. Furthermore, general fundraising income fell from \$95,000 in January to barely over \$65,000 in April and May. \$65,000 a month is an annual rate of less than \$780,000 a year, which is less than the \$795,297.07 that the LNC raised in the year 1993. In today’s dollars, the 1993 income was \$1,282,079, 64% higher than the current general fundraising rate.

How was your LNC money spent? There is a staff. Their costs came to \$28,093, including their paychecks, Federal and state withholding, social security, medicare, health and dental insurance, 401k payments, unemployment tax, administrative fee for administering the tax, and, of course, the fees charged by the payroll administration company. The staff had to travel—\$808.

There were also payments to non-staff people, including \$1500 for FEC filing and amendments, \$3000 for legal services, \$4205 for Tele-fundraising Consulting, \$5903 for legal costs associated with suing the FEC, \$3374 for building project fundraising, \$1550 for Annual Auditing and the Audit review, and last but hardly least Milton Lukins finally received his \$682.88 for the petitioning work he did in West Virginia last year.

A list of IT services includes

Email Service Hosting Expense - \$574 - SoftLayer Technologies, Inc.

Website Hosting Service - \$687.94 - Rackspace US Inc.

LP Phone Services - \$41.82 - PhoneFusion, Inc.

Address and Phone Verification - \$51.46 - Lexis-Nexis t/a Accurint

Email Marketing Services - \$1494.76 - IContact, Inc.

Cable and Internet - \$ 93.72 - Comcast

There is an office, which came to \$11,243. Office supplies came to \$732.

Printing and postage to multiple vendors came to \$19791.

Processing payments cost money, namely \$3774 to various vendors for credit cards, etc.

Oh, yes, the party spent money on advertising itself: \$320 to Facebook for an advertising widget.

International News Partei der Vernunft (Germany)

...from a Letter from Norbert Geng

I’ve just been reelected as Chairman of the Partei der Vernunft (‘Party of Reason’ or PDV) and we are in the middle of finishing our ballot access campaign. It looks like we will be in the ballot in most of the states covering about 85% of the voter

Page 8

population. We just hired a professional PR team and we will start a massive media campaign shortly.

I have been a commercial and financial law professor at the University of Applied Sciences in Schmalkalden for the last decade, after leaving private practice after many years. I know first-hand how the growth of state power has corrupted principles of the free market and its overreaching encroachment on human civil and economic liberty—which are one in the same.

As you are no doubt aware, Europe is no stranger to the same disastrous economic, fiscal, and monetary policies that are wrecking the United States. Germany is bearing the brunt of the destructive policies of the European Union and the ECB, as well as the irresponsible decisions of policymakers in other member states.

I was inspired by the success of Congressman Paul in his presidential campaigns – particularly by how he fundamentally changed the discussion and brought the ideas of sound money and economic freedom into the mainstream of American debate.

That led me to the conclusion that the German people are looking for the same voice here in the heart of Europe, if they are shown the way.

The growing discontented and deeply concerned German libertarians and real conservatives (yes, we do exist!) came together. We decided we could no longer stand by and watch Germany unravel economically. And so we founded the PDV with a classic libertarian platform of individual freedom, Austrian economics, decentralizing federal power and promoting sound money.

The PDV has learned a great deal over the past 3½ years since our founding. We are now battle-hardened and have a strong national infrastructure, enabling us to field quality candidates all over Germany.

One of our proudest moments and major milestones was earning the official endorsement of Dr. Ron Paul himself. This is the praise he expressed for the PDV platform last year:

“I applaud the PDV for crafting an outstanding manifesto for liberty. It calls for the rule of law; sound money; low taxes; and a noninterventionist defense policy. These principles apply to any free society, and they are the principles that libertarians must fight for around the world.”

This endorsement really put wind into our sails. I dare to assert that we can accomplish far more than even Ron Paul was able to, by exploiting the nature of Germany’s multiparty coalition-based system. Let me explain specifically what is at stake and why the parameters in Germany are altogether different.

In Germany, each voter casts two votes in the Bundestag (the German Parliament) elections. The first vote is for an individual candidate running in a district. There are 299 seats reserved for these members of parliament and they are elected in exactly the same way as members of the U.S. House of Representa-

tives. To be frank, our candidates have about as much chance of winning these seats in the Bundestag as Libertarian Party candidates have of winning seats in the House.

There is a second vote, which is cast not for an individual, but for a statewide list of party candidates. In addition to the 299 seats allocated to directly-elected individual candidates, a further 299 seats are awarded based on the national performance of the party lists.

This second vote is going to be our main target in September, because it is not a winner-takes-all system. As long as we exceed 5%, we are guaranteed seats. It’s important to remember that the two main parties in Germany are much, much weaker than their American counterparts.

Like the liberty movement led by Ron Paul in the U.S.A., the PDV will attract voters from all parts of the political spectrum: voters on the right disgusted with the main “conservative” party’s support of bailouts and entitlement culture; as well as voters on the left betrayed by the main “socialist” party’s support of crony capitalism and foreign intervention.

Imagine what we could do with a position like the Green Party has in German policymaking. It would give us the ability to punch far above our weight in transforming the liberty agenda from just a philosophy into real political change. Election success for the PDV in 2013 will have an important knock-on effect on the European Parliament elections in June 2014.

As you can see, we have extraordinary opportunities within our grasp right now!

The funding we require will go towards acquiring nationwide ballot access, opposition research, opinion polling, aggressive advertising and media outreach, as well as an experienced staff of dedicated professionals to manage a modern, world-class campaign like the one Ron Paul just waged.

Campaign finance laws in Germany are far more lenient than they are in America. Traditional roadblocks to fundraising that give incumbent politicians in the United States latitude to cozy up to special interests do not exist in our system. There are no fundraising limits or caps on individual or corporate contributions from EU citizens. Any citizen of the European Union can donate up to €10,000 without even disclosing it. Even non-EU citizens can contribute to our effort!

For Americans: The best way for donations is to go to our international website (www.partyofreason.org) and donate via credit card. We are allowed to accept a maximum of 1.000€ (appr. 1.300\$) per person and year from abroad and nothing will be disclosed.

In liberty,

Norbert Geng

Chairman, PDV

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.

There is No Building!

The War on America

Good News - OR Party Wins Its Suit

MA Special Congressional Election

LP-Sacramento Raises a Quarter-Million

Editorial—Who Is the Enemy?

Joe Wendt Launches Presidential Poll

LP—Illinois State Convention — LP-Texas Local Training Effort

LP Texas Hires New Executive Director

Restore the Fourth—Demos Held Across America

Utah State Convention

Johnson May Run As Republican

The David Nolan 2% of a Building

The Starchild Motion — Parliamentary Pettifoggery

Where Your Money Went: Johnson January 2012—95% on Staff

Howell Out, Benedict in; Howell Stays as Political Director

Mattson Elected LSLA Treasurer — Nevada Members Appeal for LNC Assistance

Partei der Vernunft — the German Libertarians

First Class Mail

Liberty for America
c/o George Phillips
48 Hancock Hill Drive
Worcester MA 01609

LP-Sacramento Raises \$40,000 Another \$200,000 is Pledged

Sacramento, CA, July 2, 2013 — Much excitement has been brewing within the Libertarian Party of Sacramento County (LPS). Since taking office on April 19, 2013, the new officers have hosted three business meetings and two mixers with excellent attendance. In addition, the officers have been travelling around the greater Sacramento area to attend and support other LP events, Young Americans for Liberty events, and other liberty focused events.

In addition to this increased activity, the officers have been working with Libertarian Leadership Consulting, LLC (Owned by C. Michael Pickens) to attract donations to their growing operation. Yesterday, the LPS received their first large donation in the amount of \$40,000, with a pledge for additional donations in the coming months. These funds are dedicated to a comprehensive plan developed and agreed upon by LLC, the donor, and the LPS. This plan includes dedicated employees, marketing and branding development, candidate support programs, grant programs, etc.

At the June 12, 2013 LPS business meeting, the plan for the additional funding was shared with the attendees and the committee voted to accept the funding along with the donor stipulations. The next business meeting for the LPS is scheduled for July 10, 2013.

This news comes at a time when the Libertarian Party has received much attention and praise. The outlook for the growth of the LP is highly favorable and additional large donations will continue to empower the party and propel its direction.

The article can be found on the [Libertarian Party of Sacramento County's website](#).

Contact person: Janine Kloss

Company name: Libertarian Party of Sacramento

Email address: lpsachair@gmail.com

Letter from Nevada Libertarians

April 10, 2013

Geoffrey Neale, Chairman

Libertarian National Committee

2600 Virginia Avenue, N.W., Suite 200

Washington, DC 20037

Dear Mr. Neale;

We write you to inform you of an issue happening in the Libertarian Party of Nevada (hereafter referred to as LPNevada). We are very concerned that legitimate Libertarian state party members are being purged and are not being allowed to participate in our upcoming 2013 state convention. How can people trust us to hold office if we cannot trust our own party leadership? The current Executive Committee of LPNevada, under the leadership of Chairman Joe Silvestri, quietly announced the 2013 state convention on February 25, 2013. We, the under-

signed, have noted several irregularities and concerns regarding membership and enrollment into the convention, namely:

1. This year, a door fee of \$65 was assessed, with "Early Bird" pricing expiring on March 20th, after which the door fee increased to \$95. This is on top of the \$50 membership fee already assessed to the LPNevada membership. In the past, no convention fee was required in order to participate in the business portion of the LPNevada state convention.

2. According to the LPNevada website (LINK) "Early Bird" pricing was not to expire until March 21. However, several individuals that registered after 9pm on March 20th were charged at the post-"Early Bird" price.

a. When notified of this discrepancy, the Treasurer, Kurt Brackob, who was personally appointed by the Chair, Joe Silvestri, has refunded the difference on a case-by-case basis. This suggests a discriminatory pattern of behavior and preferential treatment of members.

b. Some members did not sign up due to the increased fees. Requests to accept the \$65 convention in lieu of the increased fees went without a response.

3. Treasurer Kurt Brackob has stated in correspondence that his authority to refund dues was provided directly by the Chair and not by the Executive Committee, nor the LPNevada bylaws.

a. Many convention fees and membership fees were refunded by the Treasurer Kurt Brackob for various arbitrary and inconsistent reasons the night the fees increased. Members were then forced to re-register at a higher cost! Some individual's payments were refunded because, "convention fees must be self-paid," despite no indication of such in the bylaws, nor in known interpretations of FEC regulations. Some individuals were permitted to pay for another individual's membership dues and/or convention fees without rejection. This suggests a discriminatory pattern of behavior and giving preferential treatment of members.

4. We have requested who is on the convention credential committee and who was appointed as its Chair. The identities of those designated to serve on the convention Credentials Committee have not been identified.

5. The LPNevada Executive Committee has not posted its meeting minutes in over a year, in direct contravention of LPNevada bylaw Article V, Section 3, Paragraph B.

We are concerned about certain exclusionary processes that are not explicitly authorized or required by our bylaws. There is a pattern of the current Executive Committee not following our bylaws and making things up as they see fit. These actions purge longtime libertarians and new excited libertarian party activists. This behavior hurts the growth of our party and undermines confidence in the reasonableness and fairness of Libertarians.

Due to the reasons enumerated above, along with countless others, we, the undersigned, hereby petition the Libertarian Na-

tional Committee to;

1. provide neutral observers to attend the LPNevada convention, to ensure that we have a fair, open and legal convention with all LPNevada members able to participate;
2. Notify the National members of the Libertarian Party who live in Nevada of the upcoming 2013 State Convention via email with instructions on how to become a delegate and a voting member, and;
3. assist in securing accurate and up-to-date accounting/audit of the convention fees to include, but not limited to; which members have signed up and when, timetables when convention fees and membership dues were paid, review/audit of all transactions to identify how many additional people were allowed to cover fees for their friends/family and to ensure the Executive Committee has followed their own rules.

The 2013 Convention shall be held at the Suncoast Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada, on Saturday, April 27, with credentialing starting at 8:00am Pacific, to ensure the integrity of the credentialing process, the convention itself, and all related activities.

With sincerest thanks and in liberty,
Concerned Members of the Libertarian Party of Nevada, including, but not limited to;

Brett H. Pojunis, Region 4 Representative on the Libertarian National Committee and Candidate for Chairman of LPNevada
Tim Hagan, Treasurer of the Libertarian National Committee and Candidate for Treasurer of LPNevada
Jason Smith, Candidate for Vice Chairman of LPNevada
David Colborne, Candidate for At-Large Representative of LPNevada, Former Chair of De-affiliated Capital Affiliate
Louis Pombo, Candidate for Secretary of LPNevada
Vicki Hargrove, Former member of De-affiliated Capital Affiliate
Dave Thomas, Former member of De-affiliated Capital Affiliate
S. Rowan Wilson, MBA Longtime member and Libertarian Activist, LP candidate of Reno city council of De-affiliated Washoe County, NV
Isabel Isherwood, former member of de-affiliated Nye County affiliate
Erin Lale, candidate, Henderson City Council, former member of de-affiliated Clark County affiliate
Nathan Santucci, Former Chair of De-affiliated Clark County
Mark Warden, former member of de-affiliated Clark County affiliate
Debra Dedmon, former member of de-affiliated Clark County affiliate
Alexandria Williamson, former member of de-affiliated Clark County affiliate
Danielle Osborne, former member of de-affiliated Clark County affiliate
Lauren Osborne, former member of de-affiliated Clark County affiliate
Carlo Piraino, former member of de-affiliated Capital affiliate
Eugene Sullivan, former member of de-affiliated Clark County affiliate

Sean Grissom, former member of de-affiliated Clark County affiliate
Cassandra Grissom, former member of de-affiliated Clark County affiliate
Jolie LaChance, former member of de-affiliated Clark County affiliate
Brendan Trainor, former LPNevada Chair, former member of de-affiliated Washoe County affiliate
Sean Gruber, former member of de-affiliated Clark County affiliate
Angy McKinster, former member of de-affiliated Clark County affiliate
Nik York, former Chair of de-affiliated Capital affiliate
Anne York, former member of de-affiliated Capital affiliate
Avan Peran, former member of de-affiliated Clark County affiliate
(All signatures are available upon request)

Many other concerned Members of the Libertarian Party of Nevada would sign this letter, however, they were worried they would be purged or excluded from participating at the 2013 State Convention.

Liberty for America notes that the April Nevada State Convention was, after this letter was published, cancelled.