

Liberty for America

Journal of the Libertarian Political Movement

Volume 6 Number 9

Crusading for Liberty Since 2008

February 2014

Editorial

A Libertarian State of the Union Report

A Libertarian State of the Union

Fellow Americans,

We Libertarians come to you to report on the state of our Union.

The state of the Union could certainly be much better. Replace Democrats and Republicans with Libertarians, and the state of the Union will by and by improve.

Let's consider a few of the more important questions our country faces.

Civil liberties

On the most fundamental of all issues, our civil liberties, the situation is appallingly bad. The Fourth Amendment, indeed our entire Bill of Rights, is being trampled underfoot by national security agencies, not to mention state and local law enforcement and other agencies. The NSA and its fellow agencies are tapping every telephone line and email link they can reach, using them to record your every word and text message. [For sure, you do not need a 5 yottabyte data center, and its still-secret data backup center, if you are only recording metadata.] Those messages are being seized not via legal search warrants but by unconstitutional writs of assistance.

Some people will claim that 'if you are doing nothing wrong, you have nothing to fear.' These claims are totally in error. If your romantic interest works for the NSA, she may be peeping on you as I type. Are you going up for a promotion? You may be better than the other gal, but if the other gal's uncle works at a spy agency, uncle may be blackmailing your boss to promote the other gal. Do you invest? That wiretap information is the ultimate in illegal inside trading information. You may be pure as the driven snow, but that spying operation still endangers you, your family, your friends, and your community. That spying operation is a menace to every American.

Fortunately, there is a sound libertarian solution to this problem. Impeach Clapper. Impeach Alexander. They lied to Congress. They're spying on you right now. They're waging electronic warfare on all of us. Impeach them both. Then impeach their counterparts at every other agency that shared in the establishment war on America. That's two down, lots to go. The judges who violated their oaths of office by issuing writs of assistance, a crime against the Constitution, should also be impeached. The PRISM operation and its diabolical parallel tools

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Impeach Them Both

Liberty for America Launches Impeachment Drive



How can you have a functional government if the Executive Branch can get away with lying to the Legislative and Judicial Branches? Lying to the Legislative branch is the better known problem. Lying to the Judicial branch seems to have been less recognized.

We see only one clear solution, namely appropriate Congressional action.

Liberty for America is about to launch a national media campaign calling for the impeachment of Director of National Intelligence James Clapper and NSA Director Keith Alexander. We are in the stage of developing the final media content. The first public release will be visible soon after you read this article. We quote our press statement:

"The Liberty for America Political Action Committee has unveiled the opening advertisement in its Impeach Them Both campaign. The target is the Democratic-Republican surveillance state.

"We're targeting locations of maximum visibility," said LfA PAC chair George Phillies. "Our budget is a bit limited, so we are taking very careful aim. Our next objective, as soon as ad #1 is visible, is massive serious fundraising.

"We're starting with James Clapper and NSA Director Keith Alexander," Phillies continued. "Our message is three words: Impeach Them Both. Why? They lied to Congress. They're spying on you right now. But that message has a closer. Restore the Fourth. Vote Libertarian.

"Impeach Them Both is only the start of the campaign. More than a dozen national security agencies shared the ill-gotten gains of the NSA's illegal spying

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were all criminal conspiracies against our Constitution and Bill of Rights. The people who put them into effect should be subject to fair trials for their evil deeds.

Civil liberties are doing poorly at the state level, too. State after state has passed laws intended to hinder or destroy the right of a woman to have an abortion. Libertarians have a simple answer: We're 100% pro-choice. The Federal government should defend the right of every person to make their own choices on this issue. Thanks to the Fourteenth Amendment and Civil Rights laws, the Federal government has the tools needed to protect the civil rights of every woman in America. Those tools should be vigorously employed.

We see some progress on freedom of religion. The Supreme Court struck down the Republican Defense Of Marriage Act. That unconstitutional law tried to suppress freedom of religion for faiths that wished to marry gays and lesbians. Real Libertarians opposed DOMA and its legal relatives from the beginning, back when that opposition was radical and controversial.

There is no right more fundamental than the right to vote. There are few attacks on democracy more effective than voter suppression. In state after state, Republican voter suppression laws target students, the aged, the poor, and the non-European. Americans properly expect the Federal government to protect their civil liberties. The Department of Justice should engage in vigorous litigation and prosecution against schemes -- voter ID acts, remote polling places, huge lines at the polls -- whose intent is manifestly to deny our fellow Americans the right to vote.

The notion that Americans need travel papers to ride on busses or trains or sit as passengers in automobiles is totally unAmerican. Even Justice Taney, writing in the anti-liberty Dred Scott decision, recognized that American citizens did not need papers to travel where they wished or bear arms when they travelled. The civil liberties of American citizens should be restored. Federal agencies that interfere with those liberties should be closed.

Finally, Congress should end the racist war on drugs, whose major effects have been to criminalize a generation of you people and to enrich a generation of foreign crime bosses. That war has been ongoing for decades. It costs us tens of billions of dollars a year to keep people in prison. It has substantially failed to end drug use.

Foreign Policy

We launched our war on Afghanistan to capture Osama bin Laden. Mister bin Laden is dead as a doornail. It doesn't matter how many Afghans you shoot. It doesn't matter how many Afghani homes you bomb. It doesn't matter how many Afghani children you dronify. There is absolutely no possibility that the Afghans will hand over bin Laden. They can't. He's dead, and buried at the bottom of the Indian Ocean. Worse, we have inflicted on the Afghani people that chief menace to the civil liberties of every free person, a standing army. We can't undo what we did, but we can stop making it worse. The War on Afghahistan should be stopped immediately. Our troops should

come home. Arms shipments to Afghanistan should end. Every soldier now dying in Afghanistan has had his life thrown away by the establishment warfare state, because the establishment war on Afghanistan cannot possibly succeed.

And, remember, President Obama's drone attacks have killed more children than Adam Lanza did.

The Democratic Administration has launched military operations in Mali, Sudan, Somalia, Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Nepal, the Philippines, and a host of other nations around the world. These are undeclared wars. They are unconstitutional. Most knowledgeable commentators agree that these operations, by blowing up schools and weddings, serve primarily as recruiting operations for groups who now have grudges against us. These military operations should be brought to an end. Also, it is a violation of the laws of war to use non-military groups to conduct military operations. The use of mercenaries and spy agencies to wage war should be ended.

Some Democrats and Republicans will claim they are waging war against 'radical Islam'. That war is a war on a religion. That's Congress passing a law pertaining to establishment of religion, an act forbidden by our Constitution.

Establishing a world spy regime, in which you spy not only on your enemies, people with whom you are likely to be fighting, but on everyone in the whole world, is not a legitimate national defense activity. It is a crime against civilization. That's why we have the Nuremberg protocols. Judges who sanctify such crimes are also covered by the Nuremberg protocols. The persons who launched these criminal campaigns against the whole world should be prosecuted to the full extent of national and international law.

As Libertarians, we should support legitimate free trade. That's the opposite of the managed trade of Democratic-Republican "Free Trade" corporate welfare agreements.

Domestic policy

Jobs, jobs, jobs. Because unemployment is high, there is little pressure to increase wages, to the great disadvantage of many Americans. As Libertarians, we do not expect the Federal government to manage the economy. We do propose policies that will reduce government economic mismanagement. We should set a target. If China can manage 10% growth a year under a system of crooked crony communism, America ought to be able to manage 5% a year under a system of honest, open, libertarian capitalism. What should we do?

All Americans are equal before the law. All Americans are

Liberty for America is edited by George Phillis, 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>.

SotU equally entitled to retain the money they earned. The tax on the farmer who nets \$40,000 by selling wheat, and on the commodity trader who nets \$40,000 by selling wheat futures, should be the same. Republicans and Democrats have circulated vast numbers of lying points about why their donors are entitled to lower taxes than are donors to the other party. We should reject all of them.

All Americans are equal before the law. The tax status of money spent by your employer for your health insurance, by you for your health insurance, and by you for your medical expenses should be the same. The tax status should be 'not taxed'.

All too many Americans cannot find work. We should encourage people to be able to create a job, not just to find a job. Other political parties will take this line, and throw it in the face of the unemployed. They will blame the unemployed for not having solved the extremely difficult challenge of creating work for themselves. The libertarian perspective is quite different. There are some people who through being in the right place with the right skills and resources at the right time will be able to create jobs for themselves and others. Most of these people are already employed. We should create friendly circumstances for these people, so that they create new jobs for themselves, leaving openings with their former employers for their fellow Americans to fill. One of the largest obstacles these people faced has been removed, surely not the way many libertarians would have done it, but removed, by the Affordable Care Act, namely potential entrepreneurs now have possibilities for health insurance. In particular, millions of young people are now covered by their parents' plans.

What do we Libertarians propose for the future?

Congress should make the District of Columbia a bastion of entrepreneurial capitalism.

*People should be allowed to open their own businesses freely. Congress makes DC a capitalist bastion by eliminating irrational licensing and permitting schemes.

*People should be allowed to raise money for their companies. Congress makes DC a capitalist bastion by making it far easier for small companies to issue bonds, notes, or shares of stock, at least to a moderately limited number of investors.

*People should be able to expand their venture firms. Congress makes DC a capitalist bastion by enacting some variant of 'The First Two are Free' scheme. Under this scheme, due to one of our 2012 Libertarian Presidential candidates, if you start a new company, the first two persons you hire can be treated as independent contractors. You pay them an amount you have agreed upon. You have no paperwork burdens.

The Federal Budget

Once upon a time, Ronald Reagan went on at great length about 'welfare queens in Cadillacs'. He was literally right, except he forgot to mention who the welfare queens were. They

are the CEOs and CFOs and Boards of Directors of corporate welfare beneficiaries. They are defense welfare queens. Agricultural welfare queens. Bank welfare queens. They are the companies that profit mightily, not by supplying a superior product at a better price to willing customers, but by supplying an expensive, inferior product to a Congress purchased via campaign contributions and post-retirement lobbying and speaking deals. Defense? The United States maintains in the Atlantic Ocean the second most powerful fleet in the world, a fleet second only to our Pacific Fleet. The Atlantic Ocean borders on no significant hostile countries. This massive defense of the Atlantic Ocean is a welfare program for ship builders and arms manufacturers. It makes no more sense than would a massive navy in Lake Erie.

On the bright side, since George Bush's last (2008-2009) budget and its 1.5 trillion dollar deficit, Federal spending has not increased appreciably, so increasing Federal tax revenues have progressively reduced that budget deficit toward the half trillion dollar mark. Federal spending as a fraction of GNP has decreased progressively over the past few years. This trend should be encouraged to continue.

We should systematically and methodically reduce Federal spending. Defense Welfare should be brought to an end. Our standing army should be progressively reduced to a third or a quarter of its current size. We have a substantially useless missile defense system. It should be closed down. Our aircraft carriers should be reduced from 12 to 3. Army and Marine Corps divisions should be shrunk to brigade size, heavily cadred so that they can be rapidly expanded with reservists if need be. A sensible part of national defense is a set of mutual defense treaties that protect our commercial trading partners. However, we should stop propping up foreign dictators. Our foreign bases should be greatly reduced. Our military establishment in Europe should be withdrawn. Agricultural welfare should be stopped. In particular, the corn ethanol program, which is simply a payoff to corporate interests, should be ended. As a simpler example, one of very many, people in the rest of the world pay far less than we do for sugar. Import restrictions on cane sugar are another corporate welfare payoff. They should be ended, thus greatly reducing the price of sugar.

The last decade revealed massive fraud and illegal acts in the management of mortgages and other financial instruments. Fraud is a crime. It should be systematically prosecuted to the full extent of the law. Civil litigation, litigation that leaves criminals free to repeat their crimes, is an inappropriate solution.

Education

Congress has school districts for which it is already solely legally responsible. I refer to the Washington, D.C. school district, the Indian schools, schools for children of diplomats, and schools for armed forces dependents abroad. The D.C. and Indian schools are national disgraces. Until Congress shows that it can deliver good schools when no one else is in the way, it should stop trying to tell other people how to run their school systems. When the Washington, D.C. school system is the

bright shining star of the Republic, into which children from neighboring places eagerly try to transfer, then Congress will have supplied an example for others to follow, no further expenditure of Federal funds being needed. Until then, No Child Left Behind and other bits of foolishness should be repealed. We should, however, avoid snake oil salesmen peddling quack nostrums having little to do with educational quality and much to do with rendering unionized teachers unemployed so as to weaken one political party or the other.

Science, Technology, and Culture are the glories of the Republic. Congress should honor them by affording reasonable but short protections for intellectual property. The perpetual expansion of copyright beyond all reason should be ended, no matter how much certain corporate interests pay off Congress.

It is unfortunate that we have some political interests who completely deny physical reality, who deny global climate change, evolution, or the heliocentric model of the solar system. We guarantee freedom of religion. We do not allow any faith to impose its beliefs on everyone else. Libertarianism is the philosophy of sound reason. We should make our reality-based policy decisions on sound scientific evidence, for which there is now overwhelming support. Science and technology, as we learned in World War 2, are the true basis of national defense. For this reason, just as we sensibly maintain large arsenals for the production of artillery that we do not currently need, so also do we sensibly invest in maintaining our technical research base.

That's a Libertarian State of the Union.

campaign. Their directors are just as culpable. Then there are the judges of the FISA court, and one Justice of the Supreme Court.”

Read more on our web pages, where we write:

Liberty for America Impeach them Both

Restore the Fourth Amendment!
Preserve the Constitution!
Impeach Director of National Intelligence Clapper
Impeach NSA Director Alexander

Impeachment?
Yes, Impeach them both.

Please support our impeachment campaign
Donate to Liberty for America via [Click & Pledge](#).
We never see your credit card number.
Please identify your donations as supporting our impeachment campaign.

The Constitution, Article II, Section 4:
The President, Vice President and all civil Officers of the United States, shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors.

“Misdemeanor” has its 18th century meaning here, a grave misbehavior, whether criminal or not.

The Fourth Amendment

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.

Opposite to Fourth Amendment warrants are the Writs of Assistance issued by the English tyrant King George III, which allowed his minions to go anywhere and search anything. Writs of assistance are totally unconstitutional.

What are the charges?

- #1 They lied to Congress
- #2 They violated the Fourth Amendment.
- They spied on you. They are spying on you right now.
- #3 They are waging electronic war on America
- Here are the Lies

Here is some evidence, taken from a broad range of media sources. First, lies to Congress:

Here, thanks to EmptyWheel, is a videotape of Clapper lying to the Senate Intelligence Committee
<http://www.emptywheel.net/2014/01/04/obviously-bogus-clapper-exoneration-attempt-4-0/#sthash.sA78rTOy.dpuf>

“[Senator Ron] Wyden: Does the NSA collect any type of data,

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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. We can only accept donations made by American citizens with their own money.

at all, on millions, or hundreds of millions of Americans?

[General] Clapper: No sir.

Wyden: It does not?

Clapper: There are cases where they could inadvertently, perhaps, uh, collect, but not wittingly."

And here, with a tip of the hat to Forbes.com

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/andygreenberg/2013/06/06/watch-top-u-s-intelligence-officials-repeatedly-deny-nsa-spying-on-americans-over-the-last-year-videos>

In a congressional hearing in March of last year, for instance, NSA Director Keith Alexander was questioned about a [Wired magazine cover story](#) that included on-the-record interviews with multiple ex-NSA officials describing the agency's collection of Americans' voice and digital information. Speaking to Representative Hank Johnson, Alexander responded 14 times that the agency doesn't collect the kind of domestic data Bamford had alleged. Here's a sample of that questioning:

Rep. Johnson: Does the NSA intercept Americans' cell phone conversations?

· Director Alexander: No.

Google searches?

No.

Text messages?

No.

Amazon.com orders?

No.

Bank records?

No.

Why were those statements to Congress not true?

The statements were not true because the NSA really is doing those things the Clapper and Alexander denied that they were doing.

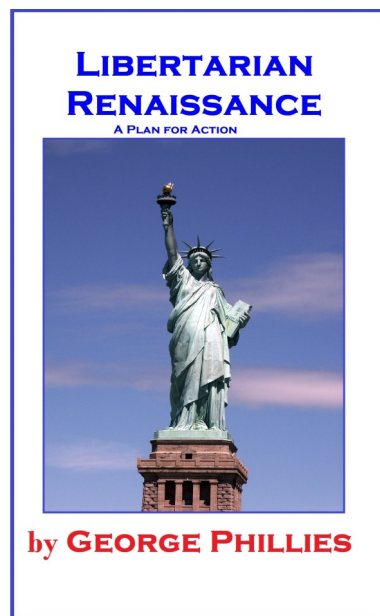
Here is the truth

The NSA was and is spying on you. It's collecting data on phone, internet, cell hookups, and game apps.

They're collecting your phone calls on Verizon. As reported in The Guardian newspaper theguardian.com/world/2013/jun/06/us-tech-giants-nsa-data

Not to mention <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/jun/06/nsa-phone-records-verizon-court-order> (the Guardian posted the text of the order) "NSA collecting phone records of millions of Verizon customers daily Exclusive: Top secret court order requiring Verizon to hand over all call data shows scale of domestic surveillance under Obama"

They're collecting your phone calls on AT&T and Sprint Nextel, your internet use, and what you bought with your credit



Libertarian Renaissance

George Phillies has created and published a new edition of the New Path Plan for saving our party.

Libertarian Renaissance is an update of the 2010 edition with new information.

The volume is available on

Amazon Kindle
amazon.com/Libertarian-Renaissance-Essays-Liberty-ebook/dp/B00E1SVGAK and

Smashwords
smashwords.com/books/view/339159

for ninety-nine cents.

cards.

As reported by the Wall Street Journal "... the initiative also encompasses phone-call data from AT&T Inc. and Sprint Nextel Corp.... records from Internet-service providers and purchase information from credit-card providers." <http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424127887324299104578529112289298922>

But the spying doesn't stop there. The Washington Post reported that the PRISM computer stream was used to spy on you far more intimately: "The National Security Agency and the FBI are tapping directly into the central servers of nine leading U.S. Internet companies, extracting audio and video chats, photographs, e-mails, documents, and connection logs..."

For full details: http://www.washingtonpost.com/investigations/us-intelligence-mining-data-from-nine-us-internet-companies-in-broad-secret-program/2013/06/06/3a0c0da8-cebf-11e2-8845-d970ccb04497_story_1.html

When challenged about the spying, companies gave identical denials: "We do not provide any government organization with direct access to our servers."

Why was the language so precisely repeated? Readers familiar with computers may recognize that this statement is a scripted denial that is not a denial. To spy, you want a copy of the datastreams, not an opportunity to fondle the hardware.

They Violated Our Laws and Our Constitution

The NSA and its sycophants did not execute a legal search. They used their court orders as UnAmerican Writs of Assistance. The White House's own data review panel, stuffed with

White house cronies, reported that the mass searches were illegal. You can read more as covered by Fox News <http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2014/01/23/independent-federal-review-board-says-nsa-phone-data-collection-program-should/>

#3 The Spy Scheme is Electronic Warfare on America

After all what is America? It's not a scrap of cloth or soaring mountains or beautiful words lovingly inscribed on immortal paper. America is us. All of us. Yes, you, too.

And decoding coded messages is indeed electronic warfare. That's war against you. That's war on America

There is only one solution Impeach them both

Please support our impeachment campaign
Donate to Liberty for America via [Click & Pledge](#).

We never see your credit card number. Please identify your donations as supporting our impeachment campaign.

Remember, innocence will not protect you

An Editorial from Liberty for America magazine. With tips of the hat to many people who saw the same thing before we did:

Innocence Is No Protection

The NSA and its fellow agencies are reading your every email and listening to your every phone message.

You might say 'I don't care. I have nothing to hide.'

Let's consider what that claim misses. There are 40,000 NSA employees, at least as many at other spy agencies (National Reconnaissance Office, Defense Intelligence Agency, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Central Intelligence Agency, and many many more), for an easy 100,000. Their near relatives and friends are ten times as many, and their good friends are several times that. Almost for sure, some of these people work where you do, invest in the same stocks and mutual funds that you do, and much more.

You work hard, and looking for promotion into management. Your competition is Clement Doofus, who never does things so wrong that he'll be fired, partly because you keep setting him straight. It's promotion time, and Clement gets the job.

What happened?

You're clean as a whistle. Clement is clean as a whistle. Alas, the fellow making the promotion decision is terrified that his family will find out about his affair with the hot babe in ac-

counting, and responded positively to the anonymous motivational phone call — he didn't recognize the voice as being synthesized on a good computer — telling him who to promote. He can't imagine how anyone knew, because he and she always met at a different motel, and always had their cell phones turned off. Alas, Clement's brother works for one of those three-letter places.

You're clean as a whistle. Your brokers are even cleaner. You spend your evenings doing careful analysis, good enough that you score yourself against Warren Buffet and are doing almost as well. It's just that when you go to buy, because the time seemed right, stocks started up somewhat before you got there. Alas, your broker has three-letter-agency investors.

You're clean as a whistle. It's just that when calls started increasing between Sailor's Mutual Bank and Atlantis Sunken Trusts, and tracking showed tablets and laptops of their finance people repeatedly at the same place, it took a lot of computing and a little forethought to tell that a merger was impending.

You're clean as a whistle. The video showing the teenagers breaking a storefront window is too grainy to interpret. Thanks to tracking, it is real clear which two teens pulled this off, especially because they both accidentally turned on their phones to record the deed, records that should only have been recorded in encrypted cloud memory unseen by the public. They even both erased the record as soon as they saw what they had mysteriously done.

And now you have a friendly visit 'You know, this store is mostly a front for our surveillance operations', and the suggestion 'if you will only enroll your child in this very expensive military academy,' operated by a recently-retired friend of the intelligence community speakers, 'all will be forgiven and forgotten'.

You may be innocent. What about the people around you?

The Surveillance state is a direct threat to YOU. Yes, YOU!

Let me say that again.

No matter who you are: The surveillance state menaces you, your family, and your country.

Take it down, before it takes us all down!

With thanks to several proposers who voices similar themes.

Far more information on their spying on you is available. In addition to the press sources above, note in particular

Empty Wheel <http://emptywheel.net>

The Guardian (UK Newspaper) <http://theguardian.com>

Please support our impeachment campaign

Donate to Liberty for America via Click & Pledge.

<https://co.clickandpledge.com/default.aspx?wid=67896>

We never see your credit card number. Please identify your donations as supporting our impeachment campaign. Liberty for America donations go to our Federal PAC. We never spend money to support the election of any Democrat or Republican.

Good News

National Organization of Libertarian Women

For much more about this new group: libertarianwomen.com

We quote from their web site: "The first and foremost mission of the National Organization of Libertarian Women is to champion the cause of liberty loving women and their supporters and to support the ideals of the Libertarian party in their mission to help bring personal freedom to people everywhere.

We strive to bring to all women a vision of real and lasting personal liberty, offering education and other assistance to help all women understand that personal liberty for all people is at the core of equality. There are many good reasons for women to embrace the true causes of liberty which have chief among their principles the doctrine of non-aggression against fellow members of society and the world at large along with the belief that all members of society should share equally in freedom of opportunity.

The practice of these principles offers women the liberty to work, live, believe and engage in whatever activities present no obstacle to the liberty of our fellow citizens of all sexes. This is what brings true parity and the accomplishment of real freedom."

State Parties

The Libertarian Party of Hawaii submitted the required signatures, there was no challenge, so they have advanced in their ballot access status in Hawaii.

The Libertarian Party of Virginia had its state convention. Bill Redpath became state chair, replacing Chuck Moulton, who did not seek re-election. Attendance at the LPVA State Convention was higher than has been seen since 2004. Some LPVA members urged that the National Party be asked to revive the Unified Membership Plan.

We gather that the LP Iowa is doing extremely well in recruiting candidates, including candidates for Governor, Senator and for Secretary of State long-time libertarian activist Jake Porter. Porter's campaign is preparing to run radio and television ads.

The LP Kansas state convention is April 26 in Wichita. Gary Johnson will be the lead speaker. They are looking forward to getting 5% to get major party status. They have been busy lobbying, for example against the death penalty and in favor of open carry.

The LP Massachusetts State Convention is Saturday, October 18, 10AM-2PM at Tweed's Restaurant in Worcester, MA. Worcester is approximately the geographic center of the state.

The Libertarian Party of Ohio is running a full slate of candidates for statewide office, headed by Charlie Earl for Governor. After a period of inaction, the Libertarian Party of the District of Columbia is running a full slate of candidates for Federal and local office. After a period of difficulties, the Libertarian

Party of Nevada is preparing to run an extensive slate of candidates, including long-time activist Debra Dedmon. Massachusetts, where candidates must work to get on the ballot, has had an outpouring of candidates for legislative office. The current count is 13 for State Representative, one for State Senate, one for Sheriff, not counting the second State Rep candidate in the same district or the candidate whose campaign has already imploded leading to his withdrawal from the race. One candidate collected 300 signatures in a few hours and now has the signatures to be on the ballot.

Alaskan Libertarian Congressional candidate Jim McDermott is polling at 12 %. The source is Public Policy Polling, which in 2012 was highly accurate at the Presidential level.

Where Your Money Went Libertarian National Committee

According to its FEC reports, for December 2013, the LNC had income of \$135,436 and spent \$139,111. Year total income was \$1,333,809. The LNC ended the year with \$392,983 cash on hand., most of that money being part of the building fund. The LNC's GAAP income was 1.291 million, on which a nominal surplus of \$143,000 was reported. Fundraising cost \$273,000. However, spending for the year included \$236,000 for the building fund. Excluding that sum from Party income, the remainder of the operations lost \$93,000 during the year. The LNC spend about 16,000 for ballot access petitioning, and modestly over \$5000 for associated staff expenses.

For the month of December, staff pay came to \$34,265. The LNC paid \$3000 to its attorney, \$1500 to its FEC consultant, \$5656 for contract labor administration, and \$200 for administrative support services. \$22,196 went to health and dental insurance, retirement plans, Federal and state withholding and other taxes, and the cost of administering payroll.

Printing came to \$25,434, including an issue of LP News. Various sorts of IT suppliers and software cost \$5520. The office rent, supplies, postage, and related matters came to \$18,215. DC corporate filing fees were \$323. Bank and security issues came to \$3914.

The LNC spent \$4478 reimbursing itself and invited attendees for the cost of going to the LNC meeting that was cancelled due to weather. Other travel costs were \$9958.

Finally, for doing politics, the LNC spent \$7196.36 for Libertarian Party Promotional Supplies, \$250.02 for Facebook Advertising, and \$1000 for a Conference Fee to the Students for Liberty.

Johnson 2012

FEC Concludes Johnson Owes US for Primary Matching Fund Overpayments

First, we take note of an extensive FEC audit of Johnson 2012 campaign spending, leading to the conclusion that Johnson 2012 had received all the matching funds to which it was entitled. You can read the full document dated at <http://>

The Commission found that Johnson 2012, as of the date Johnson received the Libertarian nomination, had spent \$1,661,789.90 on its election campaign. However

“Since the Committee received \$632,016.75 in Matching Funds, this means that the Committee received \$183,867.82 [(\$1,213,640.97 + 632,016.75) - \$1,661,789.90] in excess of its net outstanding campaign obligations. The Commission may seek a repayment for receiving funds in excess of entitlement when Matching Funds are paid and there are no net outstanding campaign obligations. II C.F.R. § 9038.2(b)(1)(i). However, the figure of \$183,867.82 does not reflect the ultimate amount that the Committee may owe to the United States Treasury because the audit of the Committee is not complete.” (page 12 of the report)

The FEC noted that most Johnson 2012 donation cards clearly and unambiguously allocated donations to the primary election. We have physical copies of some of these cards, and can confirm that they indeed specified that the first \$2500 of your donation was allocated to the primary election campaign.

Johnson July 2012 Spending

For July 2012 the Johnson 2012 “August” campaign filing reports \$341,636 in income and \$332,589 in expenditures. The income included \$138,714 of Federal Funds and \$202,921 of individual contributions. At the end of the period, Johnson campaign debts were reported to be \$916,366, far greater than the \$296,201 end-of-period debt reported in Johnson’s original campaign filings.

Expenditures for the period included \$10550 to Daines Goodwin, \$25,000 to EH2 consulting for Fundraising and consulting, \$7000 to Law offices of Douglas C Herbert, \$284500 to Political Advisors in Salt Lake City, \$2858 to Zions Bank for Merchant charges, \$2000 to Charles Froman for fundraising and consulting, and \$500 to Wagon Works for fundraising and consulting. A certain amount of expenditures seen in the FEC summary tables for the filing do not seem to show on Form B or as changes in Form D; there are several ways this might happen given that some numbers are computed rather than supplied by the campaign.

Payments to Daines Goodwin included \$3532 on FEC Line 12.47031, \$4435 on line 12.47086, and \$2582 on line 47114. These payments refer to May, June, and July 2012. Payment to EH2 reduced the debt on line 12.4170 from \$61,166 to \$36,166. This line refers to debts from April-June 2011. The payment to the Herbert Law Offices covered part of a debt of \$17,475 incurred in July 2012.

Now the payments to Political Advisors. \$96719 eliminated line 46830, referring to debt invoiced in November 2011. That line had originally involved:
Senior Political Advisor 50 hours at \$16,250 (\$325.00/hour) ;
Creative Advertising \$10800 for 48 hours (\$225.00/hour);
Press relations \$10,578 for 96.17 hours (\$110.00/hour)
Mid-level Management \$47,832 for 382.66 hours (\$125.00/hour);
Mid-level Management \$7943 for 83.6 hours (\$95/

hour) and “Outside subcontracts per agreement” \$9529.

\$1280 was paid on line 46894, also dating to November 2011, for Travel, staff and candidate \$6209; Ad Placement, web \$688; EMail Marketing Costs \$2474; Miscellaneous/Supplies/Office \$482; Printing \$1235.05.

In addition, the campaign spent \$4575 to retire line the last bit of line 47035, and \$38923 to retire line 47107, these referring to May and June 2012, \$49778 to pay off line 47118, and \$67950 to pay off part of line 47119, leaving \$59542 in campaign debt. Lines 47118 and 47119 are July 2012 expenses.


Line 47107 totalling \$38,923 included Senior Political Advisor Zero hours for zero dollars; Creative Advertising \$11250 for 50 hours (\$225.00/hour) ; Mid-level Management \$18102 for 600.43 hours (\$30/ hour); Mid-level Management \$600 for 20 hours (\$30/ hour); Mid-level Management \$4800 for 160 hours (\$30/ hour); and “Outside subcontracts per agreement” \$3110.

The new Line 47118 totalling \$49,778 included Senior Political Advisor Zero hours for zero dollars; Creative Advertising \$11,250 for 50 hours (\$225.00/hour) ; Mid-level Management \$24,468 for 816 hours (\$30/hour); Mid-level Management \$600 for 20 hours (\$30/ hour); Mid-level Management \$4800 for 160 hours (\$30/ hour); General Clerical Labor \$660 for 30 hours (\$22/hour) and “Outside subcontracts per agreement” \$8000.

The new Line 47119 totalling \$127,493 was identified as
Ad Placement, web \$2640
Staff and Candidate Travel \$27001
Miscellaneous/supplies/office \$1916
EMail marketing costs \$6672
Printing \$62,150
Vehicles \$2235
Ballot Access \$15,200
Mailing \$6159 & Shipping \$1114

Payments to general election campaign expenses appear to amount to \$184,000 while \$123,000 or so seems to have gone to pre-nomination expenses.

James Libertarian Burns



We note with deepest regret the passing of James Libertarian Burns, former candidate for our Party’s 2008 Presidential nomination. Jim Burns was a clear and forthright speaker for unambiguous libertarianism. He was warm, friendly, sensible, and prepared to make great sacrifices for the cause of liberty. Jim even sacrificed part of his name. When the Nevada authorities refused him a “Libertarian” designation, he legally changed his middle name so that “Libertarian” would still appear. James Libertarian Burns is reported to be survived by his mother, Alice Burns, 10433 Yank Gulch Rd Talent, Oregon 97540. She is 94.

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