

# The Party of Principle™

March 2010

The Official Newspaper of the Libertarian Party

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### National Convention Offers Amazing Opportunities for Delegates

by LP Staff

ibertarians across the country are flocking to St. Louis this Memorial Day weekend for the Libertarian Party's 2010 Convention. The convention, dubbed "Gateway to Liberty," will host a series of notable Libertarian speakers, as well as hold elections for party officers, including National Chair.

Radio Host Gary Nolan will serve as the Master of Ceremonies for this year's convention. Nolan joined the Libertarian Party live on the air in 1999, during a show with then-Libertarian Party National Director Steve Dasbach. Other exciting speakers include 2008 Libertarian Party Presidential Nominee Bob Barr, along with Vice Presidential Candidate Wayne Allyn Root. Libertarian Party

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Libertarian National Committee, Inc.



# CHAIRMAN'S TRAVELOGUE

#### The Vacuousness of "Jobs"

by William Redpath



here is a four-letter word that has long infected the American body politic. No, it's not a cuss word. It's considered a respectable, even honorable,

word. You hear it said on TV and radio all the time. But, its misuse has done considerably more damage to this nation than George Carlin's "Seven Words" ever have.

The word is "Jobs." Jobs, Jobs, Jobs. Almost anything has been justified by our elected politicians, because of "jobs."

We erect trade barriers to producers in other nations that make us all poorer—for "jobs."

We pursue uneconomical public works, such as high speed rail—in the name of "jobs."

We pursue expensive energy sources for other reasons, but as an additional justification, it'll create "jobs."

It has been used to even justify war. During the Gulf War of nearly (unbelievably) twenty years ago, US Secretary of State James Baker explained to US troops there that their purpose was protecting "jobs, jobs, jobs."

And then the Obama Administration, which continuously implies that only the government—no, only the federal government—can create good in our society, speaks of that federal government "creating jobs."

When I was in business school, a professor I had said, "I hear people say that they want more money. I tell them, 'No you don't, you want more wealth.'"

Exactly. And, it's not jobs that all Americans—including the middle class and the poor—need and desire, it's more wealth. If goods and services could be had as simply as picking low-hanging fruit off a tree, jobs would be meaningless. It's not production that ultimately matters, it's consumption that is a non-trivial part of making life worth living.

Yes, we obviously need employment in this nation, but only for ends that bring real value to people. Raking leaves from one side of town to the other will create "jobs," but if we all had full employment doing that, we'd be the poorest nation on Earth.

But, at least one of the older parties would never bring up the "W" word to the American people. It would screw up the Class Warfare!

Leaders are supposed to lead, and it's well beyond time that our politicians treat the American people as economic adults, stop talking about "jobs" and instead propose and defend policies that will

allow all Americans to develop some semblance of wealth.

I know I'm dating myself, but I can remember watching Milton Friedman on The Phil Donahue Show when I was a kid. Dr. Friedman stated that, with the right government policies, most workers could retire as millionaires. He was right (and in early 1970s dollars)!

Instead, we have two older political parties that, according to Alan Auerbach, fiscal policy expert from The University of California at Berkeley, are in a "death embrace" for this nation with their economic policies.

That is why it is so important for the Libertarian Party to field as many candidates as possible for this year's midterm elections. We don't know when the American people will have to reap what our politicians have sowed. The late economist Rudiger Dornbusch said that economic crises take longer to develop than you think they will, but once they happen, they happen faster than you think they will.

Whether they are ready or not, and I think many are, the American people need to hear some straightforward, rational, adult talk on economics—something that I hear almost none of emanating from the politicians of the two older parties. It looks as if its going to be up to us Libertarians, if it is going to happen.

If you haven't considered throwing your hat in the ring for some race this year—local, state or federal, I hope that you will give it some serious consideration—and action. There is still time to do it this year. There is, for now, still time to save this great nation.

On a personal note, in case you haven't heard, I announced at the Libertar-

ian National Committee (LNC) meeting in December 2009 that, while I may seek election to the LNC at the Memorial Day Weekend 2010 convention in St. Louis, I will not seek reelection as Chairman of the LNC. It has been a great honor and privilege to serve as Chairman since July 2006, and, while I wouldn't have recommended the position to others when I wanted to be and was Chairman, I do now. I want to continue to work within the LP for liberty in our lifetimes, but it is time for someone else to assume both the pleasures and burdens of being the Chair.

And, speaking of the 2010 LP National Convention, it is my most fervent hope (all right—one of my most fervent hopes) to see you there. After an Opening Night reception on Friday, May 28, we'll have an agenda of 2.5 days in length. Darn important things will be occurring, including the election of a new Chairman and National Committee, and consideration of amendments to our Platform and Bylaws. I am pleased to report that the LNC's Convention Committee has heeded my advice to requisition speakers who are "on the ball." And, there will be plenty of recreation time with other correct-minded folk.

Unless the First Amendment is repealed before late May, we'll have the most fun people can have without landing in the hoosegow. See you in St. Louis!

And, thanks to all of you for what you do for the Libertarian Party and the cause we pursue.

Bill Redpath

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William Redpath 2600 Virginia Ave, NW, Suite 200 Washington, D.C. 20037 E-mail: chair@LP.org

# **LPNews**

#### The Purposes of the Libertarian Party:

The Party is organized to implement and give voice to the principles embodied in the Statement of Principles by: functioning as a libertarian political entity separate and distinct from all other political parties or movements; moving public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office; chartering affiliate parties throughout the United States and promoting their growth and activities; nominating candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States, and supporting Party and affiliate party candidates for political office; and, entering into public information activities.

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### A Legal Viewpoint

am an attorney who has specialized in the field of medical malpractice defense in New York for over 20 years. I must take issue with some statements made by Mary Ruwart ("How Liberty Makes Health Care Virtually Universal," Dec. 2009 issue).

Ms. Ruwart suggests health care reforms including, "Making doctors and their insurers liable only for actual negligence and malpractice. We need to return to a system of strict liability." In New York, in order for a plaintiff to recover in a medical malpractice case, she must establish by a preponderance of the evidence that the provider deviated from the standard of care resulting in harm to her. In other words, the plaintiff must prove negligence causing an injury. Ms. Ruwart's comment implies that health care providers can be held liable without such proof.

Strict liability is a doctrine that makes a person liable for damages regardless of culpability. Certainly, Ms. Ruwart would not want such a system for physicians.

I believe one major reason medical malpractice verdicts have become a cost escalator in the healthcare system in New York is because there are physicians who will testify as experts for plaintiffs that the defendant "deviated" from the standard of care when in fact he did not. I am aware of cases in which plaintiff's experts have testified to deviations in procedures in which they were not trained and never even performed, but just "read about."

Other experts will reliably testify for plaintiffs as to causation issues regardless of the facts or lack of scientific basis. These are problems of state evidence law. New York law is too liberal on this point, in my opinion. I cannot speak to the laws of the other 49 states.

Another reason plaintiffs sometimes win cases is that juries render verdicts based on sympathy, rather than on facts. Medical issues are often difficult to understand in a courtroom setting and jurors have their prejudices, just like everybody else does.

Tort reform in the medical malpractice field must be accomplished by the states. There is no simple solution to the problem. In New York, the plaintiff's trial bar contributes large sums of money to politicians in Albany, assuring access and influ-

ence. Sheldon Silver, the Speaker of the New York State Assembly, is Of Counsel to Weitz & Luxenberg, one of the state's largest plaintiff law firms.

**Eugene Ward** 

Forest Hills, NY

#### Response from Mary Ruwart:

Mr. Ward is correct in pointing out the contradiction in my statement that we should be "making doctors and their insurers liable only for actual negligence and malpractice. We need to return to a system of strict liability." The last sentence should have been struck or amended prior to going to press, since "strict liability" has a legal definition quite different from the literal one. Thank you for alerting LP News to this oversight, Mr. Ward. The last thing I'd want to do is confuse our readers!

Mr. Ward is also correct in pointing out that tort reform is complex, especially if it is done state-by-state. Tort reform could also happen at the national level if, for example, the Supreme Court decided that holding innocent practitioners (or their insurers) liable for something beyond their control was cruel and unusual punishment.

Sympathetic juries might still go after "deep pocket" awards with such reform, whether at the national or state level. However, it would be less likely when the judge's instructions pointed out that a health practitioner could only be found liable if actual negligence or malpractice occurred.

#### **Distrusting the Tea Parties**

There were the Tea Party folks during Bush's reign of error? I'll tell you where: At least three-quarters of them were cheering him on while he embroiled the United States in a pointless, unnecessary, and VERY expensive war, and questioning the patriotism of anybody who spoke out against it. That's where.

I have noticed that many local LP groups have made appearances at Tea Party rallies, and this is a mistake. These snakes in the grass are NOT libertarians, and they deserve our scorn and not our support.

Jim Keller

Wyomissing, PA

#### A Call to Arms

ozens of protest groups have been organized in the past year to fight against the destruction of our republic.

In the area where I live, there are organizations holding meetings and protest marches against bailouts, housing foreclosures, out-of-control spending and government programs to abolish our liberties. Some of these organizations field several hundred people at their meetings and appear to collect substantial voluntary donations. Some seem to be sponsored by political parties (mainly Republican), but many are composed of all kinds of citizens wanting to restore openness and honesty to government.

They are loud, they are visible and they strike a chord with the ordinary citi-

Why do we sit by and let these citizens carry our load? Libertarians need to get out of their ivory towers, spending their time playing "gotcha" with each other and debating how many Libertarians can dance on the head of a by-law. We have something like 20,000 card-carrying members, and a lot of fellow travelers.

Why can't we have a thousand of these meetings every week, standing in front of government offices with protest signs or marching through the streets carrying banners and chanting slogans? Why don't we attend every possible meeting of the various protest groups *en masse*—with signs and banners? Why don't we pursue coverage from news reporters, TV stations and bloggers with video cameras? Why don't we make it our goal to get out in front of these protests with Libertarian signs.

I, for one, am tired of the dull, stodgy Libertarian debating society that never gets anybody elected to any meaningful office. We aren't going to get anywhere until we demonstrate fire in the belly and a willingness to confront the establishment anywhere and everywhere!

Let's make street protests at every home foreclosure, every bank closure and every business shut down by unfair and ridiculous regulations. Let's stand outside every politician's home and office, and demand honesty and accountability. Let's pay our respect at the funerals

### The Parliamentarian

With LP Parliamentarian M Carling

# Nominations and Elections

Tormally, nominations are made from the floor. Anyone qualified to serve may be nominated, whether or not a member of the organization, present or not — even without the consent of the nominee. Nominations do not require a second. Nominations are normally closed by unanimous consent when the chair sees that no more nominations are forthcoming, but nominations may be closed by a motion adopted by two-thirds vote and may be reopened by a motion adopted by majority vote. Once a member has nominated one nominee, he may not nominate anyone else until all other members desiring to do so have nominated someone.

If the bylaws or other rules do not specify a method for conducting elections, either voice voting or ballots may be used, though ballots are preferable if there is more than one nominee. The method may be chosen by a motion or by unanimous consent. Two or more tellers should be appointed by the presiding officer to count the ballots. The presiding officer should appoint tellers who are reliable and widely trusted. The general rule that one may change one's vote until the results have been announced does not apply in the case of ballot voting. Once the ballot has been placed in the ballot box, the vote has been cast. A member may vote for any person qualified to serve whether or not that person has been nominated. Write-in votes for qualified persons are always permitted.

Unless a rule to the contrary has been adopted, a majority of the votes cast is required to elect. The votes cast include illegal votes (such as illegible votes, votes for persons not qualified, two or more ballots folded together, etc.) but do not include blank ballots. An election takes effect once the vote has been announced and the winner has accepted the election, either in advance or immediately upon being notified. If a winner declines immediately upon being notified, then the election is not complete and voting must be repeated.

M Carling is the appointed parliamentarian of the Libertarian Party, a member of the National Association of Parliamentarians and the American Institute of Parliamentarians, and is credentialed as a Professional Registered Parliamentarian.

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### LIBERTARIAN THINKER

# The Libertarian Response to the State of the Union Address



#### by William Redpath

President Barack Obama's State of the Union address was a reminder that, for decades, the policies of Republicans and Democrats alike have failed. Libertarians are asking people to take matters into their own hands. Instead of just complaining, we're encouraging ordinary Americans to step up and run for Congress on the Libertarian Party ballot line.

I can say exactly the same thing about Obama's speech tonight that I said about George W. Bush's State of the Union speech in January 2008: "Tonight's State of the Union address went much as expected. Instead of calling for a more limited role of the federal government in American society, the President laid out plans that would only increase the government's intervention into the realm of economics, health care, education and foreign policy."

I am weary of the President's unspoken premise that only government--indeed, only the federal government--can accomplish good in our society.

Obama seems to be totally blind to the concept that government can cause problems rather than solve them. His speech was filled with "more:" more handouts, more spending, more programs, more bailouts, more regulations. We Libertarians want less government, not more.

Not to be outmatched by the Democrats, the Republican Party conveyed its lack of seriousness in addressing this nation's government spending problems by having Bob McDonnell, Virginia Governor for only 11 days at that time, deliver its rebuttal to the President. If they were really serious about addressing the dire fiscal circumstances of this nation, they would have had Paul Ryan, a six-term congressman from Wisconsin, who has proposed the most serious plan of anyone in the two older parties to keep us from going off a fiscal cliff.

A week before the State of the Union, Alan Auerbach, Professor of Economics and Law at UC Berkeley and US government fiscal policy expert, said that the Democratic and Republican parties are in a "death embrace" with their government spending. The only political party that is rationally and forthrightly addressing the need to cut government spending and end our culture of ever expanding entitlements is the Libertarian Party.

As Americans lose hope in Obama, we Libertarians are warning voters against running back to the Republicans who got us into such big messes in the first place. Republicans started the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Republicans

made the false intellectual case for bailing out banks and car companies. Republicans argued that deficits don't matter. Republicans gave us the giant Medicare expansion bill

The President's suggestion of a "spending freeze" was especially ludicrous and insulting to the intelligence of Americans. The amounts involved are minuscule, and Congress won't accept them anyway. Will Obama sign the spending bills that ignore his "freeze"? You bet he will. Instead, the President should demand across-the-board cuts in all areas, including entitlements.

The President talked a lot about jobs. Unfortunately, the policies he supports are responsible for most of the unemployment we see today. High taxes, minimum wage laws, hiring regulations, firing regulations, mandatory unemployment benefits, and other government interference make it much more difficult for businesses to hire and keep employees. As expected, the President's prescription is to increase the dosage of this government poison.

While our nation is declining dangerously right now, a turnaround could be straightforward and simple with steps like these: 1. Bring our troops home from Iraq and Afghanistan; 2. Stop rewarding failed companies with bailouts; 3. Cut taxes and spending and let the free market work.

Finally, on the matter of political rhetoric, I call upon the two older parties to stop spoon-feeding politics to the American people as if we are a bunch of overgrown children. These are difficult times that call for more than rhetorical flourish or positioning a group of diverse people around a politician. Older party politicians need to be specific about their proposed policies, as Libertarians are.

And, I know I'm probably just wasting ink, but can't we go back to the days in which the President sent a copy of his speech to Congress and left it at that. The speech last night took 1/7000th of an entire year. I think the vast majority of the American people would agree that we have better ways to spend our time.

#### Top 10 Disasters of 2009 for the Obama Administration:

- 1. Cash for Clunkers
- 2. War escalation in Afghanistan
- 3. Giant government health care expansion bill
- 4. Post office loses money hand over fist
- 5. Stimulus package
- 6. Expansion of "state secrets" doctrine
- 7. Big increase in unemployment
- 8. "Bailout" Geithner as Treasury Secretary
- 9. Skyrocketing federal spending
- 10. Huge federal deficits

#### Top 10 Disasters of the 2001-2008 Bush Administration:

- 1. Cash for Car Companies
- 2. War in Iraq
- 3. Giant Medicare expansion bill
- 4. Post office loses money hand over fist
- 5. Stimulus "rebate" checks
- 6. PATRIOT Act
- 7. Big increase in unemployment
- 8. "Bailout" Paulson as Treasury Secretary
- 9. Skyrocketing federal spending
- 10. Huge federal deficits

#### Letters to the Editor

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of every soldier killed abroad. Let's march to demand an end to war and return of our military from all the foreign bases.

We have a tremendous job ahead of us. Let's get started!

Arch Wakefield Tega Cay, SC

#### Plan for the LP

ou hit the nail on the head in this article ["Don't Complain—Run for Congress"]. Getting on the ballot in a partisan election I feel is the single most important action you can take to promote the Libertarian Party and the cause of Liberty.

I would only add the following:

1. Do not burn yourself out on running to win. Get real. We are in the building process. I know that sounds negative to some libertarians, but here is the positive side: Run to spread the "Word of Liberty" and increase interest in libertarianism. That is something you can win at and have fun doing. Tell voters the truth: You are running to give them a real choice.

2. If you feel you can't speak well enough in a pubic arena to accomplish the above, fine. Then just get on the ballot and answer questionnaires. Your candidacy will still get us publicity.

The proof of the efficacy of the above is in Michigan and Texas. What fun they are having with all those candidates, even though none of them took office.

In Wisconsin, several elections back we had only one or two running for political office under the Libertarian banner. What a drag. We gave no appearance of being a legitimate Third Party.

What a difference it would have been here in Wisconsin to have had all nine Representatives, a US Senator, and five State Constitutional offices contended for by Libertarians.

That would be news. And, that would show the public we are a force to be reckoned with. So run for office. For all the reasons given in the article, and then some! Run for office.

George Meyers
Racine, WI

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# Wayne Allyn Root Candidate for Libertarian Party National Chairman



## Wayne Root: Representing You to America!

- Nearly 1000 media appearances as our 2008 Vice Presidential nominee
- Since the 2008 election, another 1000 media appearances Wayne is a regular on FOX News, FOX Business and CNBC
- TV: Hannity, Cavuto, Glenn Beck, Judge Napolitano, FOX & Friends, Larry Kudlow
- Regular guest on Michael Savage, Jerry Doyle, Mancow Muller, and G. Gordon Liddy
- Guest HOST for Jerry Doyle, Larry Elder and G. Gordon Liddy Radio Shows
- Wayne Root's Radio Show Guest List (Chicago, NY and LA): Ron Paul, John Stossel, Peter Schiff, Judge Napolitano, Dick Morris, Ann Coulter, Steve Forbes, Robert Ringer, Mark Skousen, Gary Johnson
- Wayne's 2009 book "The Conscience of a Libertarian" hit #1 at Amazon in four categories and consistently #1 or #2 in the "Libertarian Book" category for over seven months
- Fan mail from thousands pledging to vote Libertarian after hearing Wayne on TV and radio
- Attended LP State conventions all across the country in 2009 as keynote speaker and fundraiser
- AND WAYNE IS JUST GETTING WARMED UP!

Democrats and Republicans employ great marketing to offer this country a lousy product.

We need to pair great marketing with our great product – FREEDOM!

Imagine an accomplished, media savvy chairman presenting our Libertarian message to America...an expert on sales, marketing, fund raising, branding and promotion...an energetic leader inspiring large numbers to vote Libertarian for the first time and become contributors to the national and state parties.

This is Our Time • This is Our Opportunity • This is Your Candidate America Needs the Libertarian Party! Our Party Needs Wayne Root!

### Wanted: 2010 Summer Interns

#### by Mark Meranta

The Libertarian National Committee is now accepting summer intern applications for 2010. Our program gives students the opportunity to pursue activism and projects that make the best use of their individual talents, skills, and interests.

Applicants must be organized, responsible, and possess a professional demeanor. Strong research and writing skills are preferred. Applicants should have a strong interest in the Libertarian ideals of more freedom and less government. The Libertarian Party accepts applications from undergraduate and graduate students. If requested, interns enrolled in a post-secondary institution can receive university credit.

Previous intern projects included (but were not limited to) the following:

- Research for candidates, target groups, state laws, and other legal matters
- New media
- Video production

- Blogging
- Contact-Your-Congressman Cam paigns
- Online recruitment and marketing
- Fundraising
- Attending D.C. Libertarian events, happy hours, and protests

LP summer interns have gone on to get internships or jobs at the following liberty-oriented organizations:

- Americans for Tax Reform
- Pelican Institute
- Institute for Humane Studies
- · Charles G. Koch Charitable Founda-
- Competitive Enterprise Institute
- Students for Liberty
- · Reason.tv
- Tax Foundation
- Atlas Research Foundation
- Libertarian Party Headquarters

Please send your cover letter and resume to interns@lp.org.

# Q) What's the Best Way to Reach 16,000

Libertarian Party Donors and a Slew of St. Louis Convention Delegates?

#### **ANSWER) Promote Your Campaign in** LP News!



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- FEC filing committees and PACS
- Individuals running for internal LNC office
- Individuals running under the LP label for state or local office (who have met the nominating requirements of their state LP)

To get a rate card or to place sponsorship today, please contact Operations Director Robert Kraus at operations@lp.org, or by calling (202) 333-0008 x 231.

#### **ELECT BRENDAN KELLY** TO THE NH STATE HOUSE

Hi, I'm Brendan Kelly, current chairman of the board of selectmen in Seabrook, New Hampshire. In March of 2007, the people of Seabrook elected me to be one of their selectmen, knowing that I was chairman of the Libertarian Party of NH. I'll be running for re-election as a Libertarian in March 2010. I believe I'v done a good job for all the people of Seabrook, but I don't plan on taking anything for granted and I hope to be serving another three years in Seabrook.



#### **Any contributions will be** greatly appreciated!

Make checks payable to "Friends of Brendan Kelly" or LPNH, if contributing to all Libertarian candidates.

#### **Mailing Address:**

**Brendan Kelly** P.O. Box #631 Seabrook, NH 03874-0631

www.BrendanKellyLPNH.com



For information on the **ACHIEVE** slate, go to www.PatDixon.org/Inc.html

# International Society for Individual Liberty: Globalizing Libertarian Ideas



land is leading the search for a permanent successor for the irreplaceable ISIL founder Vince Miller, who passed away suddenly in the summer of 2008. Vince Miller is the Canadian LP activist who

founded Libertarian International in 1980

#### by Jim Elwood

t its Winter Retreat in Phoenix, January 8-10, the International Society for Individual Liberty (ISIL) named Mary J. Ruwart as Chairman of its Board. Dr. Ruwart is well known to Libertarians as author of the popular libertarian classic Healing Our World (http://www.ruwart.com/Healing/), as well as her column with The Advocates for Self-Government and related book Short Answers to the Tough Questions. Dr. Ruwart is currently a member-atlarge of the Libertarian National Committee.

ISIL (www.isil.org) is an international networking organization that is spreading the liberty message globally through Laissez Faire Books (LFB), Liberty English Camps, international conferences, Web offerings, as well as the translation, publication, and distribution of libertarian materials. The Winter Retreat featured an appearance by Dr. Nathaniel Branden, whose book, *The Vision of Ayn Rand*, was just released by LFB.

Other well-known libertarians were appointed to executive positions as well. Acting President Ken Schoolland is the author of *The Adventures of Jonathan Gullible: A Free Market Odyssey*, a libertarian satire that has been published in 46 languages, and the animated *Philosophy of Liberty*, available in 36 languages at http://www.jonathangullible.com/. School-

Jim Elwood, the long-time ISIL administrator, was appointed Executive Director of ISIL, headquartered in Phoenix. Jim Peron remains executive director of LFB (www.lfb.org). Joe Cobb, former economic counsel to Congressman Ron Paul, is the new Chief Operations Officer and Secretary/Treasurer.

Other reelected board members include Dr. Jim Lark, LNC member and former LP national chair; Dave Walter, former LP national chair; Lobo Tiggre, editor with Doug Casey's investment advisory publications; and Christian Michel, president of Europe's Libertarian International.

Since 1982, ISIL has held international conferences throughout the world. To help educate prospective young libertarian leaders, ISIL provides student scholarships to its conferences. ISIL sponsors Liberty Camps that teach Libertarian ideas and entrepreneurship to overseas high school and university students in a summer camp environment, in addition to improving their English skills. In 2010, new Liberty Camps are planned in Azerbaijan, Germany, and Ukraine.

ISIL has sponsored the translation of introductory libertarian books in Eastern European languages, including Mary Ruwart's *Healing Our World*, Karl

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### Taking Advantage of Social Media

#### by Mark Meranta

he Libertarian Party's social media statistics have increased dramatically over the past few months. I have been working along with Development Assistant Kyle Hartz to get the LP message onto the social media scene.

The more followers we have on Facebook and Twitter, the better we can communicate our blogs and press releases to members.

Every time the LP posts something new on Facebook, each member receives an update on his or her personal homepage. After reading the entry, users can share or "retweet" the article to their friends and followers. This process creates a viral effect that quickly spreads and increases LP site traffic by thousands of visitors. We are able to measure the amount of traffic we get from our social media from the site Bit.ly.

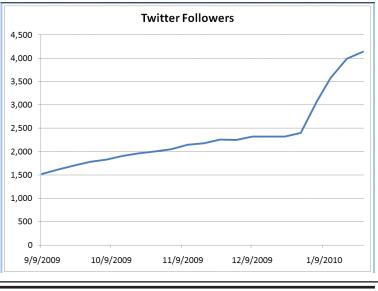
Facebook "Fan Pages" can also be used to communicate important information to specific states. If the State Chair in Florida needs volunteers, we can send a post that goes only to people who live in Florida.

We encourage you to join us on Facebook and Twitter to help our numbers increase even more. After becoming a fan or follower, be sure to share and retweet our posts!





#### Twitter



# More Americans Identify as Libertarians New Cato Study Shows Libertarian Trend Among Voters

#### by Wes Benedict

n analysis published by the Cato Institute on January 21 offers a variety of statistics to support the notion that Americans are becoming more libertarian, and that they are becoming more comfortable with the word "libertarian" itself.

According to the study, a 2006 Zogby poll posed the following question to a sample of

voters: "Would you describe yourself as fiscally conservative and socially liberal, also known as libertarian?" Forty-four percent of the respondents said "Yes."

The authors of the study used a different poll to determine how many voters are actually libertarian. According to their criteria, nearly 15 percent of voters are libertarian. One of the most important jobs of the Libertarian Party is to make sure

that libertarian voters are voting for Libertarian Party candidates. There is a lot of untapped potential out there.

Obviously, the Republicans and Democrats in Washington are not making voters happy. Fewer and fewer voters are identifying as Republicans or Democrats. The Libertarian Party needs to find those voters who are libertarians, and get them to join us in our effort to bring liberty back to America.

### **Libertarian Party 2010 Convention, St. Louis**

Gary Nolan, Bob Barr, Neal Boortz, Jeff Davis, David F. Nolan, Wayne Allyn Root, Mary J. Ruwart, Bob Sullentrup St. Louis Renaissance Grand Suites Hotel • St. Louis, Missouri • Memorial Day Weekend • May 28-31

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founding member Dave Nolan, author Dr. Mary Ruwart, and radio personality Jeff Davis are also scheduled to speak.

In addition to this excellent line-up of speakers, nationally syndicated radio host Neal Boortz is slated to speak at the Sunday dinner banquet.

"Other than Election Day, the Libertarian Party's National Convention is by far the most exciting Libertarian Party event in the biennial election cycle," says Libertarian Party Executive Director Wes Benedict. "I attended my first national convention in 2004 in Atlanta. It was an amazing experience to be among so many fellow Libertarians, and featured a close and dramatic race for the presidential nomination."

The four-day convention will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, May 28, with a welcome reception for attendees, and

Name

will last through Monday. It will be located at the historic Renaissance Grand Hotel in downtown St. Louis, affording attendees a perfect location to explore St. Louis while still being able to participate in party business. St. Louis features its famous Arch, as well as riverboat cruises, Major League Baseball, brewery tours with free samples, exquisite dining, and colorful American history. Many of these attractions are within walking distance of the hotel.

"I'll be welcoming delegates to St. Louis before the opening gavel drops," says Libertarian National Committeeman Bob Sullentrup. "The Gateway City is my home town, and I'll point out what to do and where to go to get the most out of your visit to the fair city."

The convention planning committee scheduled the 2010 convention over Memorial Day weekend to offer families a vacation opportunity in conjunction with attending the convention. And, with packages ranging from \$49 to \$299, the convention is affordable on any budget. Delegates are encouraged to sign up before March 15 in order to take advantage of special early bird pricing.

Beyond

listening to speakers and helping to elect the leadership of the national party, attendees at national conventions use the time to socialize and collaborate with other Libertarians.

It's a great opportunity to brainstorm with other activists and local leaders about effective techniques to run for office, recruit members, or even win de-

TEWAY
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t bates. Because most delegates stay at the

bates. Because most delegates stay at the convention hotel, there are always opportunities to network with other party members.

For more information on the convention, please visit http://www.gateway-toliberty.com, or email the Libertarian Party at info@lp.org. You can also call (202) 333-0008.

#### **Attendee Information: (One Registration per Form Please)**

Address 1		
Address 2		
City		
State	Zipcode	
Phone		
Email		
Total Amount Enclosed		
	enclosed (payable to "Libertarian Party") C/AmEx/Disc #:	
Expiration Date		
Name on Card		
Signature		
Special Dietary Require	ments	
Attendee Status: This is my first LP Na I am an Elected Offici		
Delegate Status: I want to be a Voting I want to be an Obser		
National membership Certification: I certify that I oppose the initiation of force to achieve political or social goals.		

# Visit www.GatewaytoLiberty.com to register and for full package descriptions:

Basic Package \$99 (\$49 after \$50 mail-in rebate\*)

- Friday evening Opening Reception
- Delegate access to floor during Business Session
- Morning and Afternoon Refreshment breaks
- Saturday evening Chairs Debate

(Scheduled to increase \$30 after March 15.)

Silver Package \$274 (\$224 after \$50 mail-in rebate\*)

- Includes all of the items in the Basic Package plus
- Saturdav breakfast & speakers
- Sunday breakfast & speakers
- Sunday evening banquet dinner

(Scheduled to increase \$35 after March 15.)

Gold Package \$349 (\$299 after \$50 mail-in rebate\*)

- Includes all of the items in the Silver Package plus
- Saturday lunch & speakers
- Sunday lunch & speakers

(Scheduled to increase \$40 after March 15.)

\*See Web site for details: http://www.gatewaytoliberty.com/rebate

#### Mail form and payment to:

Libertarian National Committee, Inc. 2600 Virginia Ave NW, Suite 200 Washington, DC 20037

# **Gateway to Liberty**

our Libertarian Party will hold its 2010 National Convention in downtown St. Louis at the Renaissance Grand Hotel the weekend of Memorial Day. You might want to use the trip as a summer getaway and enjoy not only the Convention, but other amenities including the Arch, riverboats, baseball, brewery tours with free samples, dining, and American history. Much of this is within walking distance of the hotel.

Be sure to sign up early to take advantage of early bird discounts. There's even an incentive rebate for those who stay in the Renaissance Grand Hotel, since convention meeting room space is complimentary only if attendees book enough room nights. Our special rate of \$109 per night and \$8 per day parking is only available if you sign up online at http://www.gatewaytoliberty.com.

Our list of Convention speakers is fabulous including some who have sought our Party's presidential nomination.

If America ever needed the Libertarian Party, it's now. And if the Libertarian Party ever needed your participation and support, it's now. Meet us in St. Louis and help shape the future on our historic mission to restore liberty to America.

### **Convention Schedule**\*

#### Friday (May 28)

1:30 pm to 5:00 pm **Libertarian National Committee Meeting** 7:00 pm to 10:30 pm **Welcome Reception** 

#### Saturday (May 29)

7:00 am	to	8:30 am	Breakfast (with speaker)
8:45 am	to	12:00 pm	<b>Convention Business</b>
12:00 pm	to	1:30 pm	Award Lunch (with speaker)
1:30 pm	to	2:30 pm	Keynote Speech
2:30 pm	to	5:30 pm	<b>Convention Business</b>
6:00 pm	to	7:00 pm	Torch Club Cocktail Party
7:00 pm	to	8:30 pm	National Chair Candidates Forum

#### Sunday (May 30)

7:00 am	to	8:30 am	Breakfast (with speaker)
8:45 am	to	12:00 pm	<b>Convention Business</b>
12:00 pm	to	1:30 pm	Lunch (with speaker)
1:30 pm	to	5:00 pm	<b>Convention Business</b>
5:30 pm	to	6:30 pm	Pre-Banquet Cocktail Hour
6:30 pm	to	9:30 pm	Banquet Dinner (with speaker)

#### Monday (May 31)

8:45 am	to	12:00 pm	Convention Business	*Convention schedule
1:30 pm	to	5:00 pm	<b>Libertarian National Committee Meeting</b>	

t. Louis's own Bob Sullentrup will welcome the delegates to the Gateway City. Bob has been the Party's National Secretary since 2004 and Missouri State Chair from 2001 through 2005. Aside from the 1970's when he attended college and graduate school at the University of Chicago, Bob has lived, worked and run marathons in and around the St. Louis area. Accordingly, Missouri's Favorite Son will welcome Party delegates to St. Louis and take the Convention's opening moments to point out the spots of local interest, history, culture and cuisine.

### **Scheduled Speakers:**



**Bob Barr** 2008 Libertarian Party Presidential Nominee



**Neal Boortz**Nationally Syndicated
Radio Host



**Jeff Davis** Actor, Writer, and Composer



**David Nolan**Libertarian Party
Co-Founder



**Gary Nolan** Syndicated Libertarian Radio Host



**Wayne Allyn Root** 2008 Libertarian Party V.P. Nominee



Mary J. Ruwart Ph. D., Libertarian Author



#### **News And Events**

#### Illinois

#### Full Slate of Candidates for 2010

It's official! The Libertarian Party of Illinois ("LP Illinois") will field a full slate of candidates for the 2010 statewide election. The candidates are: Mike Labno (U.S. Senate), Lex Green (Governor), Ed Rutledge (Lt. Governor), Josh Hanson (Secretary of State), Julie Fox (Comptroller), James Pauly (Treasurer) and Bill Malan (Attorney General).

Our candidates have hit the ground running. They have participated in forums in the following Illinois locations: Schaumburg, Naperville, Aurora, Rockford and DeKalb, touting their qualifications for office, expressing their beliefs and answering questions from voters. More forums through out the state are in the works.

Several of our candidates have already launched their websites. They have also put together campaign organizations and commenced fundraising.

LP Illinois will embark on an ambitious drive to collect signatures to place our candidates on the ballot. The 90-day petition period begins March 23, 2010. We expect a grass-roots effort by our party members, campus affiliates and other volunteers. Our goal is 50,000 signatures. Illinois law calls for a minimum of 25,000 signatures for political parties who do not have favored party status in the state. We plan on holding training sessions for petitioners. A fundraising effort to aid in the ballot access project will begin in February.

For information and questions on the 2010 campaign, please contact Crystal Jurczynski, Campaigns Director, at: 630/876-1935 or campaigns@lpillinois. org. For questions on the petition drive, please contact David Davies, LP Illinois Petition Drive Manager, at: 815/990-8843 or PDM@LPIllinois.org.

We welcome Sangamon County as our newest state chapter. Their involvement will be key in this election year. LP Illinois now has ten active chapters. Will County is currently in the organizational stage and we look forward to bringing them on board shortly. Other chapters are in the formative stage as well.

#### Indiana

#### Strategic Goals Meeting

n Saturday, January 30, the LPIN held our 2010 Stategic Goals meeting in conjunction with the regular first quarter meeting of the State Central Committee.

Well over 50 LPIN members from all over the state gathered to consider the 2010 LPIN Roadmap developed by Executive Director Chris Spangle for this crucial election year.

Among the goals for this year are to maintain ballot access by achieving at least 2 percent in the Indiana Secretary of State election (we have averaged about 4.5 percent over the past two election cycles), gain financial stability by doubling the monthly pledges to our 1994 Society, recruit 125 candidates for the Indiana General Assembly to support our SOS candidate and to increase LNC members in Indiana to place us in the top ten state affiliates.

Of the over 50 members in attendance, more than 75 percent had already run for public office as a Libertarian in Indiana and most were willing to run again this year. Present were several announced candidates for the LPIN nominations for SOS, Indiana Auditor, Congress and various Indiana House and Senate seats. The LPIN will nominate its candidates at our state convention on April 24 in Indianapolis.

#### Missouri

#### **Building Liberty Bridges**

The Missouri Libertarian Party 2010 State Convention will be held at the Truman Hotel and Conference Center in Jefferson City, Missouri Saturday March 6. The convention focus is on building relationships with other liberty minded organizations and 2010 Libertarian candidates. The Missouri LP State Committee will meet in the afternoon to elect National LP Convention delegates, amend the plat-

form and bylaws, and elect the Executive Committee.

In recent years there is growing dissatisfaction with the direction our country is going. You can see this with the success Ron Paul had in his run for the Republican Presidential nomination, the Tea Parties and opposition to national health care reform.

In the last year thousands of people have participated in "Tea Party" rallies all across the nation to protest the bailouts and unprecedented federal government spending. The Libertarian message of personal liberty, economic freedom, free markets and peace needs to be heard now more than ever.

Now is the time for Libertarians to step up and lead. Please attend this convention and help us plot a course for more freedom and liberty in our lifetime.

The keynote speaker is Dave Roland, a Policy Analyst with the Show-Me Institute. The luncheon speaker is Catherine Bleish, Executive Director of the Liberty Restoration Project and a member of the Ladies of Liberty Alliance. Session speakers include: Keith Miller, Missouri Sovereignty Project; Paul Hamby, Missouri Campaign for Liberty Co-Chair; Ron Calzone, Missouri Citizens for Property Rights; Glenn Nielsen, Missouri LP State Chair.

There will be a discussion forum with Missouri libertarians discussing their experiences running for office as a Libertarian. In these tough economic times the Missouri Libertarian Party has worked hard to keep expenses for the convention down so more Missouri Libertarians can attend. This will be a one-day event allowing many to attend without having the expense of a hotel room. The cost is only \$40.00 which includes lunch. \$20.00 for students.

This year there will be a banquet dinner in the evening featuring: chicken Italiano with double chocolate cake for desert; cash bar; short speeches by Libertarian candidates for the US Senate; Karl Wetzel and Champion of Freedom Award presentations; live performance of the Fed Up In Missouri skit; special performance of the Wheels Off Liberty podcast by Jamie & Mike.

For more information and to purchase your convention ticket please visit: http://lpmo.org/events/convention/. The State Committee meeting agenda, proposed bylaws and platform changes will be linked to from the convention page above no later than February 4. Hope to meet you at the convention in Jefferson City!

#### Ohio

#### Libertarians on the Rise

66 An articulate, pragmatic, and professional libertarian, is a danger to the duopoly." This is how the Ohio LP is getting down to business with its candidates in year 2010. With the filing deadline of February 18, it is estimated that there will be approximately 50 LP candidates on the ballot in Ohio. With all the ballot access challenges, it has been nearly ten years since the Ohio LP had this many candidates. Most are first-time candidates so everyone is going through a learning curve. Kudos to Deputy Political Director Mike Johnston and Candidates Committee Chair Bryant Callaghan for the countless hours they have put into this.

Sean "Kalin" Stipe is the first registered Libertarian in Ohio in nearly ten years. Yes, on January 29, 2010 Kalin changed his registration in Lorain County Ohio (just west of Cleveland). He was allowed to do so because he ran for election in 2009 as a Libertarian candidate for city council (partisan) in the city of Lorain. Since there was no primary for him to declare his party affiliation in the Spring of 2009, the Board of Elections allowed him to change. Presently, he is heavily involved in the management of the Lorain County Libertarian Party, as the Vice-Chair.

Going forward, the Libertarian Party of Ohio will participate in a primary in May of 2010. This will allow for Ohio citizens to once again register as Libertarians, if they so choose. At present in Ohio, there is no other way to party-register, other than voting in a primary. That is Ohio law.

Now we focus on the upcoming conventions. The Ohio LP convention will be on April 9 through 12 at the DoubleTree North Hotel in Columbus, Ohio. Keynote speaker will be libertarian author, James Bovard on Saturday night. We are also gearing up for the national convention in St. Louis in late May. The Ohio team has worked very hard and plans to fill those 45 seats that have been allocated to Ohio, for the national convention.

Please go to www.LPO.org and sign up for the social networks, an Ohio LPO Region Meetup, the LPO statewide announcements, or answer the monthly survey.

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#### **A**FFILIATE

#### **News And Events**

continued from page 10

#### **Pennsylvania**

**Upcoming State Convention** 

he Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania will hold its annual convention March 27, 2010 at the Harrisburg Hilton. Convention package and registration information is available on the website www.lppa.org.

There will be a social event on Friday evening for those arriving then. Saturday evening will feature the Liberty Banquet, with speakers from various organizations presenting their work to rebuild liberty in our society. We hope everyone who has an opportunity to join us will come help us jump-start our activities for the year.

#### Texas

Non-Partisan Recruitment Drive

The Libertarian Party of Texas is now recruiting candidates (again!). In Texas, city council and school board races are decided each year in May nonpartisan races.

"Local non-partisan races are the best place for Libertarian candidates to start their public careers in Texas," said Executive Director Robert Butler. "The non-partisan nature of the race, combined with a low voter turn-out, increases our ability to win."

The LP Texas has hired Ohio's Jeremiah Arn and San Antonio's Frank and Melissa Carrasco to help recruit, train, and manage a statewide slate of city and school board candidates. Meanwhile, 197 candidates filed for Party nomination in this year's partisan conventions, including five candidates for Governor.

Unlike Republicans and Democrats, the Libertarian Party of Texas holds precinct, county, district, and state conventions to nominate their candidates for public office. Precinct Conventions will be held on

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March 9. County conventions will be held on March 13. District conventions will be held on March 20. Libertarians will nominate their candidate for Governor and other statewide officials at the June 12 state convention in Austin, at the Radisson North Hotel.

Libertarians accept no tax dollars for their conventions (unlike Republican and Democratic primaries). According to state law, no one may vote in the Libertarian conventions if they have already voted in the March 2010 primaries.

A complete list of Libertarian candidates can be found at: http://www.lptexas. org/content/current-candidates.

On February 8, Texas Libertarian Executive Director Robert Butler launched his new 18 Steps to Win a Local Election, a campaign handbook and workbook written for Libertarians.

# George Phillies for LNC Chair



http://bit.ly/gphillies

Carolyn Vice Chair Treasurer Secretary



http://bit.ly/cmarbry

James Marbry Oaksun for LNC | for LNC | for LNC



http://bit.ly/joaksun



http://bit.ly/rpower

Scott Williamson for LNC Regional Representative Representative (Tennessee)



bit.ly/swilliamson

Jake Porter for LNC Regional (lowa)



bit.ly/jdporter

Charles Wilhoit for LNC Regional Alternate (Tennessee)



bit.ly/cwilhoit

Remmert for **LNC** At-Large

Jim



bit.ly/jremmert

Kennedy for **LNC** At-Large Representative Representative

Joe



bit.ly/jkennedy

#### **ISIL Elects New Officers**

continued from page 7

Hess's Capitalism for Kids, and Frances Kendall's Super Parents, Super Children. One of ISIL's proudest achievements was the publishing of several of Ayn Rand's works in her native Russian!

ISIL took over Laissez Faire Books (www.lfb.org) in late 2007 and now boasts over 900 book and DVD titles. LFB's publishing arm, Cobden Press, recently produced Henry Hazlitt's 50th-anniversary edition of Economics in One Lesson, a 40th-anniversary facsimile edition of Morris and Linda Tannehill's Market for Liberty, and, just recently, Nathaniel Branden's The Vision of Ayn Rand, a compilation of his NBI lectures from the 1960s.

Over 4 million of ISIL's pamphlets were distributed through outreach and educational efforts by LP and other libertyminded groups across America.

The text of all 39 English titles and 18 Spanish translations are on-line in the Intellectual Resources section at ISIL's website.

For free e-mail ISIL Updates and Laissez Faire Books news bulletins, sign up at http://www.ISIL.org.

Jim Elwood is the Executive Director and co-founder of ISIL, having worked with the organization since 1981. He is a former state chair of the Virginia LP, and, in 1992, was the Libertarian candidate for Congress in San Francisco against Nancy

# The Libertarian National Committee Welcomes Our Newest Members

New Members From 11/25/09 to 2/9/10

#### **Torch Club**

Chris Aguiar Adam Parks Ryan W. Peters Laurie A. Sponza

#### Patron

John Boll David Neely

#### Sponsor

John M. Deagan Stephen Gilchrist Janis Parker Dennis Wheelus

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Gary Steele
Billy W. Tucker
Jeffrey Turner
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Andrea Crowley

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# The Libertarian National Committee Welcomes Our Newest Members

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Current members upgrading to higher levels are not listed. For example, if you were previously a Basic Member and you upgraded to Lifetime, your name is not listed here. We greatly appreciate your upgrade, but space and other considerations make it prohibitive for us to list upgrading members at this time.

PAID SPONSORSHI

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# Libertarian Donor Support for the John Anderson For Congress Campaign

I'm John Anderson, Libertarian Party candidate for Congress in Ohio's 7th Congressional District. Request each Libertarian Party member make a minimum contribution of \$20 or more to help fund this campaign. Maximum amount an individual can contribute is \$2400 per election law. I'm contributing over \$100k of my own money for this effort.

Please send your check or money order made payable to John Anderson For Congress, P.O. Box 229, Enon, Ohio 45323-0229. In addition to your check, please submit your full name, mailing address, occupation, and name of employer. This information is required to be made available under Federal Election Commission (FEC) reporting requirements for Congressional candidates.

\***\*** 

## WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON IN YOUR STATE?

Here are some of the Libertarian
Party events happening around
the country. A more complete
list can be found online at
LP.org/event. You can get
more information by visiting the
website of your state affiliate.
(See a list at LP.org/states.) If
there is an event you would
like to see listed here or on the
website, please send details to:

#### **EVENTS@LP.ORG**

OR CALL THE LP HEADQUARTERS AT (202) 333-0008.



Event	Date	Location
LPMO State Convention	3/6	Jefferson City, MO
LPDE State Convention	3/6	Dover, DE
LPNJ State Convention	3/13	New Brunswick, NJ
2010 NH Liberty Forum	3/18	Nashua, NH
LPPA State Convention	3/26	Harrisburg, PA
LPOH State Convention	4/9	Columbus, OH
LPWI State Convention	4/10	Oconomowoc, WI
LPOK State Convention	4/10	Guthrie, OK
LPIN State Convention	4/23	Indianapolis, IN
LPFL State Convention	4/24	Panama City, FL
LPWA State Convention	4/24	Seattle, WA
LPMN State Convention	4/24	Minneapolis, MN

#### Recent LP.org Online Poll:

# Which of the following statements best matches your view of global warming?

#### Results:

- Global warming is mostly natural and there's not much we can do about it. 29% (3,245 votes)
- This whole global warming thing is a hoax. 28% (3,157 votes)
- Whether or not global warming is real, it doesn't justify more taxes or regulations. 26% (2,866 votes)
- Global warming is real, it's a threat, and the government should limit carbon dioxide emissions. 11% (1,210 votes)
- I don't know whether global warming is real, but the government should limit carbon dioxide emissions just to be safe. 6% (668 votes)

Total Votes: 11,146

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Office hours: 9 am-6 pm ET New Member Information: Call (800) ELECT-US

E-mail: info@lp.org



Libertarian Party of Texas Executive Director Robert Butler recruiting Libertarians in Kerrville, TX to run for office.

# What have you missed recently on LP.org?

- Libertarian Michael Munger Comments on Insurance and Health Care Costs
- Stop Subsidizing Health Care!
- Wes Benedict's New Year's Resolutions
- 193 Libertarian Candidates File in Texas
- Libertarian Party Wants Open Health Care Negotiations
- Free "Operation Politically Homeless" Kits for Libertarian Student Groups
- Libertarians Applaud Joe Kennedy for Standing Firm in Massachusetts Senate Election
- Bob Barr Defends Constitution; Clashes with Bill O'Reilly
- Surprise: New Republican Senator Wants More Government-Run Health Care
- Update on Michael Badnarik
- You Can't Spoil an Election if the Other Choices are Rotten
- Missouri Libertarian has Strong Showing in Special Election
- Poll: What Should Congress do About the Deficit?
- Wes Benedict Appears on FOX's Freedom Watch