



Take a look at
the brand-new
LNC office
in Alexandria!

Read more on Page 5

LP News

The Party of Principle™

August 2014

The Official Newspaper of the Libertarian Party

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2014 LP National Convention coverage inside!

Libertarian Party delegates, members, and friends from across the nation and overseas gathered in Columbus, Ohio, in late

June to meet, recharge their batteries, inspire each other to work even harder to achieve liberty, and decide the future of the party.

Far more happened at the 2014 LP National Convention than we can chronicle here, but we've captured some of the highlights for you on

pages 7-11. So head inside for coverage of the new LNC chair and officers, platform and by-laws changes, featured speakers and events, and more!

Libertarian Party candidates call for military downsizing

By Carla Howell
Political Director

As Democrats and Republicans flirt with more interventions in Ukraine, Iraq, Iran, Syria and Gaza, 35 Libertarian candidates running for federal office in 2014 have taken a pledge to dramatically downsize the U.S. military:

"If elected, I will sponsor legislation to cut military spending by 60% or more and cut total federal spending accordingly; close all foreign U.S. military bases; withdraw completely from the Middle East; and bring our troops home."

The following candidates have taken the military defense pledge: **Danny Bedwell**, U.S. House 1st, Mississippi; **Kevin Craig**, U.S. House 7th, Missouri; **Rufus Craig**, U.S. House 6th, Louisiana; **Mark Fish**, U.S. Senate, Alaska; **Jim Fulner**, U.S. Senate, Michigan; **Loel Gnadt**, U.S. House 1st, Michigan; **Erwin Haas**, U.S. House 6th, Michigan; **Will Hammer**, U.S. House 6th, Virginia; **Sharon Hansen**, U.S. Senate, Illinois; **Sean Haugh**, U.S. Senate, North Carolina; **Andrew Horning**, U.S. House

8th, Indiana; **Heather Johnson**, U.S. Senate, Minnesota; **Davy Jones**, U.S. House 2nd, West Virginia; **Bill Kelsey**, U.S. House 10th, Texas; **Scott Kohlhaas**, U.S. Senate, Alaska; **Mike Kolls**, U.S. House 24th, Texas; **Lenny Ladner**, U.S. House 7th, Tennessee; **Rob Lapham**, U.S. House 22nd, Texas; **Randall Lord**, U.S. House 4th, Louisiana; **Jim McDermott**, U.S. House at large, Alaska; **Curtis McLaughlin**, U.S. House 4th, South Carolina; **Brannon McMorris**, U.S. Senate, Louisiana; **Russ Monchil**, U.S. House 6th, Missouri; **Martin Moulton**, Shadow U.S. House, D.C.; **Clark Patterson**, U.S. House 1st, Texas; **David Patterson**, U.S. Senate, Kentucky; **Jeff Peterman**, U.S. House 2nd, Indiana; **Ed Rankin**, U.S. House 32nd, Texas; **Chris Rike**, U.S. House 4th, Arizona; **Chris Sharer**, U.S. House 13th, Michigan; **Debbie Standiford**, U.S. House 2nd, Arkansas; **Jim Vein**, U.S. House 4th, Utah; **Arvin Vohra**, U.S. House 4th, Maryland; **Roy Welborn**, U.S. House 5th, Missouri; **Kipp Welch**, U.S. House 2nd, Michigan; **John Wieder**, U.S. House 14th, Texas.

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MSNBC "Hardball" host Chris Matthews interviews Sean Haugh, Libertarian Party candidate for U.S. Senate in North Carolina who polled at 11 percent in May.

Libertarians hitting new highs in the polls

By Carla Howell

Several 2014 Libertarian candidates are polling exceptionally high, despite being outspent by millions of dollars by their Democratic and Republican opponents and despite media bias that strongly favors the two old parties.

- Sean Haugh for U.S. Senate in North Carolina polled at 11 percent on May 13, according to Public Policy Polling.
- Roger Roots for U.S. Senate in Montana received 9 percent on July 24 in a Gravis poll.
- Adrian Wyllie for governor in Florida polled at 11 percent in a Quinnipiac poll released on July 23.
- David Williams for attorney general in

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CHAIR'S CORNER

It's time to welcome people home to the LP

by Nicholas Sarwark, Chair

I would like to start out my first column as chair by thanking Geoffrey Neale for his service as chair, Nancy Neale and the rest of the Convention Management Committee for putting on an excellent convention, and the Libertarian Party of Ohio for being such gracious hosts for the National Convention just held in Columbus. It was a great convention, and if you weren't able to make this last one, make it a point to attend the 2016 convention in Orlando, Fla. I especially want to thank the delegates who have entrusted me with the job of chair.



Nicholas Sarwark

When I ran for chair, I asked the delegates to elect me to the position of "least important person in the party." I firmly believe that the most important people in this party are the candidates, the state party leaders, and the individual activists spreading the Libertarian message to the American people. You are the most important person in this party. Without you, there would be no Libertarian National Committee. As chair, my goal is to help you be more effective as a Libertarian.

For our party to be successful, I need your help. I need your ideas, your suggestions, and your willingness to volunteer for and donate to the Libertarian Party. You can contact me at chair@lp.org, follow me on Twitter at @nsarwark, or follow my Facebook page: [fb.com/sarwark4chair](https://www.facebook.com/sarwark4chair)

I appreciate all of the suggestions and feedback I've already received and look forward to hearing from you about what you'd like the Libertarian Party to do.

The good news is that our ideas are winning. Recent polling of younger voters shows that they don't

trust either of the old parties. It shows that they want greater freedom. This generation is ready to be Libertarian. To seize that opportunity, we need to clearly define what it means to be a Libertarian and show people that we are the only political party dedicated to advancing human freedom.

The arc of history bends toward freedom. As Libertarians, we are working to bend it further and faster. We are different from the old parties, and we must show people how Libertarians can advance freedom through cutting government. As your chair, I will communicate our Libertarian ideals with kindness and compassion, but also with strength and clarity. As the great abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison said, "I am in earnest — I will not equivocate — I will not excuse — I will not retreat a single inch — AND I WILL BE HEARD."

It's time to welcome people home to the Libertarian Party. Help me welcome your friends, family, and neighbors to come home. If they have never been a member of the party, but believe in human freedom, this is their home. If they joined the Republicans or Democrats believing they would fight for human freedom, but are disappointed by broken promises, this is their home. If they were once a member of the party, but left in frustration at something we did or didn't do, this is their home.

It's time for everyone committed to advancing liberty by cutting government to come home to the only political party that will do it.

Yours in liberty,

The following individuals became Lifetime Members of the Libertarian Party between April 24, 2014, and July 31, 2014:

Jennie L. Allison	Richard Wells Forsythe Jr.	Nathaniel R. Orders
Thomas Applegate	Nick Frollini	Dr. Michael R. Pakko
Christopher Ashby	Mary Therese Gingell	Jason Pedu
Mark N. Axinn Esq.	Joseph J. Gramc	Prof. William S. Peirce
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Chris Batchelor	William Hajdu	David Reese
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Robert Boothby	David E. Henkle	Gary Dale Robbins
William H. Bouma	Jonathan A. Jaech	Neal R. Rzepkowski
Michael Mark Brady	Nick P. Karem	Nicholas J. Sarwark
Keith Brilhart	Piper Keairnes	Ronald Schaefer
Stanley Brown	James Keller	Roy Britton Scherer Esq.
Gary Brunsmann	Gregory D. Kelver	Mr Jason M. Scheurer
Lee Ann Burgess	Tim Krieger	Jeffrey M. Scoville
Edwin T. Burton	Keith Laube	William J. Sears
Judge John A. Buttrick	Robert E. Lempke Jr.	Joseph H. Server
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Dr. Thomas W. Carpenter	Thomas Lippman	David R. Simek
Joseph Catto	Roger Londry	Don Smart
Bruce Chaffee	Aimee Love	Neill Snider
Kathleen J. Cockrell	Vina Love	Barr Soltis
Wayne Cockrell	Calvin Lu	John Sowers
Robert C. Coogan	Dr. Robert Barry Lurate MD	Alfonzie Stepney
Rufus H. Craig	John J. McCurry	Shawn C. Stoval
Ms. Susan L. Cvach	Elmer J. McDowell	Richard Surface
Henry S. David	Mark A. Miller	Nicholas Taiber
Michael Dodd	Roy Minet	William M. Templeton
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Rev. Dr. Randall John Forester	David Opperman	

The Libertarian Party grants Lifetime Membership to individuals who contribute at least \$1,500 during any 12-month period. Call 202-333-0008 to find out how much more you would need to donate to become a Lifetime Member today.

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LP News

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.

EDITOR: Eric D. Dixon

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Candidates for military downsizing

...continued from page 1

How big is the U.S. military?

The *Washington Post* calls the size of U.S. military spending “staggering.”

The federal government spends more for the U.S. military than the next 13 highest-spending countries combined. Even after a 60 percent reduction, the United States will spend more than Russia and China combined.

Democrats and Republicans have more than doubled military spending since 1999, then at \$333 billion, now at \$820 billion. This includes \$593 billion for the Department of Defense plus \$227 billion for veterans' benefits, foreign military aid, civil defense, foreign economic aid, atomic energy defense, and other defense-related appropriations that politicians stuff into other areas of the budget.

These numbers are reported by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the U.S. Census Bureau — but they may not be accurate, and are likely higher, because the actual amounts of and uses for military spending are not known.

By using nonsensical bookkeeping practices and by slapping the label “top secret” on way too many military documents, U.S. government operatives have rendered military spending *unable to be audited*.

Politicians are flying blind when they appropriate funds to the U.S. military. Cutting spending substantially will cancel the military's blank checks.

Does a 60 percent cut go far enough?

How much should lawmakers downsize the military to remove excess spending and waste while leaving enough to defend the soil and shores of the United States?

A 60 percent reduction in today's U.S. military spending leaves funding at approximately \$328 billion.

At least two Libertarian presidential nominees have called for reducing it to well below \$100 billion (in today's dollars).

In 2000, Libertarian Party candidate for president Harry Browne called for cutting military spending to \$50 billion, an 85 percent reduction from the 1999 level of \$333 billion.



Libertarian candidate for U.S. House Jim McDermott campaigns with his wife Janet at the Midnight Sun Festival in Fairbanks, Alaska.

1988 LP candidate for president David Bergland called for reducing U.S. military spending by approximately 90 percent, which would have reduced the level to about \$33 billion.

2012 LP candidate for president Gov. Gary Johnson, who proposed a \$300 billion reduction in military spending, said, “If, as we should, we stop asking our military to build nations, direct the outcomes of civil wars, manage the price of oil and carry out the whole menu of interventions we engage in, we can have a defense second to none that keeps us safe.”

Nicholas Sarwark, chair of the Libertarian National Committee, sees the military defense pledge as a bold yet sound policy proposal.

“A 60 percent reduction is an excellent first step,” Sarwark said. “It leaves our military defense intact.”

Federal candidates call for dramatic military spending reductions Jim McDermott, U.S. House at large, Alaska:

Libertarian Jim McDermott is a retired Senior NCO, United States Air Force. Running for Alaska's sole congressional seat, he was polling at 12% in a Public Policy Polling survey released on February 4. He teaches business courses at the University of Alaska and volunteers for the Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE).

“As a veteran with 22 years of military service to the

United States, I believe in a highly technically advance military ready to mobilize in the defense of the USA, but I am not in favor of imposing nation building,” McDermott said.

“It's time to reposition our troops and their equipment back into the United States. With today's technology, we can mobilize them in a couple of hours to meet a threat to our national security head-on. The impact of this move and others would save the taxpayers hundreds of billions annually.”

• **Website:** mcdermott4congress4alaska.com

Randall Lord, U.S. House 4th, Louisiana:

Randall Lord is a chiropractor and veteran of the Army Reserves. He holds the degree of doctor of medicine from the University of Antigua and a BS in psychology. He is running in a two-way race against Republican incumbent John Fleming, against whom he ran in 2012 for the same seat, winning 25 percent of the vote. Fleming is a member of the House Armed Services Committee, and voted in favor of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) of 2014 and for increased funding of the Department of Homeland Security.



Randall Lord

“Washington, D.C., has been invaded by the military-industrial complex to keep our spending as high as possible, sending our limited tax dollars to grossly bloated corporations. It's time to end the reign of the military-industrial complex,” Lord said.

“National defense is one of the highest priorities of our federal government, and I will ensure they have the funds, materials, personnel and all resources necessary to fulfill their missions,” he continued. “That said, I need to point out an alarming fact: Our national defense budget is the size of at least the next 13 largest national defense budgets *combined*. The United States should both avoid entangling alliances and abandon its attempts to act as policeman for the world. Start by bringing our troops home from the war in Afghanistan now.”

• **Website:** lordforla.weebly.com

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Why we should dramatically downsize the U.S. military

- An oversized military budget is a war waiting to happen. Needless war results in untold death and destruction — the greatest assault on human liberty. A lean, reasonably-sized military budget will save lives, avoid casualties, preserve personal property and community infrastructures, and foster peace.
- Fewer casualties will reduce demand on the Veterans Administration, which will improve the care of America's wounded soldiers.
- Cutting the military by 60 percent will enable substantial cuts in federal taxes and stop the growth of the national debt. If applied to the income tax, each American family will get back, on average, \$4,100 — every year. If used to balance the budget, it will eliminate approximately 70 percent of the deficit and stop today's rapid inflation of the dollar. This will stabilize prices on everyday goods and services and dramatically reduce the risk of an economic collapse.
- A non-interventionist foreign policy will result in less hostility towards the United States and reduce the risk of a terrorist attack.
- There is no justification for forcing U.S. taxpayers to fund the military defense of other nations, including wealthy countries such as France, Germany and Japan.
- Cutting the U.S. military by 60 percent does not remove one cent of U.S. military defense spending — only military offense, defense of other countries, and waste.
- The U.S. has the largest nuclear arsenal in the world. It is extremely unlikely that any country would attack the U.S. by conventional means.
- Downsizing the military will force the reduction and consolidation of 18 separate spy agencies — the surest way to end the government's spying on innocent citizens in violation of the Fourth Amendment.
- Voters want to downsize the U.S. military. According to a survey by the Stimson Center, Democratic, Republican and independent voters all want to cut military spending “far more severely than the sequester would” and “far, far more severely than either party has proposed.”
- A right-sized military will be auditable, will squeeze out its legendary waste and will put an end to overpriced and un-
- needed multi-billion-dollar procurements that politicians lobby for to “bring home the bacon” to their districts.
- Closing foreign bases and withdrawing from the Middle East means that U.S. troops stationed abroad can come home to their families. Kids will grow up with mom and dad at home.
- A non-interventionist policy will reduce trade barriers, resulting in greater prosperity for both Americans and our trading partners.
- Transferring wealth out of the government sector and into the private sector will create sustainable, productive jobs — approximately twice as many jobs as will be lost in the government sector. A net increase of millions of new jobs.

David F. Nolan Memorial Office Fund donors, April 24 – July 31

Hero of Liberty

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Benefactor of Liberty

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Jeremy Keil Neill Snider
Calvin Lu Scott Spencer
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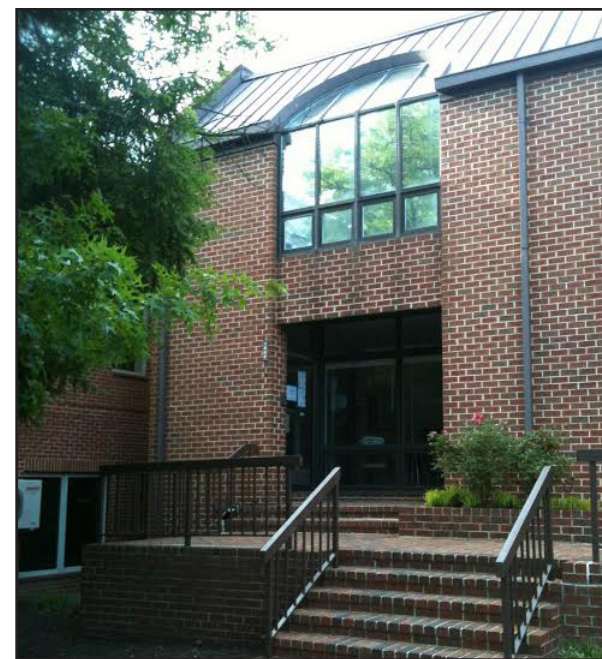
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Michael Mark Brady	Leonard Karpinski	Thomas McDonald	Richard J. Secula

Great news! On April 25, the Libertarian National Committee closed on a new office space for the party's national headquarters in Alexandria, Va., and staff moved into the space on May 31. This will substantially reduce the party's annual operating costs. This office will be named the David F. Nolan Memorial Office, in honor of our party's founder.

Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to have your name appear inside this historic office, right alongside David Nolan's.

Contribute today: LP.org/office-fund



Candidates for military downsizing

...continued from page 3

Erwin Haas, U.S. House 6th, Michigan:

Erwin Haas is an elected city commissioner in Kentwood, Michigan. He is a semi-retired physician who worked at Fort Bliss Army Hospital and was a major and flight surgeon in Vietnam.



Erwin Haas

"The American military has been used in all sorts of futile endeavors, most recently in Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, and even Syria, all inflicting huge costs and losses in the American purse and in the various foreign countries where we have intervened," Haas said. "This is not the wish of the lower ranks in the military, but rather arises from misguided politicians and career-minded generals and colonels in the Pentagon and in academic defense colleges. Their military doctrines and applications are uniformly wrong and should be terminated.

"Our military should be withdrawn from all foreign soil. This is not isolationism but rather noninterference in the affairs of other nations. We should be involved with other countries in the spheres of free trade, cultural exchange, travel and tourism, and in setting an example of a nation operating as a republic and prospering under free market principles."

• **Website:** democracy.com/haas4thesixth

Heather Johnson, U.S. Senate, Minnesota:

Heather Johnson is in a tight race for U.S. Senate, running against incumbent Democrat Al Franken and presumed Republican nominee Mike McFadden. Johnson could pull votes from both for their support of Big Government and from McFadden for his pro-war statements and alliances.

Republican McFadden has said that Israel "deserves

full support" of the United States. According to the *Fairmont Sentinel*, he said the U.S. military is a "standard of effectiveness, and it is this model that should be adopted elsewhere in the federal government" — words that may come back to haunt him.

"I adhere to the nonaggression principle and oppose war for profit," Johnson said. "If elected, I'd oppose military action and warfare that exceeds the duty of Congress to provide for the direct defense of the nation. I'd cut spending for NATO, U.N. Protection Forces, military and federal uses of force pertaining to the War on Drugs, and any other offensive military action. I support acts of diplomacy to achieve peace."

• **Website:** sites.google.com/site/hjohnsonformnsenator

Brannon McMorris, U.S. Senate, Louisiana:

Brannon McMorris is an engineer and consultant for small and large companies. He is running for the U.S. House because he wants to teach his two boys to stand up for their rights. He and his wife, Laura, are running his grassroots campaign to show them that success, integrity, and responsibility are more than words. He describes liberty as this nation's "most sacred gift, which must be preserved at all costs," and aims to restore that liberty through his campaign.

"Americans I speak to are tired of costly, seemingly pointless wars," McMorris said. "They say they are tired of seeing our tax dollars go overseas, tired of meddling in the Middle East, and disapproving of the government spying on citizens and our allies. We have allowed our leaders to create a heightened fear at home and abroad.



Heather Johnson



Brannon McMorris

"We can no longer afford our constant wars and military adventurism. I favor a strong defense to protect our nation against foreign invasion, but I strongly oppose unconstitutional wars that undermine our national interests.

"As your senator, I will vote down any increase in military budget. I will be a voice of reason to push back against escalations toward war. I will work with like-minded leaders to reduce military spending to pre-Cold War levels."

• **Website:** brannonmcmorris.com

Jim Fulner, U.S. Senate, Michigan:

Jim Fulner is a systems engineer for an automotive supplier. Throughout his years serving in the U.S. Coast Guard, studying in public schools and now working in the "highly subsidized automotive industry," Fulner has seen government waste in most every aspect of life.

"In 2006 a Democratic Congress was elected in hopes of ending George Bush's wars in Iraq and Afghanistan," Fulner said. "It didn't happen. Then the U.S. elected Barack Obama in 2008 so that he would end the wars. It too has not happened. There were more troops in Iraq in 2012 than in 2003 when the wars began.

"It should come as no surprise to those who've studied history. Need we forget World War II ended over 65 years ago, yet we still have troops in Germany and Japan?

"The taxpayers are part of the victims of the warfare state. It is not us fighting overseas. It is the corporate-controlled military fighting against us. Republicans and conservatives who claim to fight for less government seem to forget all about their principles when it comes to military funding. The American people need to take back our claim to our money, and let no other individual be killed in our name."

• **Website:** jimfulner.com



Jim Fulner

LP buys and moves into new office in Alexandria, VA

By Wes Benedict
Executive Director

We did it! After years of planning and work, and thanks to donors who have contributed more than \$400,000 for the project, the Libertarian National Committee finally purchased the new David F. Nolan Memorial Headquarters. We moved in on May 31, 2014.

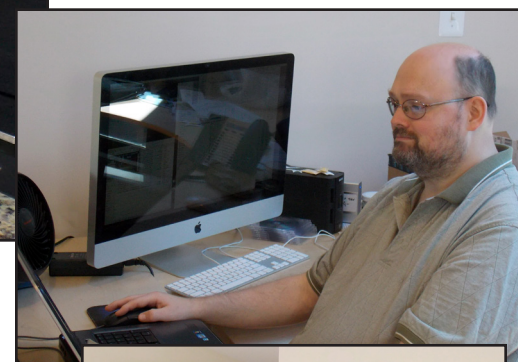
Our new office is a modern, recently renovated, all-brick end unit of a townhouse-style building in Alexandria, Va.

The purchase price was \$825,000. We put \$325,000 down, and took on a \$500,000 mortgage. Additional funds went toward closing costs, minor renovations, permits, and furniture. Not all of the bills have been paid yet, but we'll give a full accounting soon.

I am very happy about our choice. Our current estimate is that we'll save more than \$6,200 per month because of the move.

The old headquarters was in the infamous historic Watergate building in Washington, D.C. It was nice in some ways, but not nice enough for the amount of rent we paid (more than \$12,000 per month for about 2,500 square feet).

The new office is easier to drive to, it has parking right by the front door, and it's only three blocks away from a major



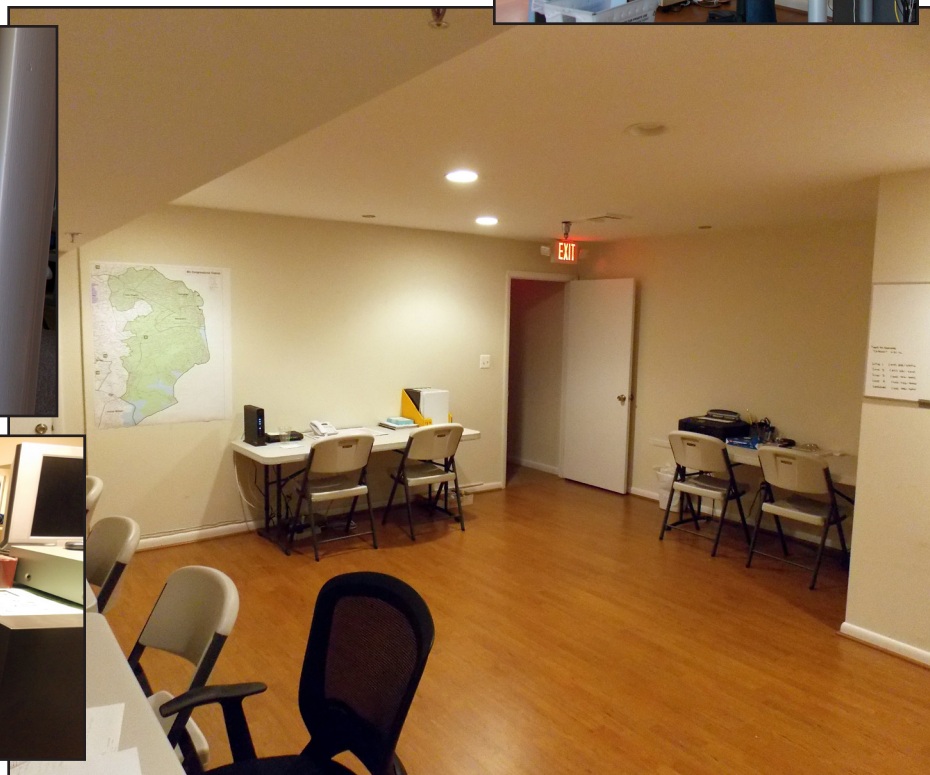
Metro subway stop.

Although we took on a \$500,000 mortgage with a balloon payment due in 10 years, the LNC hopes to pay off the mortgage early. Toward that end, the LNC passed a resolution requiring the budgeting of a minimum of \$60,000 extra in each odd-numbered year to pay down the principal early.

Members are welcome to stop by and visit on weekdays during normal business hours, and weekends by appointment. Better yet, come to our Nolan Memorial Headquarters Grand Opening Celebration

on the evening of Sept. 20, 2014. We hope to be completely unpacked and organized by then. Plus, we still have to put up our donor recognition plaques and registry.

Again, I want to thank everyone who donated to this project. Special thanks is due to former Chair Geoffrey Neale, who proposed getting this effort off the ground in 2010, and to former Chair Mark Hinkle, the unofficial chief fundraiser for this project, who successfully spent a lot of time on the phone raising money for the office fund.



LP, Our America Initiative challenge debate commission

By Joe Hunter
Our America Initiative

With memories still fresh from the exclusion of Libertarian Party nominees Gary Johnson and Jim Gray from the nationally-televised presidential and vice-presidential debates in 2012 — and with an eye toward 2016 — one of the most prominent topics at the LP National Convention in Columbus was the ongoing battle to open those debates to *all* qualified candidates, not just the Republican and Democrat candidates.

The national LP is joining with the Our America Initiative (OAI) to mount both legal and grassroots challenges to the practices of the Commission on Presidential Debates (CPD), a private organization created in 1987 by the Republican and Democratic National Committees to seize



Gov. Gary Johnson



Judge Jim Gray



Alicia Dearn

and maintain control over the only televised general election presidential debates voters are able to watch every four years.

By requiring their nominees to agree to appear only in the Commission's debates, and no others, the two "major" parties have created a duopoly that clearly discriminates against not only the LP, but also against other national parties, such as the Green Party, who expend tremendous resources making sure their candidates appear on

more than enough states' ballots to be elected in the Electoral College.

Recognizing that such a challenge requires significant financial resources, supporters of the debate challenge

gathered at the convention for a fundraising reception headlined by Gov. Gary Johnson and Judge Jim Gray, with the proceeds going to help cover the costs of the lawsuit and related grassroots efforts.

Alicia Dearn, legal counsel for the OAI, outlined the legal challenge they and the LP are preparing and will soon file in federal court in Washington, DC.

"It was astonishing to learn from Ms. Dearn how rigged the presidential debates

are — even worse than I thought," said Nicholas Sarwark, newly elected chair of the national Libertarian Party. "It's heartening to know we have a sound strategy to challenge this injustice."

Dearn and other legal experts, including Judge Gray, are confident that the challenge is strong and will expose the CPD for its arbitrary exclusion of qualified candidates on the basis of polling criteria clearly designed to silence all but the Republican and Democrat nominees for president and vice president.

As 2012 Libertarian presidential nominee Gov. Johnson has said, "Giving voters a chance to see, on the national debate stage, that there are real alternatives to the big government status quo will be a game-changer — and that is precisely what the national Democrats and Republicans *don't* want."

Former president of AAPS running for Iowa governor on bold Libertarian platform

By Carla Howell

Dr. Lee Hieb, Libertarian for governor in Iowa, is an orthopedic surgeon and author who served as a general medical officer with the Marines in Japan and was president of the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons (AAPS), the free-market alternative to the pro-Big Government American Medical Association (AMA).

A leading opponent of Obamacare and government intrusion into medicine, Dr. Hieb has appeared on "Stossel" and addressed radio audiences and groups around the country. Her book *Surviving the Medical Meltdown* is scheduled for release in late 2014.

"Obamacare is bad for patients, bad for doctors, and bad for the economic health of our nation," Hieb said. "It must be repealed, not modified."

Dr. Hieb also authored *Tales From the Surgeons' Lounge*, and has written for HumanEvents.com, the *Journal of American Physicians & Surgeons*, *The Blaze*, *Orthopreneur*, and WorldNetDaily.

"We need leaders who will say no at every turn to the ACA [Affordable Care Act, a.k.a., Obamacare]," she said. "With the Congress's unwillingness to defund the law, it's the states' responsibility to fight it. I am committed to that effort."

Dr. Hieb also advocates concealed carry, disbanding the federal Department of Education in favor of local control of schools, ending marijuana prohibition, ending government involvement in marriage, rescinding government regulations, and getting rid of taxes that penalize work and entrepreneurship.

If Dr. Hieb gets 2 percent in the general election this



Dr. Lee Hieb, LP Iowa candidate for governor, appears on the "Doc N Lefty" radio show in Des Moines.

November, the Iowa LP will have ballot access through 2016.

To qualify for inclusion in a PBS televised gubernatorial debate on Aug. 15, she must reach 5 percent in a public poll and her campaign must raise at least \$50,000.

Twelve Libertarians are expected to be on the Iowa ballot this November, including Dr. Doug Butzier for U.S. Senate; Ed Wright for U.S. House, 3rd District; and Jake Porter for secretary of state.

Dr. Doug Butzier, an emergency medicine doctor, is running to get government out of health care, education, and the marketplace.

Ed Wright, former chair of the Iowa LP, is a financial analyst, forester, farmer, and first-time candidate.

His campaign theme is "Choose Freedom!"

Jake Porter aims to fight business favoritism by getting economic development functions out of the secretary of state's office, allowing online voter registration, and opening up voting locations across the state so that voters are not limited to one precinct.

On July 10, Porter, along with Dr. Hieb, called upon Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad to pardon a dying cancer patient, Benton Mackenzie, who will be sentenced to a minimum of three years in prison for treating his disease with medical marijuana.

"As I travel around the state, I listen to people who have lost their gun rights, voting rights, and have been thrown in prison for victimless crimes," Porter said. "Rapists, child molesters, and violent criminals are going free while dying people face long prison sentences."

In July, Porter made the case for pardoning Mackenzie on WHO 1040 AM radio in Des Moines.

Campaign websites:

- **Dr. Lee Hieb:** hie2014.org
- **Dr. Doug Butzier:** drdougforiowa.com
- **Ed Wright:** wright2014.org
- **Jake Porter:** jakeporter.org



Dr. Doug Butzier



Ed Wright



Jake Porter

CHARACTER *Matters*

Libertarian Party National Convention – Columbus, Ohio – June 26-29, 2014

A look back at the 2014 LP National Convention

The 2014 Libertarian Party National Convention was both a celebration of freedom and a wide-ranging exploration into the best ways to advance that freedom in the world.

Headlining the convention banquet was Kmele Foster, cohost of “The Independents,” a libertarian news and opinion show on the Fox Business Network.

“No matter what the subject happens to be on any particular night, what we try to do is bring a consistent set of libertarian values to bear on whatever the issue of the day happens to be,” Foster said.

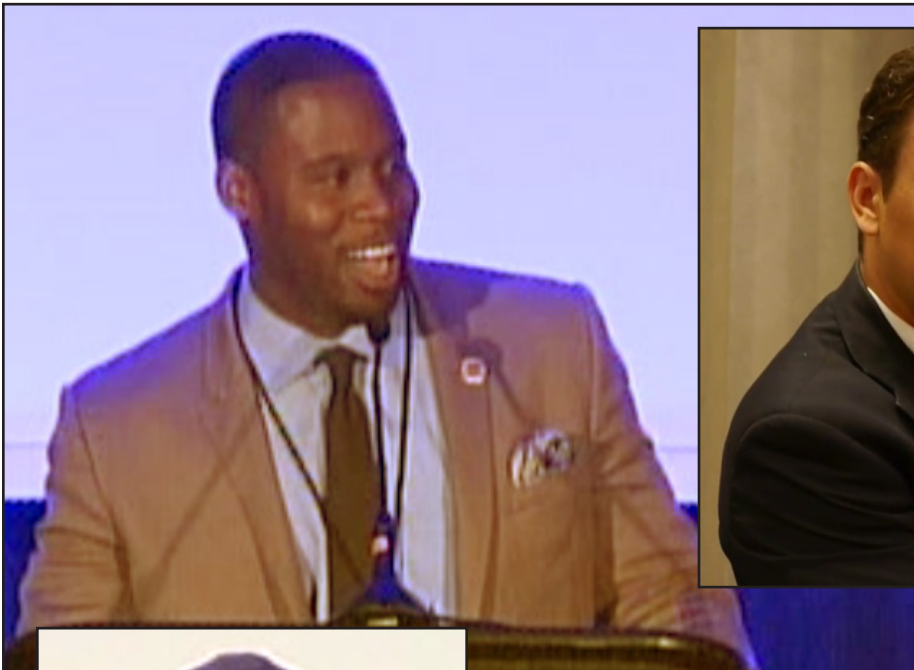
Foster “is rather new” to libertarianism, he said, and although he once identified strongly with the left, a friend’s intervention helped him change his mind.

“I was fortunate to bump into someone, and they said to me, ‘You’re way too bright to be a Democrat.’” Foster said. “And they gave me a copy of Milton Friedman’s book *Capitalism and Freedom*. There are two sections of this book, both of which are from the introduction, that I think about almost daily.”

In those sections, Friedman argued against the tone of servility contained in the famous John F. Kennedy speech, that Americans should “ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country.” Rather than a stirring call to service, Friedman pointed out that “Neither half of the sentiment expresses a relationship between the citizen and his government that is worthy of the ideas of a free man in a free society.”

This critical appraisal stirred a new-found path of intellectual inquiry in Foster that steadily led him toward freedom and small government — a path that he continues to follow to this day.

“Liberty, my friends, is not inevitable,” Foster said. “It is, I believe, our birthright. But it’s only our birthright because people have fought for it — reckless people like Lysander Spooner, who believed



2014 LP National Convention speakers, counterclockwise, from top right: Investigative reporter Ben Swann; Kmele Foster, cohost of “The Independents” on the Fox Business Network; Lawrence Reed, president of the Foundation for Economic Education; Alexander McCobin, president of Students for Liberty, and Jim Lark, LNC regional representative; and Nicholas Sarwark, newly elected LNC chair.



against all sense and reason that we could actually attain these really huge and miraculous goals. And it’s our responsibility to defend liberty. To stand up for it, to advance it, and to take it even further. Even if our goals seem completely impractical. Even if, at the moment, we find aspects of our philosophy largely out of favor — and aspects of them are — but there’s a

remarkable amount of evidence that we’re making tremendous progress.”

Investigative journalist Ben Swann served as master of ceremonies at the banquet, and kicked off the event with remarks about why he thinks Libertarians need to realize that the root of their fight for liberty is literally a fight against fascism. We live in a society in which ever-

increasing facets of our lives are subject to oversight and interference from an intrusive managerial state, Swann said. He argued that the key to defeating this pervasive bureaucratic fascism is convincing the people around us that their lives are not subject to rule by the mob or its representatives in government.

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Libertarian National Committee meets at LP National Convention

By Gary Johnson
Libertarian National
Committee

The Libertarian National Committee met in Columbus, Ohio, before and after the 2014 National Convention.

The outgoing 2012–14 committee of 18 members and nine alternates met for the last time on Thursday, June 26.

The LNC voted to disclose to party members at least as much financial information as is disclosed to the Fed-

eral Election Commission.

Thanks to the work of Alicia Mattson, the committee approved a backlog of minutes of five LNC meetings and seven LNC Executive Committee meetings.

The incoming 2014–16 committee of 17 members and eight alternates met for the first time on Sunday, June 29.

Up to \$7,000 was appropriated for ballot access in Kentucky.

Outgoing national Chair Geoffrey Neale described his plans to act as an international ambassador to Libertarian parties in other countries.

Members were appointed to the Advertising and Publication Review Committee and to the Information Technology Committee.

The LNC debated but decided to delay voting on a controversial resolution regarding the dispute between two groups claiming to be the Libertarian Party of Oregon.

Gary Johnson, no relation to Gov. Gary Johnson, is a member of the Libertarian National Committee and the secretary of the Libertarian Party of Texas.

Elected Libertarian panelists urge: Attend local council/board meetings

By Carla Howell

Elected Libertarians who participated in a panel discussion at the LP National Convention on June 29 urged fellow activists to show up and participate at meetings of their local city council, county commission, or town/township board to help move policy in a Libertarian direction.

Todd Grayson, city councilman for Perrysburg, Ohio, who moderated the panel, said, “Elected officials annoy us as citizens and voters because of their weak-kneed stance on many tough issues. Getting citizens with libertarian ideas to the meetings is very helpful.”

“Swaying their opinion is possible with the right amount of issue education and citizen persuasion,” he said.

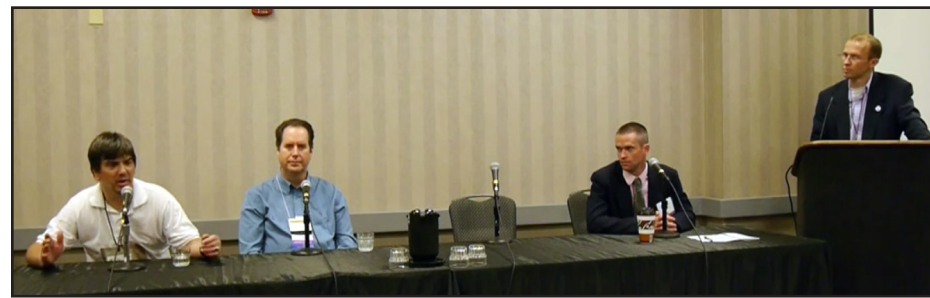
Grayson chairs the Health, Sanitation, and Public Utilities Committee on the Perrysburg council, which oversees a \$20 million budget.

During his tenure as city councilor, Grayson has:

- Spearheaded a privately contracted public transportation system to replace a government-run monstrosity, at 25 percent of the cost;
- Fought to reduce taxes via needless assessments;
- Stood up to public employee unions on retirement, pay, and health care costs;
- Educated the other councilors about liberty and freedom.

Panelists agreed that it’s critical to network with other elected officials both inside their jurisdiction and in other local and state-level positions.

“Simple math tells me that if you’re on a council, board, commission, or other similar office, you can’t get policies im-



Elected Libertarians participate on a panel at the LP National Convention on June 29 in Columbus, Ohio. From left to right: Matthew Schutter, Penn Forest township auditor (Pennsylvania); Brian Holtz, Purissima Hills Water District Board member (California); W. Brooke Harris, Alfred-Almond Central School Board of Education member (New York); and moderator Todd Grayson, Perrysburg City Council member (Ohio).

proved with one vote. You need to be seen as honest, reasonable, and willing to be part of a team,” Grayson said.

Other panelists were Brian Holtz, member of the Purissima Hills Water District Board in California; W. Brooke Harris, member of the Alfred-Almond Central School Board in New York; and Matthew Schutter, auditor for Penn Forest Township in Pennsylvania.

Brian Holtz agrees that Libertarian activists appearing at local government meetings provide “man-to-man defense” to stop encroachments of Big Government.

“Good things can happen just because a Libertarian is present,” he said. “If you’re in the room, your instincts will kick in and you’ll speak up to offer the common-sense Libertarian perspective. You’ll be surprised at how persuasive our principles can be.”

Panelists noted that elected officials will respond because they often see one person attending a committee meeting as a sign that many more citizens have similar concerns.

Holtz won re-election to the water board in 2012 by finishing first in a four-way race. In 2014, he persuaded the board

to vote down a staff proposal to adopt some of the new water regulations that neighboring jurisdictions had been legislating.

Matt Schutter described his attempts to recover a whopping \$1.6 million that is unaccounted for in his township’s mere \$4 million budget — and the resistance that other government officials in his township have put in his way. They forbade Schutter from attending independent audits, despite the fact that he is the township’s elected auditor. They have tried to intimidate him by sending local police to his house.

Schutter refused to back down. He filed private criminal complaints, and is working to expose and correct the situation. He got the state attorney general’s office to launch an investigation.

Brooke Harris talked about his focus on maintaining local control of schools and keeping the Department of Education out of his district, and has fought hard to limit increases in spending and taxes year over year, despite innumerable obstacles.

He managed to limit tax levy increases and to pass a local resolution denouncing New York State’s new data col-

lection initiative tied to the Common Core federal program.

Harris has opposed universal Pre-k and after-school and dinner initiatives, and has attempted to:

- eliminate Title I funding from the Department of Education, a mere “morsel from Washington that comes with numerous strings attached,” he said;
- end his school’s participation in New York’s Drug Free Schools program and the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Drug and Alcohol Awareness Training;
- eliminate the free and reduced-price breakfast/lunch program.

He notes that local elected officials have very little control over spending.

“Nearly our entire \$12.5 million annual budget is tied up in contractual employee compensation and benefits, as well as state and federal mandates,” he said. “Local municipalities are firmly under the thumb of state and federal laws and regulations.”

Harris recommends that the LP recruit more locally elected Libertarians to run for state and federal office, especially business professionals and candidates who are articulate and presentable.

“I think that is the party’s best chance of making headway in larger races,” he said.

Harris also advised Libertarians to pick their battles, be patient, and appreciate small accomplishments.

“Most of government (and its flaws) are beyond the control of one elected official,” he said. “It’s easy to get disillusioned as a Libertarian in a donkey and elephant world. If you choose your battles, learn to compromise, and stick to your ideals you will make positive changes. No matter how small, they are significant.”

Convention delegates elect new LNC chair, officers, reps

Delegates to the 2014 LP National Convention chose a new chair, Nicholas Sarwark, along with a new slate of officers and representatives. Sarwark succeeds Geoff Neale, who served as LP national chair during the 2012–14 term.

Sarwark has been active in the Libertarian Party since 1999, has attended every national convention since the Anaheim, Calif., convention in 2000, and has served on both the Judicial Committee and the By-laws Committee for years. He has served as the state chair of the Maryland LP and the vice chair of the Colorado LP — which is running more candidates for office in 2014 than any other state besides Texas.

Professionally, Sarwark works as a deputy public defender fighting for the liberties of the indigent accused. He has tried more than 25 cases before a jury and argued in front of the Colorado Supreme Court. During law school, Sarwark clerked for the Institute for Justice, the nation's foremost libertarian law firm. He also has more than a decade of experience in computer consulting and sales. He lives with his wife and two children in Denver.

"I want you to elect me to the least-important job in the entire party," Sarwark said to the convention delegates. "The most important people in this party are the activists going out to state fairs and Pride-Fests, and all the activities. They're the people who work at the state level to build



Nicholas Sarwark,
Chair



Arvin Vohra,
Vice Chair



Tim Hagan,
Treasurer



Alicia Mattson,
Secretary



William Redpath,
At Large



Sam Goldstein,
At Large



Evan McMahon,
At Large



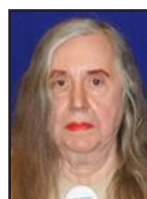
Gary E. Johnson,
At Large



Guy McLendon,
At Large



Norm Olsen,
Region 1



Vicki Kirkland,
Region 2



Marc Feldman,
Region 3



Dan Wiener,
Region 4



Jim Lark,
Region 5



Rob Oates,
Region 6



Claudio "Jay" Estrada,
Region 7



Rich Tomasso,
Region 8

strong, vibrant, growing state parties. They are candidates who go out and talk to the voters about the Libertarian Party and the Libertarian message, and I've had the honor to meet so many great candidates while I've been here this weekend."

Sarwark said he believes that the Libertarian Party is "the only national political party on the right side of history. The voters just don't know it yet, because we haven't told them. And we're going to tell them."

Arvin Vohra, an educator from Bethesda, Md., and leader of the national party's social media efforts, was elected vice chair. Alicia Mattson, of Las Vegas, Nev., was elected secretary; and Tim Hagan, also of Las Vegas, was re-elected treasurer.

The five at-large representatives elected at the convention are William Redpath, Sam Goldstein, Evan McMahon, Gary E. Johnson, and Guy McLendon.

The eight newly elected regional representatives are Norm Olsen, representing Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Hawaii, Kansas, Montana, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming in Region 1; Vicki Kirkland, representing Florida, Georgia, and Tennessee in Region 2; Marc Feldman, representing Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, and Ohio in Region 3; Dan Wiener, representing California, New Mexico, and Nevada in Region 4; Jim Lark, representing the District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia in Region

5; Rob Oates, representing Iowa, Idaho, Illinois, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Wisconsin in Region 6; Claudio "Jay" Estrada, representing Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, and Texas in Region 7; and Rich Tomasso, representing Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont in Region 8.

Alternate regional representatives not pictured above include Ron Windeler, Region 1; Ed Marsh, Region 2; Brett Bitner, Region 3; Scott Lieberman, Region 4; Scott Spencer, Region 5; Sean O'Toole, Region 6; Daniel Hayes, Region 7; and Joshua Katz, Region 8.

LP convention honors award-winners: Browne, Winger, Macia, Harris, Dixon, Boneham, Sarvis

The LNC Awards Committee honored seven individuals at this year's national convention, inducting two new members into the party's Hall of Liberty and recognizing the outstanding contributions of five other people.

The late two-time LP presidential candidate Harry Browne and *Ballot Access News* publisher Richard Winger were both inducted into the Hall of Liberty for their lifelong work on behalf of freedom and ballot access.

"There are hardly words to describe the man Harry Browne, who brought thousands of people into the Libertarian Party," said LNC Political Director Carla Howell, accepting on his behalf. "A great champion of liberty, he put his bold, common-sense proposals to reduce government in language that everyday voters understood — and loved."

While presenting Richard Winger's award to him, LNC representative William Redpath said, "He is always



Harry Browne



Richard Winger



Hardy Macia



Sharon Harris



Patrick Dixon



Rupert Boneham



Robert Sarvis

there, supportive, a font of knowledge, always positive, always upbeat, an invaluable person. ... Every third party in the United States ought to give this man the award he's about to receive here."

Hardy Macia, a long-time LP activist and candidate, received the Samuel Adams Award for activism at the convention. Macia passed away in May 2013 after several months battling cancer. Right until the end, though, Macia fought for freedom, going so far as to release a video from his hospital bed calling for the governor of New Hampshire to grant citizens the ability to grow medical marijuana at home. Macia's untiring advocacy for liberty

in the face of his own failing health provides an exceptional example of commitment for the rest of us.

Sharon Harris, who has served as president of the Advocates for Self-Government since 1995, received the Thomas Paine Award for communication. Harris has been active in the libertarian movement since the early

1970s. She co-founded the Georgia LP in 1972 and was a candidate for Georgia commissioner of agriculture in 1994, winning more than 300,000 votes.

"Last week at its national convention, the Libertarian Party awarded me the greatest honor of my career," Harris wrote after receiving the award. "As someone who has spent the last two decades teaching libertarians to successfully communicate the ideas of liberty, there can be no greater professional honor for me."

Patrick Dixon, former chair of the Texas LP, received the Thomas Jefferson Award, which is presented

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Highlights from LP National Convention floor business

New proposals passed during the 2014 LP National Convention will change the way the Libertarian National Committee conducts its business and the way the Libertarian Party's governing principles are worded.

On Friday, June 8, Proposal 8 passed, which allows the LNC to meet by teleconference or other electronic means. This will save some of the cost — in both time and funds — of in-person gatherings, which have been required for LNC meetings in the past.

Proposal 7 also passed, allowing larger committees — including the Bylaws and Platform Committees — to conduct email ballots.

Delegates also passed Proposal 13, which required the use of approval voting in electing at-large LNC representatives.

Proposal 11 was the last bylaws change to pass. This proposal changed the structure of the allocation of members of the Platform Committee so that, instead of the LNC selecting half of its 20 members, five will now be selected by the LNC, and five selected by the affiliate parties with the highest per-capita membership. The other 10 are still selected by each of the 10 largest state affiliates, ranked by total membership.

The delegates chose not to pass other proposals to modify the bylaws. One of these, Proposal 12, would have changed the schedule of LP conventions and the business to be handled at the conventions. Another proposal that did not pass, Proposal 21, would have banned floor fees for convention delegates, and a third, Proposal 3, would have allowed national recognition for fusion candidates in the states that allow them. A final item that failed to pass was Proposal 14, which would have reduced the number of members on the LNC by one at-large representative and two regional representatives.

Delegates adopted 14 platform proposals from the Platform Committee, with a few small adjustments made from the floor. Perhaps the most notable is the addition of a new "Self-Ownership" plank, which reads:



"Individuals own their bodies and have rights over them that other individuals, groups, and governments may not violate. Individuals have the freedom and responsibility to decide what they knowingly and voluntarily consume, and what risks they accept to their own health, finances, safety, or life."

The "Privacy" plank has been updated to address the national surveillance scandal exposed by former National Security Agency employee Edward Snowden. It adds two sentences to the beginning:

"Libertarians advocate individual privacy and government transparency. We are committed to ending government's practice of spying on everyone."

The delegates adopted a general rewrite of the "Property and Contract" plank so it now reads:

"As respect for property rights is fundamental to maintaining a free and prosperous society, it follows that the freedom to contract to obtain, retain, profit from, manage, or dispose of one's property must also be upheld. Libertarians would free property

owners from government restrictions on their rights to control and enjoy their property, as long as their choices do not harm or infringe on the rights of others. Eminent domain, civil asset forfeiture, governmental limits on profits, governmental production mandates, and governmental controls on prices of goods and services (including wages, rents, and interest) are abridgements of such fundamental rights. For voluntary dealings among private entities, parties should be free to choose with whom they trade and set whatever trade terms are mutually agreeable."

The "Labor Markets" plank also got a general overhaul, resulting in the new plank as follows:

"Employment and compensation agreements between private employers and employees are outside the scope of government, and these contracts should not be encumbered by government-mandated benefits or social engineering. We support the right of private employers to choose whether or not to bargain with each other through a labor union. Bargain-

ing should be free of government interference, such as compulsory arbitration or imposing an obligation to bargain."

The former "Monopolies and Corporations" plank was re-titled "Marketplace Freedom," and was then amended to now read:

"Libertarians support free markets. We defend the right of individuals to form corporations, cooperatives and other types of entities based on voluntary association. We oppose all forms of government subsidies and bailouts to business, labor, or any other special interest. Government should not compete with private enterprise."

The most contentious platform changes all failed to pass. First among these was the proposed removal of the abortion plank, which was brought to the floor by the use of deletion tokens. Also failing to pass was Proposal 16, which would have expressed opposition to "collective bargaining with public employee unions."

The full platform, incorporating all new changes, is available on our website: LP.org/platform

LP convention award winners

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for outstanding leadership, high character, and dedication to the principles and goals of the party.

"We stand on the shoulders of people who went before us, and we achieve with the people that we work with," Dixon said in his acceptance. "So the people that created the Libertarian Party, that gave me the opportu-

nity and privilege to serve the last 10 years as state chair, and the people I've worked with over these 10 years, this award is really your work."

Two people received the Patrick Henry Award for candidates who effectively communicate Libertarian ideas, principles, and values. The first was LP Indiana gubernatorial candidate and "Survivor" television contestant Rupert Boneham.

"Our elected officials are not our rulers, they're

our employees," Boneham said. "And when we expect a change, we're going to have to elect a change, and we stand up and be that change."

The second was LP Virginia gubernatorial candidate Robert Sarvis.

"I really feel like this country is having its Libertarian moment," Sarvis said. "We just have to get out there and fight as hard as we've ever fought before. I'm in awe of you guys, and this means so much to me."

Convention: A look back

...continued from page 7

Swann introduced the party's 2012 presidential ticket, Gov. Gary Johnson and Judge Jim Gray.

"This is an inspirational evening," Judge Gray said. "And as we go to the future, knowing that with diligence, with effort, with good Libertarian candidates, good Libertarian values, that we're going to again bring back this prosperity and bring back our country."

Gov. Johnson devoted most of his banquet address to the importance of raising money for campaigns.

"Thank you very much for all that you have done for the Libertarian Party," Johnson said. "And going forward, it is about money, regrettably. It's not about a lot of money, but it's enough money to jump-start the process. Give it to good candidates, and we will prevail."

Earlier, while he addressed delegates during the convention's floor business, Johnson outlined his "seven principles of good government": Become reality-driven; always be honest and tell the truth; always do what's right and fair; determine your goal and act without procrastinating; communicate; don't hesitate to deliver bad news; and be willing to do whatever it takes to get your job done.

Johnson also pointed out that the traditional alliance between Libertarians and conservatives is short-sighted.

"Let's reach out to Democrats and make Democrats recognize that there are more Democrats that are libertarians than there are Republicans that are libertarians," Johnson said. "Democrats are supposed to care about civil liberties, but they've turned us into a welfare state. Republicans are supposed to make the trains run on time, but they've turned us into a police state and they've turned us into a military aggressor because we drop bombs and we fly drones. Both parties have contributed to the fact that there are now 2.3 million people behind bars in this country."

The convention's theme, "Character Matters," chosen by Convention Management Committee Chair Nancy Neale, was inspired by Lawrence Reed, president of the Foundation for Economic Education, who provided the convention's keynote address. Reed's message was that there is too often a missing ingredient in the fight for liberty: the purposeful cultivation of

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2014 LP National Convention speakers, from top left: Sharon Harris, president of the Advocates for Self-Government; Arvin Vohra, newly elected vice chair of the LNC; Gov. Gary Johnson, 2012 LP presidential candidate; Jeffrey Tucker, chief liberty officer of Liberty.me; Mark Skousen, founder and producer of FreedomFest; Carla Howell, LNC political director, presenting her "Who's Driving?" campaign messaging game with the help of two LP Alabama candidates, Aimee Love for U.S. House and Laura Pate for state Senate; and Guy Montrose, chair of the United Kingdom Libertarian Party (LPUK).



Virginia LP sets record by running 8 federal candidates

By Bob Johnston
and Arthur DiBianca

Libertarian voters in Virginia will have lots of choices this November. Eight Libertarian federal candidates have been certified for the ballot.

They are:

- **Robert Sarvis** for U.S. Senator
- **Bo Brown** for U.S. Representative, District 4
- **Paul Jones** for U.S. Representative, District 5
- **Will Hammer** for U.S. Representative, District 6
- **James Carr** for U.S. Representative, District 7
- **Jeffrey Carson** for U.S. Representative, District 8
- **William Redpath** for U.S. Representative, District 10
- **Marc Harrold** for U.S. Representative, District 11

“While the Libertarian Party of Virginia was shooting for a statewide slate for Congress, seven is a record number of U.S. House candidates for the LPVA,” said Virginia LP Chair William Redpath. “This is big step for-



Robert Sarvis

Bo Brown

Paul Jones

Will Hammer

James Carr

Jeffrey Carson

William Redpath

Marc Harrold

ward for our state party.”

To find the last time a third party in Virginia ran this many federal candidates, you have to go back to 1934, when the Socialist Party had nine.

Getting on the ballot in Virginia is expensive and hard. Candidates for U.S. House have to collect 1,000 valid signatures, and candidates for U.S. Senate have to turn in a whopping 10,000 valid signatures.

Sarvis made waves last year with his run for Virginia governor, earning a lot of free media coverage. He received 6.5 percent of the vote, the highest for any third-

party gubernatorial candidate in a southern state in the last 40 years.

According to the *Washington Post*, polls showed that Sarvis narrowed the margin of victory for the Democratic candidate.

The Sarvis for Governor campaign was jump-started with assistance from the Libertarian Booster PAC, LP executive director Wes Benedict said.

“Since then, it’s been all Sarvis,” Benedict continued. “He’s done a great job raising money, campaigning, and energizing the Virginia LP.”

New highs in the polls

...continued from page 1

Colorado drew 9 percent on July 17 in a Gravis poll.

- Jim McDermott for U.S. House in Alaska polled at 12 percent on Feb. 4, according to Public Policy Polling.
- Lucas Overby for U.S. House in a two-way race received 31 percent on June 4 in a StPetePolls.org survey.
- Andrew Hunt for governor in Georgia polled at 9 percent on April 29 in a Survey USA poll.

“This is unique,” said Richard Winger, publisher of *Ballot Access News*. “In the history of polling since the 1930s, there has never been an instance where the Libertarian Party or any minor party has had such excellent poll results all over the country for races like governor and U.S. Senate.”

High poll numbers have spawned coverage in national press.

Haugh, Wyllie, and Hunt were featured in a *Daily Beast* article, “Southern-Fried Freedom Lovers Propel Libertarian Candidates.”

USA Today and the *Wall Street Journal* featured Adrian Wyllie, noting that his presence in “the nation’s most closely watched governor’s race” could decide the winner.

Lucas Overby appeared on the new Fox Business News show “The Independents.” Host Kennedy asked rhetorically, “Could it actually be possible that we might see a member of the Libertarian



Left: LP Florida candidate for U.S. House Lucas Overby appears on the Fox Business Network show “The Independents,” with host Kennedy. Overby polled at 31 percent in a recent survey.

Below: LP Florida candidate for governor Adrian Wyllie appears on Bay News 9 in Tampa. Wyllie recently polled at 11 percent.

Party in Congress?”

Sean Haugh appeared on MSNBC’s “Hardball” with Chris Matthews, and was also featured in the *Washington Post*, which said he “is doing surprisingly well in a high-stakes Senate contest in which candidates and outside groups have already spent more than \$15 million.

“These high polls numbers show that Libertarians are awakening American voters from decades of apathy,” said Nicholas Sarwark, national Libertarian Party chair. “We’re seriously challenging the Big Government status quo more than modern day America has ever seen.”



AFFILIATE News And Events

Affiliate news and events are provided to *LP News* by Libertarian Party state affiliates.

Illinois

Illinois party on defense and offense

On June 23, the Libertarian Party of Illinois filed 43,921 petition signatures to gain ballot access for their full slate of statewide candidates for the November election. A week later, 23,791 of those signatures were challenged, along with allegations against 38 circulators. Sadly, this type of opposition to political competition is common practice in Illinois.

But Libertarians are rising to defeat the challenge. With leadership provided by Political Division Director Lex Green and Attorney General candidate Ben Koyl, at the time of this writing Libertarians are gathering in the state capital to staff the defense of Illinois's signatures through a grueling five-day, line-by-line review process.

The party issued a press release pointing out Illinois's discriminatory ballot access laws and calling for every voter to contact their legislative representatives for the civil right to equal ballot access. The press were also asked to investigate who was really responsible for issuing the challenge.

In spite of every obstacle, Illinois Libertarian campaigns continue to build, with six candidates in Independence Day parades, including Julie Fox and supporters (below), who marched in Elgin.

The party also continues to prepare to host its annual convention, scheduled for the weekend of September 12 to 14 at the Holiday Inn in Bolingbrook. A lively forum with all the statewide candidates will jumpstart Friday evening. Saturday's packed agenda will include presentations by LNC Executive Director Wes Benedict and LNCC Executive Director and LNC At-Large Member Evan McMahon. The keynote speaker at the Saturday night banquet will be national award-winning journalist Ben Swann. On Sunday, the party will hold its annual business meeting. In between there will be opportunities for fundraising and networking with candidates and activists. For additional details and registration, visit the Illinois website at LPillinois.org.

Montana

Both federal candidates appear in debate

The elections in Montana are in full swing. On June 14, both Montana federal candidates for U.S. House and Senate, Mike Fellows and Roger



Mike Fellows, LP Montana chair and candidate for U.S. House, participates in the Kalispell, Mont., Independence Day parade along with the help of Montana House candidate Chris Colvin. They also plan to participate in the Kalispell Fair parade in August.

Roots, participated in a Montana Newspaper Association debate in Butte, Mont. The debate was broadcast on Montana PBS statewide.

On July 4, state chair and candidate

Mike Fellows, with the help of Montana state House District 3 candidate Chris Colvin, had an entry in the Kalispell Independence Day parade. They plan on doing the Kalispell Fair parade in August, as well.

The MTLP will have fair booths at the Gallatin County Fair, the Western Montana Fair, and the Ravalli County Fair, among others. Volunteers are always welcome and encouraged to help out. We plan on getting to the usual parades, including the Ravalli Fair parade, the Sanders County Fair parade, and the Creamy Picnic parade.

In Senate District 33, Joan Stanley has been getting out and meeting voters. As always, she can use your help and donations. That applies to all our candidates.

The Missoula County LP will have a booth at the Western Montana Fair, the Missoula Gun Show, and the Missoula Hempfest. Another levy will be on the Missoula County ballot in November. Missoula County commissioners approved placing a \$42 million parks bond on the ballot. Property owners continue to get hit with more taxes. MCLP will be coming out against this bond issue. The



Julie Fox, LP Illinois candidate for comptroller, participates in the Elgin, Ill., Independence Day parade along with several of her campaign supporters. Five other LP Illinois candidates also marched in Independence Day parades.

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AFFILIATE News And Events

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group will also have an entry in the University of Montana Homecoming parade in September. This homecoming parade is one of the largest in the state. Montana State University, in Bozeman, will have their homecoming parade on the same day. We should be represented there as well.

In Billings, the city is looking to pass a safety levy. These issues should be included in the budget with other essential services. Cities are addicted to spending, and we must fight these proposals. Libertarians in Billings are already against this levy.

Sept. 5 is the anniversary of the William Penn trial, and marks Jury Rights Day, where we tell jurors of their rights to judge law and fact. For more information, go to FIJA.org. We can't stop bad law, but we can send our government a message, via the jury box.

State Chair Mike Fellows attended the National Convention in Columbus Ohio.

If members have questions, contact Mike Fellows at votefellows@aol.com or 406-721-9020. Thanks to everyone's work for more liberty and less government.

New Jersey

Message from incoming NJLP chair

I am a regular person standing up for the Constitution. I am not a career politician. Nor am I a wealthy or well-connected member of the elite. Yet I am honored and privileged to be the 2014 Chair of the New Jersey Libertarian Party.

Last year, at age 28, I was the most successful Libertarian candidate in New Jersey for the second year in a row. But my real goal is to recruit other young people to run for office as Libertarians. Freedom is the future, and we're the generation we've been waiting for.

The only way to fix America's problems is for concerned citizens to run for office. The two corrupt major parties are lost causes. They are not funded by the people and therefore do not represent their interests. We the people must reestablish the legal supremacy of the Constitution and Bill of Rights. We must accept that

our families deserve better than the lesser of two evils.

The Libertarian Party is the third-largest and fastest-growing party in the United States. It is experiencing an explosion of growth among young people. We need more citizen-leaders to run for office and interject real issues back into our political discourse. Liberty is a non-partisan issue.

We are only at the opening stages of a long drama that will result in the restoration of the Constitution and Bill of Rights. We need leaders to spread the message of liberty in their communities. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for young patriots to make history in a positive way. It's time to get real and get involved.

There has never been a more exciting time to be a Libertarian. It is my privilege to be serving as the new chair of the New Jersey Libertarian Party. Thank you again to Jay Edgar for his years of hard work and leadership.

Not only is the Libertarian Party the fastest-growing party in America, since 2012 we're actually the only growing party. While the other two parties shrank we grew 11 percent nationwide. Here in New Jersey the number of registered Libertarian voters grew by 21 percent in 2013!

I am especially pleased to congratulate our excellent 2014 NJLP candidates on their recent nominations. They are:

- Joe Baratelli — U.S. Senate
- Dorit Goikhman — U.S. House (6th District)
- Jim Gawron — U.S. House (7th District)
- Steven Uccio — Mercer County Freeholder
- Brian Pizza — Ocean County Freeholder
- Jeff Hetrick — Chatham Town Council

Let's keep up the momentum in 2014 by supporting our candidates. We are the party of the future, but we have much work left to do. I look forward to working with you to spread the message of liberty in 2014.

Together we are going to make history.

Patrick McKnight
Chair, NJLP

Ohio

2 statewide LPO candidates confirmed

Two LPO statewide candidates confirmed via Ohio Libertarian primary. With more than 700 write-ins each, Kevin Knedler (candidate for secretary of state) and Bob Bridges (candidate for auditor) are confirmed as Libertarian candidates for statewide office in the November elections.

Meanwhile, the courts are being asked to intervene and put Charlie Earl (candidate for governor) and Steve Linabary (candidate for attorney general) back on the November ballot. They were removed by the secretary of state. After they had originally been certified, a citizen of Ohio filed a complaint claiming that a part of the candidate petition had not been filled out correctly.

Ohio LP Central Committee re-elects Kevin Knedler as Executive Committee chairman on May 31. Ohio law provides that the Central Committee, as

elected at the party primary on May 6, must meet to decide its leadership. The new Central Committee must also elect a new seven-member Executive Committee. The Executive Committee and the appointed Division Directors run the day-to-day operations of the Libertarian Party of Ohio. The Executive Committee is made up of Kevin Knedler (chair), Sarah Matthews (vice-chair), Bryant Callaghan (treasurer), Daryl Olthaus (secretary), and three at-large members: Shantel George, Michael Segrest, and Bob Bridges. Also, the Central Committee elected Scott Pettigrew as the new Central Committee chair.

2014 LP National Convention is history in Columbus, Ohio. The process of making a bid started in June 2011. When the process started, we had 30 cities in the mix and the final vote was for Columbus at the August 2011 LNC meeting. Our goal was to make this a very successful convention and LSLA event, conduct a great awards presentation, and have positive financial results overall for

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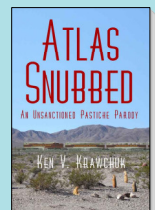
WWW.KENK.ORG ★ #KENK2014 ★ CAMPAIGN@KENK.ORG

How often do we Libertarians hear...

- ▶ You Libertarians want to end welfare?? *You're heartless!*
- ▶ End Social Security?? *You want Granny eating dog food!*
- ▶ End regulation?? *You want all the banks to collapse!*
- ▶ No taxation?? *Who'll pay for the roads!*

Now there's a very Libertarian alternative to ever-expanding government: **The Separation of Society and State.**

Read all about Ken's plan for Pennsylvania and America in his "platform novel," *Atlas Snubbed*. Not only does it present a workable alternative to government as we know it, it's also a fast-moving, post-apocalyptic tale of the crumbling world of strikers and looters in the dark days after the lights of New York City go out forever.



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AN UNSANCTIONED PARODY SEQUEL

(And no, you don't have to read Atlas Shrugged first.)

LNC announces changes to membership plan

By Wes Benedict

The Libertarian National Committee has adjusted the LP’s membership plan. A primary goal was to give more recognition to our top donors in *LP News*, on LP.org, and at our conventions. One key change is that the cost of a life membership increased from \$1,000 to \$1,500 starting Aug. 1, 2014. (The life membership level had been set at \$1,000 for a long time, probably for more than 30 years.)

Now, a member who contributes at least \$1,500 during any 12-month period will become a life member of the LP.

We sent notices to donors about the upcoming life membership increase to help them beat the deadline — and many did. Once you become a life member, you never have to renew your membership again for the rest of your life, and you’ll receive benefits like *LP News* without having to pay annually.

The changes to the plan were originally designed in 2011 by the Membership Levels Support Committee, chaired by Andy Wolf of Indiana. However, in order to save on things like printing costs, the changes were delayed to correspond to the time the party moved to its new headquarters in Alexandria.

At the top of this article is a table that compares the new association levels to the old levels.

The association levels are calculated based on 12-month contributions, but our national conventions happen every two years. Therefore, we’ll recognize you at the highest level obtained between conventions.

Also, convention registration fees do not count toward association levels.

The entire details of the membership plan are in Section 2.05 (“Membership Policies”) of the LNC’s Policy Manual, which can be found online here: LP.org/lnc-meeting-archives

See the Table of Contributor Benefits below for more details on the benefits at each level.

The whole concept of “membership” in the Libertarian Party can be a bit confusing, so I’ll try to explain it briefly.

The bylaws of the party specify, “Members of the Party shall be those persons who have certified in writing that they oppose the initiation of force

Old Association Levels	New Association Levels (effective Aug. 1, 2014)
	\$25,000 Chairman’s Circle
	\$15,000 Select Benefactor
\$5,000 Chairman’s Circle	\$5,000 Beacon of Liberty
	\$2,500 Pioneer of Freedom
	\$1,500 Lifetime Founder
\$1,000 Torch Club	
\$500 Patron	\$500 Patriot
\$250 Sponsor	\$250 Minuteman
	\$150 Advocate
\$100 Supporting	
\$50 Regular	\$50 Supporter
\$25 Basic	\$25 Foundation Member

to achieve political or social goals.” We sometimes informally call that “signing the pledge.”

So, you don’t have to contribute any money or pay any dues to be a plain “member.”

But the bylaws further specify, “‘Sustaining member’ is any Party member who has given at least \$25 to the Party in the prior twelve months, or

who is a life member.” We count the sustaining members to determine how many delegates each state gets to send to the national convention.

Most of the time when we use the



Contributor Association Levels	Chairman’s Circle	Select Benefactor	Beacon of Liberty	Pioneer of Freedom
Annual Amounts	\$25,000	\$15,000	\$5,000	\$2,500
Monthly Pledge Options	\$2,500	\$1,500	\$500	\$250
Benefits				
LP News subscription	x	x	x	x
Membership card	x	x	x	x
Lifetime membership (no more renewing)	x	x	x	x
Lifetime membership lapel pin	x	x	x	x
Mention in LP News	x	x	x	x
Mention on LP website	x	x	x	x
Photo in LP News	x	x	x	
Photo on LP website	x	x	x	
Direct contact with National Chair, POTUS nominee, or significant LP candidate	x			
The following additional benefits received at National Conventions				
Lifetime member ribbon for name badge	x	x	x	x
Mention in program	x	x	x	x
Mention on signage	x	x	x	x
VIP seating at banquet**				x
VIP seating with LNC member at banquet**			x	
VIP Seating with LNC chair or officer**		x		
VIP seating for self & guest with National Chair, LNC officer, special guest, POTUS nominee**	x			
Naming of an event**	x			

** subject to availability

word “member” or “dues-paying member,” we mean “sustaining member.”

If you have signed the pledge, and you gave \$25 in dues to the LP in the last 12 months, then you are a “sustaining member” according to our party bylaws. You are also a “\$25 Foundation Member” for donor recognition and benefits purposes, which means you’ll receive *LP News* and a membership card.

(As of June 2014, we had 132,151 “members,” 14,092 “sustaining members,” and 2,377 “life members.”)

Also note, the national party and state parties have separate membership programs (although some states consider national party members to automatically be state members).

Plus, none of this has anything to do with registering to vote as a Libertarian. According to *Ballot Access News*, 31 states allow people to register to vote with a party affiliation, and 26 of those include the Libertarian Party. (Five states allow registering as a Republican or Democrat, but not Libertarian.) The most recent report of all registered Libertarians was in the March 2014 issue of *Ballot Access News*, showing a nationwide total of 368,561 registered Libertarians.

In 2013, 35 percent of our annual revenue came from membership dues, and I’m especially grateful to all those contributors.

LP STAFF

LP NATIONAL CHAIR
Nicholas Sarwark

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Wes Benedict

POLITICAL DIRECTOR
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OPERATIONS DIRECTOR
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WHAT'S GOING ON IN YOUR STATE?

A list of Libertarian events 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 on the
website, please send details to:

EVENTS@LP.ORG

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

Upcoming state conventions

LP Illinois State Convention

Saturday, Sept. 12, through Sunday, Sept. 14
Holiday Inn in Bolingbrook
205 Remington Blvd., Bolingbrook, IL 60440
lp.org/event/lp-illinois-2014-state-convention

LP Massachusetts State Convention

Saturday, Oct. 18
Tweed's Restaurant
229 Grove St., Worcester, MA 01605
lpmass.org

Convention: A look back

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personal honor and integrity.

"I don't want to say only that you have to have character in order to have liberty," Reed said. "I want to make a case for that, but I think it's true the other way around: You can't have character if you haven't got liberty. It works in both directions. Having liberty is what allows you to exercise your character, and having character in the first place is what can make liberty possible."

This year's convention marked the beginning of a new era of interaction between Libertarian parties and activists throughout the world. Russian libertarian activist Vera Kichanova and Chair Guy Montrose of the United Kingdom Libertarian Party both spoke about the challenges and successes of spreading liberty in other corners of the world.

"I talk to people here, and most of you have never heard that there are libertarians in Russia, and I'm really happy that now you know," Kichanova said. "We really need your support; we really need your help. We follow everything and keep reading everything that happens with libertarianism in America. It gives us hope."

Former LNC Chair Geoffrey Neale

announced that he plans to serve as an international ambassador to libertarians abroad.

The convention speaker lineup was a veritable who's who of notable and engaging libertarian figures. Other important speeches were provided by Liberty.me Chief Liberty Officer Jeffrey Tucker; Students for Liberty President Alexander McCobin; Students for Liberty Director of Events and Operations Kelly Jemison; FreedomFest founder and producer Mark Skousen; author and activist Melyssa Hubbard; Marijuana Policy Project Executive Director Rob Kampia; attorney, author, and LP candidate Marc Harrold; Libertarian Futurist Society founder Michael Grossberg; parenting author and advocate Heather Shumaker; climate researcher Harold Ambler; Advocates for Self-Government President Sharon Harris; author and filmmaker J. Neil Schulman; and several Libertarian Party candidates and elected officials.

There's no experience quite like having the opportunity to see all these dynamic speakers in person, so if you missed out on attending the 2014 convention, be sure to start planning now to attend in 2016! For a full list of speakers and entertainers at this year's convention, visit the convention website: lpcon2014.org

Affiliate News and Events

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the national party. We wanted people to feel comfortable in Columbus and showcase the downtown area, which was alive with the activities of the Short North, Arena District, and ComFest. We also wanted to showcase the Ohio LP and provide a level

of behind-the-scenes support that has not been seen before (best ever comments from many people). I think we can say "Mission Accomplished." Congratulations and good luck to the newly elected LNC and Chairman Nicholas Sarwark.

For more information on the Ohio party, go to www.lpo.org or send an email to info@lpo.org.

What have you missed recently on LP.org?

- Libertarians say get rid of Ex-Im Bank
- *NY Times* agrees with Libertarian Party on marijuana
- Libertarian Party joins coalition urging Obama to veto cybersecurity bill
- LP political director discredits Dick Cheney's Iraqi commentary
- USA Today: Libertarian Patterson polling at 7% in high-profile Kentucky senate race
- "They've had two debates at the Arkansas Press Assoc., and a Libertarian has won both"
- *Washington Post*: LP poised to draw votes in at least 11 competitive Senate races this fall
- Record-breaking 17 Libertarians on the ballot in Hawaii
- "Cut, cut, CUT federal taxes and spending," Libertarians say

Media Buzz About the Libertarian Party

"Around the country, there are more than 330,000 Libertarians. In Florida, there are around 20,000, and the Sun-coast is home to just over 900. The growing popularity seems to be an indication that people are growing angry with the two main parties."

**WWSB ABC 7 (Sarasota, FL),
7/24/2014**

"Democrats did not nominate candidates for three statewide offices — attorney general, auditor and public lands commissioner. Libertarians have the opportunity to be the only opposition to Republican candidates for those offices. 'If this is played right, (Libertarians) can show they're just as relevant as the Democrat Party in South Dakota,' Libertarian activist Ken Santema told the *Argus Leader* newspaper."

Associated Press, 7/21/2014

"Libertarian voters, advocating everything from less government to legalized pot, seem the perfect wildcard in any November election, peeling off Democratic or Republican votes."

FOX News, 8/2/2014

"Libertarians answer 'no' to both economic and social regulations by the government, because most fundamentally believe that it's none of the government's business what you do in your business or in your bedroom. That's the philosophy that Sean Haugh, the N.C. Libertarian Party's candidate and apparent beer aficionado, advocates in his quest for the U.S. Senate. From such topics as gay marriage, war, abortion, personal responsibility (especially with pollution), to the issue of government debt, Haugh takes a very classic libertarian position on a variety of hot topics, with probably more Democrats agreeing with him than Republicans."

Salisbury Post, 7/13/2014