

LIBERTARIAN PARTY LP NEWS

The Party of Principle®



Former Vice Presidential candidate Art Olivier taking on Arnold Schwarzenegger in California - Page 3

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Kole campaign concentrating on earned media and personal appearances

Mike Kole's campaign for Secretary of State in Indiana is built on simple persistence and good old-fashioned customer service. From these simple virtues he has built a high profile statewide campaign that should help the Indiana Libertarian Party retain ballot access for the next four years.

See KOLE Page 2

Breaking Story

Minutes prior to the deadline for this edition of *LP News* to hit the printers, Washington U.S. Senate candidate Bruce Guthrie announced that he has just provided his campaign a personal loan of \$1.2 million. Visit LP.org for updates on this breaking story.

Polling data suggests voter disconnect may boost Election Day performance for Libertarians

AS A RESULT of a higher-than-normal level of voter discontent, Lib-

ertarian candidates are benefiting from the dissatisfaction voters are feeling for both major parties. Two recent Zogby surveys show Libertarian Party gubernatorial candidates currently faring significantly better than they have in previous election returns for the same offices.

A *Wall Street Journal*/Zogby International survey of Georgia's gubernatorial race indicates that

Republican incumbent Sunny Perdue is currently polling at 47.4 percent, Democrat Mark

Taylor at 36.4 percent while Libertarian Garrett Michael Hayes is polling at 8.4 percent. According to Richard Winger of *Ballot Access News*, the best showing in the past for a Georgia Libertarian gubernatorial candidate was in 1998, when the party polled 3.43 percent and the worst showing was 2002, at 2.36 percent.

A different *Wall Street Jour-*

nal/Zogby International survey shows Libertarian Party gubernatorial candidate Dawn Winkler polling at 7.8 percent in Colorado, with the Republican Bob Beauprez at 34.1 percent and the Democrat Bill Ritter at 44.4 percent. In 2002, the Libertarian candidate received one percent of the vote.

In Arizona, Libertarian congressional candidate Warren Severin polled at 6 percent in a Public Opinion Strategies survey for the 5th Congressional District. The previous LP candidate in Arizona CD-5 earned one percent of the vote.

"America is no longer willing to waste its vote on the lesser of two evils. Both major parties have reneged on their promises to the voters and neither party reflects the values of most voters," said Shane Cory, executive director of the Libertarian Party. "As a result, we are anticipating that a record amount of Americans will decide to vote on principle this year."



■ Colorado's Dawn Winkler is polling at 7.8 percent

Inside



Visit page 5 to see why Richard Forsythe, candidate for the Texas District 61 State Representative seat, seems so happy

Candidate Tracker: Who's on top of the list?

LAST MONTH, *LP News* announced that a new Internet application called Candidate Tracker was just launched online. The project is already showing results by inspiring Libertarian candidates to be more active on the campaign trail. The scoring system has also increased communica-



■ Alaska's Sara Chambers is scoring well on Candidate Tracker

tion between LP candidates and the national party and made it easier for the national office to promote local campaign accomplishments.

"The fun competitive spirit helps candidates to focus on the core activities that make their campaigns more visible and increase media attention," wrote Sean Haugh, the project

manager. "Knowing that their Candidate Tracker score will increase gives extra motivation to make that extra public appearance or issue another press release."

Matthew Moseley, Libertarian for Texas State House in District 112, reports, "Things are seriously a buzz in Texas because of having five candidates in the top listings."

Texas LP candidates have certainly taken advantage of the Candidate Tracker program.

As of the last week of September, Bob Smither for U.S. House in Texas' 22nd District leads all candidates with a whopping CT

score of 1025, mostly thanks to generating lots of national news coverage after Tom DeLay was removed from the ballot without a GOP replacement in a heavily Republican district.

Former Presidential candidate and current nominee for the 10th Congressional District Michael Badnarik ranked fourth with a CT score of 125, mostly due to raising over \$371,000 and polling at 6.7%. Moseley himself scored at 36, while Rock Howard, running for State Senate District 14, was close behind with 30.

While higher profile state and federal races offer more opportunities for media coverage, the

CT score is weighted by number of candidates and district size, giving strong local candidates a competitive edge.

Sara Chambers is the Libertarian candidate for District 2 in the Juneau, Alaska Assembly.

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CAMPAIGN TRAIL

Sime campaign hosts neighborhood party

ARIN SIME is running for the District 24 seat on Virginia State Senate in 2007 on the Libertarian ticket. The Sime for State Senate campaign threw a neighborhood party in Crozet, VA. Friends, family, and campaign supporters enjoyed delicious BBQ and great conversation, while children enjoyed face painting, a moon bounce and an inflatable slide which was donated by a local company. Fantastic weather provided party-goers the opportunity to discuss campaign issues with the candidate and to converse about the course of the campaign in general.

The party wrapped up with a great water balloon fight for the children in attendance. Sime soon found himself in the line of fire as many of the children figured out that a water balloon fight was much more entertaining with a candidate for State Senate as the target!

Many people stepped forward to help make the neighborhood

party a success, which would not have been possible without the help of Ellen Wilson and Sime's wife Lauren. They coordinated the invitations for the event, most of the setup and managed the overall event organization.

The neighborhood party was

and Joe Rudmin helped make the campaign's presence at these events possible.

The Sime campaign also enjoyed attendance at the "Farm Food Security Day" hosted by Virginia Independent Consumers and Farmers Association (VICFA) and Joel Salatin's Polyface Farm, as well as a speaking engagement at the Sorensen Institute's *High School Leaders Program* at the University

of Virginia.

The neighborhood party and other events throughout the month of August provided exceptional outreach opportunities for the campaign and have proven instrumental in enhancing name recognition and campaign awareness throughout the district. All of these events have also given Sime a great chance to continue speaking to voters throughout the district to hear their concerns about, and hopes for, the direction of the Virginia State Senate.

To find out more about the Sime for State Senate campaign, please visit www.arinsime.com.

the culminating event of a month of exciting activities, including campaigning at the Augusta, Rockingham, and Highland county fairs. The campaign team and volunteers, including Dave Azzam, Lindsey Burke, Robert Clemmer, Jim Lark, John Munchmeyer, Tina Munchmeyer, Sarah Rayl,



Kole campaign hits the news in Indiana

Continued from Page 1

By his estimation, Kole has earned over two hundred mentions in the press and made almost as many public appearances since the start of his campaign in September 2004. He picked this race and the early start to ensure he would get at least two percent of the vote, which will maintain the party's ballot access. Not content with that, Kole has set a goal of getting ten percent, which will give the Indiana LP the same status as the Democrats and Republicans there.

His campaign bio, available at www.mikekole.com, tells the story of one of his first jobs after he moved to Indiana.

"Mike decided to take a job with the Hamilton County Surveyor's Office as a permit inspector.... One of Mike's favorite aspects of the job was turning permits around in one or two days. So frequently it was remarked how nobody else issued permits so quickly. Mike had been on the other side of the counter his whole life. He knew it was important to people to keep down time to a minimum, so he got them out pronto."

Kole has applied the same approach to his campaign and has developed many influential friends and media contacts along the way. Always being quick with a return phone call has made him a frequent source of opinion in Indiana's newspapers, whether he is mentioned as the candidate or not.

Kole has been part of the statewide coverage not just about ballot access, but also on topics such as eminent domain, sports welfare, light rail, smoking bans,

and even "What Hoosiers are Reading" in the *Indianapolis Star*. He has also been a frequent guest host on the "Abdul in the Morning" radio show on WXNY



■ Mike Kole speaks with reporters

1430AM in Indianapolis.

Kole's blog, kolehardfacts.blogspot.com, keeps voters up to date on all aspects of his campaign. He has visited about 30 of Indiana's counties and often combines several public appearances and interviews during the same day while meeting with local Libertarians in the evening. Party building is an important part of the Kole campaign. One of his top goals is to help organize ten more county affiliates this year.

Kole won't be content with just two percent of the vote. "If I get ten percent statewide," Kole said, "it would upturn the whole apple cart, as no provisions were really made to include a third party in the spoils allocated by the Democrats and Republicans in the election laws. We would make a compelling case that we belong on the Indiana Elections Commission, and likely a host of other appointed boards and commissions."

He also points out that if he finishes first or second in a county, Libertarians would automatically receive appointments to that county's boards and commissions, including those responsible for planning and zoning, allow Libertarians to have a "pretty positive effect on property rights issues."

Kole isn't basing his campaign on a lot of flash. By building a campaign one public appearance and media interview at a time, Kole is coming closer to his ambitious goals for his campaign and his party. "We are campaigning smart," said Kole. "We are talking directly to constituencies that may not have been voting Libertarian in the past, but have good reason to abandon the parties they have been themselves abandoned by, showing them that voting for Mike Kole and the Libertarian Party is a viable option."

OUR BAD

Oops!

IN LAST MONTH'S LP News, we incorrectly indicated the name of the Texas Libertarian candidate running for State Representative in District 112. The candidate's name is Matthew Moseley. Mark Mosley is a former Libertarian candidate from Georgia, where he has also served as state party chair and executive director.

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The Mission Statement of the Libertarian Party: "To move public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office."

CAMPAIGN TRAIL

Former Libertarian VP candidate shaking things up in California

JUST THREE YEARS AGO, California voters recalled Democratic Governor Gray Davis for raising taxes, running up huge deficits and for the electrical power blackouts.

As most people are aware, Davis was replaced by movie superstar Arnold Schwarzenegger, who promised to bring fiscal sanity to California.

Schwarzenegger has been a major disappointment for reform-minded voters. He proposed and passed a \$131 billion state budget for 2006-07, a whopping 35% increase over the 2003-04 proposed budget that got Davis recalled. He is proposing a massive deficit that his own budget director says will continue to grow with a strong economy but will explode if the California real estate bubble bursts.

Californians, especially conservatives, are upset. So upset that three former chairmen of the California Republican Party wrote a resolution to withdraw the Republican endorsement of Arnold Schwarzenegger for the primary election. They are reported to be upset that the Governor chose a former executive director of the California Democratic Party to be his chief of staff and that he appointed four Democrats to the Industrial Welfare Commission so he can raise the minimum wage to eight dollars an hour.

They are fuming over his proposed budget and his support for \$43 billion in General Obligation bonds and his appointing liberal Democrats as Superior court judges.

Trying to use Schwarzenegger's outrageous spending habits to his advantage, the *L.A. Times* has reported that the Democrat in the race, State Treasurer Phil Angelides, "has moved to broaden his appeal to mainstream Californians by casting himself as a fiscal conservative."

According to one Libertarian candidate, Angelides is far from being a fiscal conservative. He states that the major difference between the two is that Angelides wants to raise taxes to pay for more spending while Schwarzenegger is putting California deeper in debt.

Conservative, libertarian and even moderate voters are desperately looking for a candidate they can support, which is where the Libertarian Party comes into the picture. Art Olivier, Harry

Browne's running mate as the Libertarian candidate for Vice President in 2000, is the 2006 Libertarian candidate for governor in California.

When serving as the mayor of Bellflower, a Los Angeles suburb with 77,000 residents, Olivier eliminated the city's lighting tax assessment. At the same time, services to the city improved through privatization and a competitive bidding process. He privatized the city's tree trimming, crossing guards, street sweeping and the Building Department. Eminent domain was never allowed to be exercised during the time that Olivier was on the council.

The California Libertarian Party is running a candidate that has actually served more time in office than the incumbent Governor and spent that time actually cutting taxes and balancing budgets.

Olivier is also receiving several prominent endorsements in large part because of his stance on illegal immigration. In August, Jim Gilchrist, the founder of the Minuteman Project, proclaimed his support for Olivier on the John Ziegler radio show on KFI in Los Angeles.

According to a press release from the campaign, Gilchrist has joined a long list of conservative and libertarian leaders supporting Olivier. Other prominent California leaders to state their support for him are radio host John Ziegler, homeless activist Ted Hayes, Republican Central Committee Member Marvin Stewart, Vice President of the Los Angeles Chapter of the California Black Republican Council Keith Hardin and former California State Assemblyman Phil Hawkins.

While the Libertarian Party platform historically called for an "open borders" policy, Olivier is among many of our candidates in border states who have

applied a uniquely Libertarian perspective in opposition to illegal immigration. As the policy implications hitting candidates in border states differ from race to

nal or terrorist organizations. I do not distinguish between those who are currently working here, and those who merely wish to do so."



■ Art Olivier takes time out to speak with current and future supporters

race, each campaign has to look at the unique circumstances in its respective district.

In Arizona, Eighth District U.S. congressional candidate David Nolan is focusing on the rights of American citizens who own property along the Mexican border. David Schlosser, the First District congressional candidate, is emphasizing that the rights of citizenship should also be accompanied by the responsibilities of citizenship. Arizona gubernatorial candidate Barry Hess is condemning roundups of Hispanics for not having proper paperwork as well as unreasonable documentation requirements for employers.

In Texas, gubernatorial candidate James Werner states that he would oppose any sort of government aid or handouts to new immigrants.

"To be clear, I am the only pro-immigrant candidate for Governor of Texas," cites Werner's website. "My position is that anyone who wishes to come to the United States and work should be allowed to do so--with the exception of known criminals, or individuals with ties to crimi-

Olivier said incumbent Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger "is encouraging illegal immigration by declaring that illegal immigrants have rights to health care, schooling and so on."

Olivier's position on these issues has also set him apart from his Democratic opponent Peter Angelides.

Also helping Olivier gain traction on this issue is his opposition to Proposition 86, the referendum would extend healthcare entitlements to undocumented immigrant children from families making three times the federal poverty level.

This proposition claims these new government benefits will be covered by another \$2.60 tax per pack of cigarettes. Olivier's editorial against Prop 86 was picked up by the state's newswire and ran in several local newspapers.

"Amending the Constitution to attract more illegal aliens will burden the state with increasingly higher costs every year," said Olivier. "There are billions of people in the world that could improve their lives by taking advantage of the benefits the Governor is offering but California

cannot prosper if we are forced to take care of everyone that comes here illegally."

Olivier's campaign made another breakthrough when he was included in a Zogby poll in September, receiving support of 3.5 percent of likely voters among six candidates, up a percentage point from the month before. His campaign team also boasts over 150 volunteers across the state.

Olivier backs his stances with public appearances at "Save Our State" and similar rallies on the immigration issue. "He spoke and marched with us at the Hollywood March & Rally for Americans," Chelene Nightingale, the rally organizer, reported. "And it was the hottest day in Los Angeles, plus counter-protestors were throwing glass and other objects at us. Art was such a trooper!"

Nightingale was so impressed with Olivier that she later became his campaign manager.

More information about Olivier's campaign may be found at www.2006gov.com.

Candidate Tracker

Continued from Page 1

She ranked 5th with a CT score of 114. Due to a record of community service before the campaign, several high profile public appearances, garnering a number of significant endorsements and having only one opponent, Chambers' high score confirms that she is in a potentially winnable race.

Completing the top five are Indiana candidates Mike Kole for Secretary of State, second with 235 points, and Eric Schansberg for U.S. House District 9, third at 137 points. Their high scores have been generated by many public appearances and the media hits those activities generate.

After the election, the Candidate Tracker formula will be judged against the actual results and refined to better reflect what it takes for Libertarians to win elections. But even in its first iteration, the Candidate Tracker program has already become a very useful part of the electoral technology offered by the national party in support of all our candidates. For more information about the Candidate Tracker, check out <http://www.lp.org/candidates/> or write to Sean Haugh at sean.haugh@lp.org.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ending the day with integrity

by Shane Cory

FOR AS LONG as I've been able to vote, and admittedly even a few years before that, I've had a soft spot for Election Day. On those November mornings, I wake up just a little bit earlier than normal, carrying with me an excitement for even the slightest opportunity for change.

Armed with the candidate research from the days before, on Election Day morning I typically sit down and go over the ballot with my eight-year-old daughter, Hunter, who, unlike her two little brothers whose primary joint interests revolve around beating one another, has a strong interest in politics.

My next move of the day is dependent upon my recent helpfulness around the house. If I've been a good hubby to my bride of 11 years, I'll share my intended votes with her. If I've been too consumed with work to take the time to do my manly household duties (i.e. take out the trash, mow the lawn without buying off the neighborhood kids, wash the dog and, for some odd reason, change the burned light bulbs – why is this my job?), then it's in my best interest not to share this vital data with my loving wife as she'll follow me to the voting booth and cancel out my vote.

After deciding whether or not it's necessary to sneak out of the house to vote, Hunter and I take the short drive over to our local library to get the job done. We'll typically stop and talk to all of the volunteers standing within legal distance of the library doors before heading in to cast the ballot.

Never having experienced a wait, we head right into a booth and Hunter takes her time to touch the correct sections on the ballot and then pounds the button to cast my vote.

This system has worked fairly well for me for many years (aside from the 2004 "incident" where Hunter accidentally voted for Bush and I requested a new ballot and that the bad ballot be burned).

At the end of the day, I sit down, turn on the television and flip back and forth between networks on the Tivo. Despite the predictability of the evening, I continue to surf the networks until at least midnight at which time I prepare for the dreaded day after.

Now, while Election Day holds

a glimmer of hope giving many of us a false sense of euphoria, the day after, which I refer to as Depression Day, slams us right back down to reality.

One would expect a numbness to develop after completing the same loop, year after year (and yes, I'm aware of that definition of insanity). Unfortunately, on Depression Day, I still grumpily roll out of bed like a spoiled child who didn't get his gift of choice on Christmas Day.

You see, I've never been one to vote for a likely winner. Possibly like many of you, I vote for the best candidate available and, more often than not, that candidate does not receive the highest number of votes despite being the most deserving of them.

After years of being caught in this "Groundhog Day"-like loop, I realize that I still enjoy Election Day because I can end the day with my integrity intact.

Most Libertarians who have been around for awhile are used to these Election Day cycles, but have decided that it is better to vote on principle rather than to be yet another American who votes with a sigh, thinking: "I'll just vote for the lesser of two evils."

Admittedly, we still have a long way to go before our Party gets a big win (although I always reserve hope for lightning to strike) and for Libertarians, there is no such thing as a fair weather fan.

Our small party has been at this, as underdogs in nearly every instance, for nearly 35 years. That alone is admirable and showcases our determination as a movement. When thinking about this long fight and our Election Day struggles, I'm reminded of a quote by the great Vince Lombardi:

"The difference between a successful person and others is not a lack of strength, not a lack of knowledge, but rather a lack of will."

If Mr. Lombardi was right, then I know that our time is coming.

One day down the road, I'll wake up on that "day after" with a smile on my face and my heart filled with love for those who, for decades, worked for and maintained hope for a better America.

Shane Cory is the Executive Director of the Libertarian Party.

CAMPAIGN TRAIL

Mr. Smither goes to Washington?

2006 HAS PROVEN to be an unexpectedly eventful campaign season for Bob Smither, the Libertarian nominee in Tom DeLay's old district. Smither earned national media attention in August when a court ruling against the Republicans made him the only candidate on the ballot facing Democrat Nick Lampson in this solid GOP district.

Smither's candidacy drew praise from well known Republican figures such as Clinton impeachment manager Bob Barr and Jerry Patterson, the Texas Land Commissioner. Newspapers from around the nation including the *New York Times*, the *Washington Times*, and the *Wall Street Journal* took notice as well. Bob Smither, a semi-retired electrical engineer running what one publication dubbed a "livingroom Libertarian campaign," suddenly represented a unique opportunity for the Libertarian Party to pick up a seat in Congress.

Inigorated by the turn of events, Smither has acted swiftly to shed the "livingroom campaign" image and establish himself as the only credible chance for District 22's traditionally conservative voters to defeat Lampson this November. The campaign rolled out a new website last week at www.Bob-Smither.com. The site features interactive tools for volunteers to get involved and streaming videos of Smither's recent media appearances.

Smither's campaign indicated that it will launch a recorded telephone message to the voters of District 22 in early October. Meanwhile volunteers are already on the ground running, taking his message of lower taxes and fiscal restraint door to door in organized Libertarian block walks on the weekends.

Despite the national character of his campaign, Smither himself remains modest.

"I am truly honored by the outpouring of support we've had, although it's the people of CD 22 who deserve credit," he said. "This is a district with a long history of support for our limited government principles."

Texas' 22nd District was first represented by U.S. Rep. Ron Paul from 1977-1985 and much of the district overlaps old por-

tions of Paul's current neighboring seat, District 14. Paul was the 1988 Libertarian Party presidential nominee.

The recent media spotlight on CD-22 has brought a wave of supporters and volunteers to the Smither camp. "We've had donations pouring in from all over the country and messages of support from Libertarians and like-minded individuals who share in our common sense message of constitutional government and liberty," said Smither.

Smither reported a recent surge in contributions and indicated his plans to launch campaign advertisements closer to Election Day.

Problems from the GOP

To date, the biggest frustration for the Smither campaign has been the Republican Party of Texas. Key Republican leaders in Texas, such as Patterson, expressed the wisdom of aligning with Smither to defeat Lampson, a well known big government Democrat of the tax-and-spend variety. Former congressman Tom DeLay has been accused of calling Smither a plant for the Democrat's campaign.

For his part, Smither reached out to the GOP voters by indicating he would support a Republican Speaker of the House over Democrat Nancy Pelosi.

Royal Masset, a well known Republican political consultant in Texas, told a *Time Magazine* blog that the alternative GOP strategy of a write-in campaign would be "a disaster," but Republican Party Chairwoman Tina Benkiser refused to listen.

In late August, Benkiser convened a closed-door meeting of some Republican precinct chairmen to select a write-in candidate. Benkiser wooed the attendees with promises of \$4 million in RNC campaign cash for a write-in campaign. The only string attached, she insisted, was uniting behind a single candidate.

Shelley Sekula-Gibbs, a Houston city councilwoman who is best known for authoring a smoking ban ordinance in Houston restaurants, emerged as the meeting's choice, but the GOP write-in effort quickly fractured from there.

Don Richardson, another candidate seeking the write-in nod,

reneged on his earlier promise to withdraw in favor of Gibbs. Richardson claimed that the RNC cash promised by Benkiser was a bill of goods. As of this writing, the \$4 million pledged by Benkiser has yet to arrive.

Even after Tom DeLay falsely labeled Smither a "Lampson plant," Benkiser loyalists continued to recognize – and fear – his viability as a candidate over their own fractured write-in effort.

Reflecting this sentiment, State Republican Committeewoman Kathy Haigler sent out an angry letter to Republican precinct officials demanding that they "get over the fact that there is a Libertarian on the ballot...Republicans need to support Republicans."

With no Republican on the ballot though, many sensible members of the GOP in District 22 are jumping over into the Smither camp.

SSG and the Special Election

In ordinary circumstances, a write-in campaign in Texas is difficult to wage. Voters using the state's electronic eSlate system must hand-dial the candidate's name in letter by letter on a machine that resembles an arcade-style video game.

"Shelley Sekula-Gibbs" isn't the easiest name to dial in either,

See SMITHER Page 10

Online Resources for LP Members

- Find contact info for your state Libertarian Party or your State Chair
Visit: www.LP.org
Click on: Organization
Click on: State Parties
Click on: [Your state]
- Find contact info for the National Committee
Visit: www.LP.org
Click on: Organization
Click on: LNC Directory
- Renew your membership
Visit: www.LP.org
Click on: Membership
Click on: Renew your membership or subscription

CAMPAIGN TRAIL

41 reasons to be scared to debate a Libertarian

ERIC SCHANSBERG, Libertarian for U.S. House in Indiana's Ninth District, has managed to make both of his opponents afraid to debate him. After one debate on August 31st attended by all candidates, an informal poll on the website of the *Louisville Courier-Journal* showed that 41% thought Schansberg won that debate.

Just getting that first debate was a challenge, and after

Schansberg's performance his opponents appear unwilling to repeat the experience. The race pits him against two candidates who have met twice before. Two years ago, Republican Mike Sodrel defeated Democrat Baron Hill by less than 1,500 votes. Schansberg's campaign has been active enough to represent far more than the predicted margin of victory this time and put both opponents on the defensive.

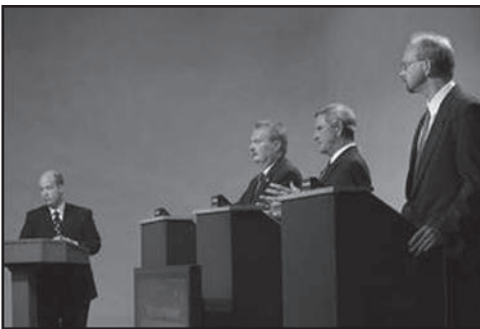
At first, Hill was the one trying to make life difficult for those who wanted to schedule debates, insisting they be focused on single issues. Schansberg succeeded in getting Hill to agree to a compromise of three single issue debates and one final open one. Then Sodrel became the difficult one. After claiming he couldn't

make any debate commitments in October because Congress might be in session then, WVHF-TV/Indiana9 eventually gave up trying to accommodate Sodrel and cancelled their plans for the next debate.

"You'd think this would be easy," said Schansberg, "but Hill and now Sodrel have worked to make the debates, well, another Washington DC-style screw-up."

Schansberg, an economics professor at Indiana University in New Albany, is running on the Libertarian bread and butter issues of limited government and fiscal restraint. In a recent press release Schansberg said, "Sodrel continues to pose as a fiscal conservative. He would be better than Baron Hill on this issue, but he's not even in my league. No fiscal conservative could vote for the runaway spending we've had under President Bush and his Republican Congresses. Sodrel talks about cutting taxes for Indiana's families, but he has increased taxes dramatically for our children by voting for irresponsible budgets."

You can keep up with the Schansberg campaign at www.schansbergforcongress.com.



■ Dr. Schansberg at the podium on the right

New York Libertarian candidates take stand on eminent domain

NEW YORK LIBERTARIANS are calling on US Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist (R-TN) to unblock legislation that would deny federal economic development funds for two fiscal years to governments that use eminent domain to transfer property to private developers. State Libertarian Chair Richard Cooper terms such economic development schemes "unconstitutional eminent domain abuse and legalized theft."

According to a New York Libertarian Party spokesperson, the Private Property Protection Act of 2006 must be brought up for a vote by September 29th or die without action.

NY Libertarians have been active on eminent domain cases with some partial victories such as the St. Luke's Pentecostal Church issue in Nassau County. Cooper and other NY Libertarians vow to fight eminent domain abuse wherever and whenever it occurs. Currently, they are most concerned about the Atlantic Yards Nets Arena in Brooklyn.

"The Fifth Amendment clearly limits the power of eminent domain to taking property for public use. It does not grant the government the power to take private property from one individual and give it to another individual," Libertarian US Senate candidate Jeffrey Russell said. "Governments should not be allowed to seize private property simply because they believe they can get more tax revenues. When property is taken for public use, the Fifth Amendment clearly states that there must be just compensation."

Libertarian gubernatorial candidate John Clifton agrees. "When property is not for sale, it should not be subject to being stolen," said Clifton. "There should be no use of government at any level to seize private property to benefit private developers. From Nets Arena downstate to New York Regional Interconnect power line upstate, developers should acquire property the old fashioned way---through negotiation and purchase contract---and not through land-grabbing. Thou shalt not steal."



■ Mike Kole breaks out the serious PR tools

Peirce campaign ruffling feathers

OUTSIDE OF WEDNESDAY'S EDUCATION-CENTERED GUBERNATORIAL DEBATE in Ohio, gubernatorial candidate and veteran economist Bill Peirce (Libertarian) was accompanied by 20 to 25 supporters rallying to his side.

A mid a throng of Strickland and Blackwell supporters outside W E W S Channel 5 News, two Peirce supporters wearing bright yellow chicken costumes — Howard Kornhauser and the candidate's son Arjen Peirce — clucked and crowed at the double standard on display at the morning debate that excluded economist Bill Peirce.

Supporters of Peirce mockingly chanted "Bok Bok" and "Chicken" in unison of the chants of "Strickland" and "Blackwell" as the chickens danced in and out of the crowd to the delight of passing motorists. The two feathered fowl also carried a sign with them reading "Blackwell, Strickland chicken to debate Peirce."

Outrageously, both chickens, outfitted in tags that read "Ted" and "Ken" were arrested by police, who claimed they walked into the street and disrupted traffic. Many in the crowd booed as news cameras swarmed around the two chickens. Bob Fittrakis, the Green party candidate for governor, came to the aid of the chickens, offering legal assis-

tance and challenging the police officers' decision to single out supporters of non-major party candidates.

The police singling out the Peirce supporters showed a double standard at the debates, once by exclusion, then by arrest. "It

was unfair. The sidewalk was too crowded and although they were on the street, they were near the side of the street and they were not blocking any traffic," Bill Peirce

said. "There were other people also out on the street."

As a comparison, camera crews across the street at several times captured the crowds of Blackwell and Strickland supporters bursting into the 2-way street at several points, even crossing into the center turn lane, halting traffic.

No Strickland or Blackwell supporters were arrested.

Within the hour, the chickens were freed from the Cleveland police coop and rejoined campaign supporters at Hatton's Deli Restaurant to watch the real chickens debate on television about education. As the two candidates clucked on about their platform, Peirce took notes for his forthcoming rebuttal arguments and offered his sage advice "Both of their proposals are fluff, there's no substance to their proposals and all they can do is peck at each other. Ohio deserves better than these two chickens."



■ Kornhauser and Peirce being led to the chicken coop

Beaming with pride



■ Texas candidates T. Evan Fisher (left) and Richard Forsythe (right) with trophy for Best Social Commentary which was awarded to Collin County Libertarians at Dallas Gay Pride Parade on September 17th.

Want to help LP candidates without spending a dime?

BallotBase.org

Electing Libertarians to public office.

Be sure to register for Ballot Base in time for our 100 Hour Push. Details on Page 12.

CAMPAIGN TRAIL

RLC officer endorses two LP candidates

STEVE GRESH, Vice President of the Colorado Chapter of the Republican Liberty Caucus (RLC), has endorsed the Libertarian 3rd Congressional District candidate, Bert Sargent.

The RLC is a grassroots, nationwide organization which states it has a policy of working to advance the principles of limited government, individual liberty and free markets within the Republican Party and throughout America. Their focus is on a broad range of issues, including education, taxation, property rights, gun rights, free speech, federalism and the proper role of government. The RLC is committed to electing what they consider liberty-minded Republicans to public office.

However, the GOP candidate in this race seems unpalatable to certain RLC members. Scott Tipton, the Republican candidate in CD-3, stated that “we need to put our civil liberties on the back burner, and support the Patriot Act.”

“This statement by Mr. Tipton shows clearly that he is more concerned with government power rather than liberty for our citizens,” said Gresh, “while Bert Sargent very clearly understands the constitution’s purpose is to limit the powers of the government over the infringement of citizens’ rights. Just as clearly, neither of his opponents understand this critical concept.”

The incumbent, John Salazar, also vehemently supports the Patriot Act.

Club 20, a Western Slope lobbying organization, provided Colorado Libertarian Party candidates an opportunity to be heard in the congressional and gubernatorial debates in September.

Gresh attended the Club 20 debates in Grand Junction and noted that when Bert Sargent asked both of his opponents how the trillions of dollars of national debt should be paid off, neither answered the question.

“This debt is unconstitutional and unlawful,” said Gresh, “and Bert Sargent’s opponents are unconcerned about that. Only Mr. Sargent seems to understand how Congress should work.”

Additionally, Gresh also endorsed the Libertarian Gubernatorial candidate, Dawn Winkler.

“In politics you rarely get a

choice. It’s politician A or politician B. Winkler is not a politician; she’s a real person with a nine to five job who is raising a family on a budget. She’s the most liberty-minded of all the candidates,” Gresh commented. “The Libertarians have a strong gubernatorial candidate. She’s concerned with protecting individual rights and her platform almost mirrors many of the philosophies that are the basis for the RLC.”

Gresh also stated that he will encourage other Republicans to support Dawn Winkler’s candidacy for Governor.

Winkler has been politically active in health freedom issues for nearly ten years and is currently the executive director of Health Advocacy in the Public Interest (HAPI).

Kansas candidates with lofty goals

ACCORDING TO ONE CANDIDATE, Kansas voters deserve election results they can trust. Therefore, Kansas Secretary of State candidate Rob Hodgkinson advocates the use of voter-verified paper ballots (VVBPs) for all elections in Kansas.



■ Rob Hodgkinson

The machines ensure the integrity of elections by allowing voters to inspect and verify a personalized and permanent record of their ballot before it is cast. They allow for meaningful and reliable recounts. As Kansas Secretary of State, Hodgkinson states he will also insist that electronic voting equipment and software be open to public scrutiny and that random, surprise recounts be conducted on a regular basis to audit election equipment.

According to Hodgkinson’s campaign, Kansas voters also deserve a break from long, nasty campaigns that lower the level of public discourse and discourage participation. Hodgkinson is a proponent of election reform that reduces election timeframes.

To this end, he has proposed moving the candidate filing deadline back one month to July 10. His plan also includes provisions to move primaries from the first Tuesday in August to the second Tuesday in September. This would limit both primary and general election campaigns to about eight weeks each. According to Hodgkinson, this strategy provides the Republican and Democrat candidates less time to alienate the voters with ugly, mudslinging campaigns.

He is also an advocate for Instant Run-off voting.

Hodgkinson also serves as Kansas Libertarian Party State Chair, where he actively participated in the fight to secure personal property rights by opposing eminent domain abuses. He has advocated the elimination of the franchise tax.

“Such small business-friendly and ‘centrist’ stances are keeping the LP viable and visible to the legislature and to Kansas voters,” stated a campaign spokesperson. “Increasingly, those voters are

See KANSAS Page 7

Vermont fusion Libertarians win three out four primary races

BENJAMIN TODD AND JEFF MANNEY are running for Vermont State Representative seats on a Libertarian-Republican fusion ticket. As their races were uncontested, they easily won Tuesday’s Republican primary elections for their districts. Vermont’s other four LP fusion state representative candidates had to fight a bit harder, but still pulled off an impressive win/loss ratio.

Vermont Libertarian Party Chair Hardy Machia was responsible for recruiting most of the candidates and orchestrating the state representative campaigns. He stated that he is “very pleased with the showing of our candidates in the major parties’ primaries.”

Two of the winners were Bob Wolffe and David Atkinson in the Orange-Addison-1 district. According to the latest election returns, Atkinson won his race by one vote. Machia wasn’t merely coordinating campaigns; he was running in the Grand Isle-Chittenden-1-1 race himself – a race which he won.

“Running a fusion campaign as a Libertarian-Republican makes it easy to talk to Democratic and Independent voters who are very frustrated with the Republicans in DC, because I can empathize with them against the war in Iraq,

against out-of-control spending, and against infringements on our civil liberties,” Machia said. “The voters I talked to want to see change. They want the property taxes problem fixed.”

The Wolffe and Atkinson campaigns were assisted with GOTV calls from the national Libertarian Party’s Ballot Base. Machia felt confident enough about his potential to win his own race that he insisted the other candidates receive the priority for GOTV telephone calls.

The single defeat these Libertarian candidates took isn’t a complete loss. While Kevin Volz lost the Democratic primary in Rutland-5-4, he will still be on the ballot as a Libertarian in the November General Election.

In addition to their fusion candidates, the Vermont Libertarian Party will be running three more candidates for state representative positions on the Libertarian Party ticket: Thomas Carpenter, Jr. in Rutland-5-3, Andrew Thomas in Chittenden-3-8, and Don O’Donnell in Washington-6.

Recent polling has shown Libertarian candidates performing at higher than normal levels in multiple states and races around the country. In Vermont, the combination of voter discontent, an effective state strategy and the

Libertarian Party’s Ballot Base program was the deciding factor in this set of Libertarian victories.

“The incumbents have been ineffective and are not addressing voters’ concerns,” Machia said. “A lot of people are ready for change. It’s time to take the momentum from this win into the general election.”

The Vermont Libertarian Party is fielding candidates for fifteen faces this year.

- Ben Todd of Barton, State Representative, Orleans-Calendonia-1
- David Atkinson of Braintree, State Representative, Orange-Addison-1
- Hardy Machia of Grand Isle, State Representative, Grand Isle-Chittenden-1-1
- Don O’Donnell of Marshfield, State Representative, Washington-6
- Bob Wolffe of Randolph, State Representative, Orange-Addison-1
- Jeff Manney of Rutland, State Representative, Rutland-5-1
- Thomas Carpenter Jr. of Rutland, State Representative, Rutland-5-3
- Kevin Volz of Rutland, State Representative, Rutland-5-4
- Andrew Thomas of South Burlington, State Represent-

- tative, Chittenden-3-8
- Kelly Todd of Barton, State Senator, Essex-Orleans
- Milton C. DeGeorge Jr. of Island Pond, Probate Judge, Essex County
- Milton C. DeGeorge Jr. of Island Pond, High Bailiff, Essex County
- Dwight Duke of Marshfield, Sheriff, Washington County
- Don O’Donnell of Marshfield, Assistant Judge, Washington County
- Cindy Myrick of Bridport, Assistant Judge, Addison County

Candidate photographs and links to their websites are available at <http://www.vtlp.org/main/campaigns.asp>.

UPDATE: Richard Winger of *Ballot Access News* has just reported the following:

The Libertarian Party of Vermont nominated nine candidates on September 13, 2006. Seven were running for the legislature and two for local office. Four of them mailed their acceptance forms on the morning of September 14. The deadline for the Secretary of State to receive these forms was September 15. Normally, all intra-Vermont postal mail is delivered in one

See VERMONT Page 8

Implementing effective political strategies for Libertarian Party campaigns

by Stephen Gordon

“Politics are almost as exciting as war and quite as dangerous. In war you can only be killed once, but in politics, many times.” -- Winston Churchill

BECAUSE I’VE SPENT roughly one quarter of my life in the Army and one quarter of it as a political operative, I frequently use military analogies when providing advice to political candidates, speaking in public or teaching campaign management courses. In Ron Faucheux’s *Winning Elections: Political Campaign Management, Strategy and Tactics*, political consultant Thomas “Doc” Sweitzer wrote: “The first principle of war, according to Klaus von Clausewitz, is to ‘keep your forces concentrated in an overpowering mass.’ Put another way, concentrate your strength against an opponent’s weakness.”

Right now, the Republican

lines are stretched very thin, providing a number of vulnerable locations for a pinpointed Libertarian attack. As one example, leading conservative Richard Viguerie called on conservatives to no longer support the Republican Party in his new book *Conservatives Betrayed*.

“We will hold each party responsible and accountable for its actual conduct, not just its promises,” wrote Viguerie. “We will not be intimidated by the ‘lesser of two evils’ rationalization of transgressions against our liberties, but will demand positive accomplishments in restoring our liberties. And we will support only those political candidates and groups that advance liberty in a substantial and consistent manner.”

Viguerie isn’t the only fiscal conservative making such statements. In the opinion pages of the *Wall Street Journal*, Republican presidential speechwriter

Peggy Noonan wrote, “The Perot experience seemed to put an end to third-party fever. But I think it’s coming back, I think it’s going to grow, and I think the force behind it is unique in our history.”

Writer Ryan Sager and former Nixon White House counsel John Dean are also among the many Republican thought leaders attacking the GOP for reneging on their small government promises.

The Democrats are certainly poised to benefit from Republican failures, but many Americans can’t stomach the thought of actually voting for most Democratic candidates. Additionally, Democrats continue to suffer from a lack of unified command. Unity of Command is another of Sweitzer’s key campaign strategies.

One of the more effective tools in the Republican arsenal has been their 72-hour drive to get

out the vote. Using an online database tool called Voter Vault, they’ve been quite effective at getting their voters to the polls.

For months, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi and DNC Chairman Howard Dean have been fighting internal battles about Democratic GOTV strategy. It wasn’t until a few weeks ago that the Democrats finalized their plans – long after the competitive Libertarian Party project had completed its first trial runs.

The LP project, dubbed Ballot Base, is loosely based on the Republican Voter Vault, but contains many enhanced features. It enables callers to speak directly to voters using a prepared script for whatever purpose the Libertarian campaign has prioritized. In test runs, Ballot Base has already been used to increase name recognition for candidates and significantly increase vote totals with GOTV efforts. In many cases, specific messages can be

scripted by party affiliation, enabling our candidates to more efficiently target their message. Additionally, Ballot Base can be used in the political off-season for party organization and membership drives.

While the Republicans and Democrats have more money at their disposal than we do, they also have a lot more candidates. Having a lot of candidates combined with lines already stretched wire thin on some fronts makes it tougher to defend every mile of the battle line. Because we have fewer candidates, it is far easier for us to channel our energy into those races where we have the greatest likelihood of penetrating the enemy lines. By focusing on our stronger candidates, especially in areas of the greatest enemy vulnerability, we’ve got some unique opportunities this election cycle.

In order to help us focus on
See STRATEGY Page 10

The Libertarian National Committee heartily thanks the many contributors who made donations during the month of September. Special thanks are due to Charles Tolman, Kelley L. Ross, Vince Hanke, Alicia Mattson, Gordon Ellis, and Edward E. Clark.

Additionally, the members and staff of the Libertarian National Committee specifically and sincerely thank Dr. James W. Lark III for his most generous donation and for “coming through” yet again during a time of need.

Kansas candidates with lofty goals

Continued from Page 6

starting to see the LP as a good choice on Election Day.”

This election is a ballot access race for the Kansas Libertarian Party and holds the potential to be a landmark event in the history of the state party. While Kansas is one of the easiest states to stay on the ballot, only requiring one percent of the vote in a statewide race, the Kansas party has higher goals for this campaign. Rob and LP State Insurance Commissioner candidate Patrick Wilbur are

using the 2006 campaign as a stepping-stone to the 2010 statewide elections.

“We are intent on achieving major party status, which requires five percent of the vote in the Kansas Governor/Lt. Governor tag team race,” Hodgkinson said. “In 2006, Patrick and I have set a high bar. Our goal is to win more than ten percent of the vote – something no statewide LP candidate has achieved to date. We believe this is within reach even with a Reform Party

candidate on the ballot. There is a very serious undercurrent of discontent with both the Democrats and Republicans in Kansas. As we talk to people, the LP is very much an option for the voters in Kansas. Our campaign is traveling to over 70 towns in Kansas and meeting the people and the media. Obviously, we are taking the opportunity to educate voters on the Libertarian Party and its policy stances. We are excited see the hard work translate into increased

vote totals this November.”

Hodgkinson is a small business owner. His company, Win-Dura, specializes in wood repair and replacement windows. Prior to that, he spent seven years working in various capacities in the Information Technology field.

Hodgkinson joined the Libertarian Party in 1999 inspired by Harry Browne’s presidential candidacy. According to Hodgkinson, the Browne campaign opened his eyes to libertarian

philosophy and he has been active in the Kansas Libertarian Party ever since. Before his campaign for Secretary of State, Rob ran for the Kansas House in 1990, 2002, and 2004.

He is a fifth-generation Kansan, born in 1959 in Pratt, Kansas. Hodgkinson has lived in the Johnson County area for the past twenty-two years and has been married to his wife Andrea for twenty years. His hobbies include gardening, hunting, fishing and reading.

AFFILIATE NEWS

CALIFORNIA:

Russo endorses Olivier

HELENE NIGHTINGALE, the campaign manager for Art Olivier's gubernatorial race in California reports an exciting new endorsement in the race. According to Nightingale, when she asked for Russo's endorsement, Russo simply stated, "Yes, I agree with him."

Olivier has also received supportive statements or endorsements from Jim Gilchrist, radio host John Ziegler, homeless activist Ted Hayes, Republican Central Committee Member Marvin Stewart, Vice President of the California Black Republican Keith Hardin and former state Assemblyman Phil Hawkins.



■ Aaron Russo (left) with Art Olivier (right) holding a poster advertising Russo's latest movie

COLORADO:

Perhaps the Republican should withdraw

DANIEL ONG is the Libertarian candidate running for University of Colorado Regent. CU Regent Steve Bosley and Republican candidate Brian Davidson asked that Ong withdraw from the race so as not to hinder a Republican victory.

"They just came out and asked," Ong said.

The Longmont Daily Times-Call provides the reason why:

"Ong ran for one of the board's statewide seats two years ago and lost to Bosley in a three-way race. But that contest was extremely close between Republican Bosley and his Democratic challenger, Jennifer Mello. He won the contest by about 10,600 votes over Mello in a race with more than 1.8 million ballots, while Ong tallied about 80,000 of those. Many in political circles believe that voters who will cast

ballots for a Libertarian candidate will select a Republican if there is no Libertarian running, so Ong's chunk of the ballots could have put Bosley's election on much firmer ground."

According to Ong, perhaps it's the Republican who should consider withdrawing so as not to hinder a Libertarian victory.

ILLINOIS:

Williams challenges Jesse Jackson, Jr. for having feet in two races

ACCORDING TO THE ILLINOIS LIBERTARIAN CANDIDATE for Illinois' Second Congressional District, incumbent Democrat Jesse Jackson, Jr. has no record of achievement in the approximately twelve years he's held public office. "Jackson is not campaigning and using a smoke-screen method of pretense that he is going to run for the Mayor of the City of Chicago," Rev. Anthony Williams stated in an e-mail to LP News.

When the *Chicago Tribune* reported that Jackson was intending to run for mayor immediately following his congressional race, it also reported this statement from Rev.



■ Reverend Williams

Ollie Carter: "For a guy to have one foot in the 2nd Congressional District and to put one foot in the mayoral office is a bunch of crock."

Williams has been the pastor of the historical St. Stephens Lutheran Church for ten years. He is credited with establishing the Ryan Harris Memorial Park

and serves with the White House Commission for Katrina Relief Efforts and the Chicago Police Public Relations Forum. He is an advocate for African-American businesses, contractors, and community empowerment. He is married and the father of four children and is a graduate of Bishop College in Dallas, Texas and of the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago, Illinois.

Williams has received significant national media and has a website at www.voteanthonywilliams.com.

INDIANA:

Family photo-op

PICTURED ARE FOUR GENERATIONS of the Bell family, along with some other Hoosier Libertarians, who took part in the Hagerstown Indiana Parade this year.

In the photograph are (front row) Abby Bell and Audry, Susan



■ The (extended) Bell family

Bell, Emily Beechler, Michael Bell and Karen Miller. (back row) Brooke Bell, Jon Bell (District 56 candidate), Jeff Beechler and Hannah, Phyllis and Myron Bell, Ray Blevins, Conley Tillson (Clay Township Advisory Board candidate), Rex Bell, (District 54 candidate), and Jamie Stout.

NEW YORK:

Both LP candidate and Statue of Liberty will be on the ballot

NEW YORK LIBERTARIAN PARTY CHAIR RICHARD COOPER announced that all New York voters will now be able to choose a Libertarian alternative to the candidates running from other parties. The Libertarian Party filed over 21,300 signatures on petitions and needed a minimum of 15,000.

An official objection was filed

claiming that the Libertarian ballot emblem of the Statute of Liberty resembled the Conservative Party's hand holding a torch aloft. The claim was that the similarity of the two emblems would confuse voters.

Christopher Garvey, the Libertarian candidate for Attorney-General, defended the use of the party symbol. The Board of Elections ruled in favor of the Libertarian Party.

"Voters will now have the power to remove the parasitic Empire State from the lives of New Yorkers by voting Libertarian," declared Cooper.

The Libertarian statewide ticket offers Jeffrey Russell for US Senate, John Clifton for Governor, Donald Silberger for Lt. Governor, John Cain for Comptroller and Christopher Garvey for Attorney-General.

Clifton is replacing former Massachusetts Governor Bill Weld on the ticket as the LP gubernatorial candidate.

TEXAS:

Effective outreach in the Dallas area

THE COLLIN COUNTY LIBERTARIAN PARTY was a sponsor of the recent Plano Balloon Festival. County chairman Michelle Shinghal and US congressional candidate (District 3) Chris Claytor reported that it was a very successful event.

"Claytor worked tirelessly from open until close every day of the festival," according to Shinghal. "Rain on Saturday couldn't dampen Chris's excitement and that is a good thing - Sunday was



■ Collin County Libertarians in action

jammin'."

While Republicans and Democrats were also in attendance, the Libertarian Party booth seemed to be the most popular. There were so many people taking the World's Smallest Quiz that at one point they could not get to the board to chart the results.

They administered the test to 523 people and 138 of them left contact information. Almost everybody the Libertarians talked to said they would consider voting libertarian this year. While he's not even in a neighboring district, Shinghal also reported that many of the attendees were quite enthusiastic about Bob Smither's race in the Houston area.

Vermont Libertarians win some primaries

Continued from Page 6

day. However, in this case, none of the forms filed by the four arrived until September 16, and the Secretary of State is taking a hard-line position and denying them ballot access.

Three other Libertarians running for the legislature did not have deadline problems. They include two with the label "Libertarian, Republican" and one with the label "Libertarian". Among the four legislative candidates who are being denied ballot status, three will still be on the ballot, but as "Republican" instead of the desired label "Libertarian, Republican".

The Libertarian Party will continue to be a ballot-qualified party in Vermont. Vermont determines party status by whether it is organized in 10 towns, not on how many votes it polls or how many candidates it runs.

The Libertarian National Committee welcomes our newest members*

Life Members:

Eric J. Fier

Patrons:

Kenneth H. Christensen

Sponsors:

Wendy Day
Shannon Wilde

Supporting Members:

Daniel Abercrombie
Cameron W. Church
Tom Cooney
Patrick Dickey
Caitlin Kilkka
Kevin Kokernak
Justin Lambert
Von Lennox
Jason Miller
Denise Prock
Myrna Richmond
Jennifer Schroeder
John Stritch
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Paul Blackwell
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Frank Chirico
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Vacca Christopher
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Ryan Craig
Bradley Crandall
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Seth Hobson
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Ian Johnston
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Susan Kalliantas
Andy Keels
Gregory Kells
Elizabeth Kelly
Daniel Kennedy
Harry Ketter
Robert Kight
Cody Kingham
Jesse R. Kirchhoff
Allison Klem
Kathryn Knowlton
Austin Kolar
Matthew Kurtz
Justin Lafitte
Ryan Landkford
Brianna Lason
Alex Lawson
Matt Leasure
William Lent
Karla Lindquist
Benjamin Lipham
Todd Litteken
Robert Logan
Robert Loman
Chris Lundgreen
Jason Mallet
Jason Mancine
Christopher Mann
Laurie Amanda Manus
Eric Mark
Justin Marler
Ruth Ann Marshal
Nikolas Matt
Joseph Mattie

Daniel Maxwell
Marshall McCart
Kristina McClure
David McDaniel
Angela McGahen
Jeremy McVay
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Merlin Moncure
David Mrsich
Bradley Muehlemann
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Michael Perry
Matthew Philippe
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Rick Pickren
Benjamin Pinter
Thomas Powell
Eric Poznanski
Michael Prill
Scott Puff
Kristen Rallens
John Reece
Leo Repko
John Richardson
Jacob Ritchey
Jack Rivers
Adam Robinson
Philip Ross
Christopher Sanford
Edward Sawchek
Joshua Schuyler
Christopher Scott
Deanna Seglem
Michael Sekel Church
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Jacob Showalter
Julian Sims
Jessica Slusher
Andrea Smith
chris Smith
John Smith
Pierce Smith
Brandyn Sorrells
Harry Springle
Brittany Standley
Randy Stevens
Allen Straub
David Swann
Merrilyn Sweet
Amanda Tailford
Ej Thiele
Christopher Thomason
Julia Thompson
Daniel Turbyfill
Henry Turcker
Russell Turner
Brittany Turner
Candace Turpin
Jeffrey Underwood
James Urban
Michelle Varnell
Ronald Walden
Sara Watson
Edward Webber
Jordan Weikel
Kelly Weimer
David Weller
Stephanie Wells
Casey White
Troy Wilson
Jeff Wilson
Joseph Winslow
Matthew Wolke
William Yazel
Gray Young
Bryan Young

* new memberships from September 1 to September 21, 2006

Mr. Smither goes to Washington?

Continued from Page 4

though some Republicans were insinuating that voters could simply type in “SSG” and the vote would be counted based on a fuzzy concept of “voter intent.”

Not so, reports Chris Elam, a local blogger in CD-22. The Harris County Clerk’s office, which oversees ballot tabulation in the largest part of the district, informed the Gibbs campaign that “SSG” will not count as a vote – only minor misspellings and variations upon Sekula-Gibbs’ name are accepted.

Embattled GOP Governor Rick Perry, who is only polling 35% against four other challengers in his reelection effort, attempted to come to Sekula-Gibbs’ assistance in early September. Perry called a Special Election to fill the remainder of DeLay’s term and announced it would be held concurrently with the General Election. This move allowed Sekula-Gibbs to appear on the ballot in the separate Special Election slot, thus giving voters a guide on how to

spell her cumbersome name on the General Election ballot.

Perry’s master stroke quickly backfired. Democrat Lampson announced he would not seek the Special Election term, thus denying Sekula-Gibbs the privilege of having her name listed along side his on either ballot. Meanwhile three other Republicans filed for the Special Election including Richardson and former GOP congressman Steve Stockman. The Special Election race will accordingly show four Republican candidates, no Democrats, and Libertarian Bob Smither, who now enjoys the unique advantage of being the only candidate on both ballots.

Polling Deception

During the first week of September, Sekula-Gibbs began circulating reports of a poll that supposedly showed her with a 46-35% lead over Lampson. According to campaign insiders,

this 11 point lead by a write-in candidate only a week into the race seemed too good to be true.

Smither’s campaign gained media attention again in mid-September when it obtained the actual wording of the Sekula-Gibbs poll. The question falsely implied that Sekula-Gibbs was on the ballot, and “intentionally excluded Smither from the choices offered to voters” as a Smither campaign news release indicated.

Bob Dunn of *Fort Bend Now* summed up the GOP poll accurately: “...as Smither has pointed out rather vociferously, Sekula-Gibbs isn’t on the ballot. Which pretty much makes those double-digit results moot.”

Looking forward to November

Smither remains optimistic in spite of the partisan antics of some in the GOP.

“Many Republicans in CD-22 – the voters themselves, not the

party elites – share in my platform of lower taxes. They can see through the campaign rhetoric and they know there’s only one choice to defeat Nick Lampson.”

When asked about the GOP leadership’s reaction, Smither said he was “disappointed” but not distressed.

“We’re pressing ahead to November, and we’re pressing ahead on the issues. For voters who want to defeat big government, the Libertarian Party is the only real choice in this race.”

Democrat Nick Lampson, a former congressman from a neighboring district, posted a solid tax-and-spend record during his previous tenure in Congress from 1997-2003. In his last term, he earned an 85 percent rating from Americans for Democratic Action and 90 percent from the National Committee for an Effective Congress – both self-described liberal lobbying organizations. Project Vote Smart similarly calculated Lampson’s support for expendi-

tures, in a single year, of \$4,200 for each man, woman, and child in our country.

Aside from Smither, Texans are faced with a choice between a high spending Democrat and a Republican write-in with a difficult to spell name. Of course, the recent Tom DeLay scandals will also weigh heavily on the minds of voters.

As Smither put it, “there’s a clear choice for voters to make, and it’s the only choice on the ballot. I will represent fiscal restraint and personal liberty. My opponent will represent special interests and unrestrained spending. Due to the unusual dynamics of this race, Mr. Lampson’s well positioned in a district that has traditionally opposed his governing philosophy.”

Smither indicated that his campaign represents the “only chance” CD-22 voters have to stop a Lampson victory. For more information, please visit www.BobSmither.org.

Implementing effective political strategies for Libertarian Party campaigns

Continued from Page 7

our stronger candidates, we’ve introduced Candidate Tracker. You can learn more about Candidate Tracker and our more viable campaigns by visiting www.LP.org/candidates or reading the related article on page one of this edition of *LP News*.

By combining Ballot Base with Candidate Tracker, we can begin employing the military and political strategy of Economy of Force, which Sweitzer defines as “using the fewest possible resources to keep the operation going while concentrating the bulk of resources on the objective.”

While Ballot Base can’t win an election by itself, it is perhaps the most important weapon the LP has added to its political arsenal since we first launched our website in the last decade. Anyone can make calls and they are effective. If you haven’t done so yet, please sign up at www.BallotBase.org so you can help our candidates engage our political enemies by speaking directly with voters at a personal level.

We have other weapons at our disposal, too. To begin, a fifth column is often instrumental in

warfare. The growing level of people dissatisfied with both political parties can add a significant number of supporters to our political army. A battalion of disaffected Republicans or Democrats here and a brigade of disgusted independents there can make a big difference in the outcome of a major political battle.

Another important tool we have at our disposal is the Internet. While the Republicans generally have more money, the Democrats seem to do better on the web. Sites like DailyKos.com have certainly changed the results of elections, including Joe Lieberman’s recent loss to Ned Lamont in Connecticut’s recent Democratic primary election.

Libertarians also maintain a very significant web presence. In general, libertarian sites and blogs are great at a widespread barrage of political messaging. While they cover a lot of ground, sometimes we inadvertently injure our own with friendly fire accidents. If you don’t already maintain a blog, I’d suggest it. They are easy to set up and they really do make a difference.

I’d like to offer a challenge

to some of the larger LP friendly blogs. As DailyKos has proven, focusing on certain candidates and encouraging people to get involved with volunteer activities or contributions helps to focus national energy into a more local race. We have fewer candidates than either of the major parties, so this should be a task at which we can excel. It would be nice to suddenly see some of our candidates receiving a lot of money from national sources before Election Day.

In military operations, control of the air isn’t enough to win the war – that takes troops on the ground. However, controlling the air makes a very significant difference in who eventually wins. Likewise, the Internet alone won’t win any political battle, but Libertarians are certainly competitive with respect to online warfare.

Something else is happening which will help us on future battle fields. In two recent court decisions, it has become easier for us to place candidates on the ballot. Both the Sixth and the Seventh United States Circuit Courts of Appeals have recently relaxed

certain ballot access provisions. This means, in some cases, our candidates won’t already be suffering from fatigue when they arrive on the front lines.

Recent polling data suggests that more and more people are less likely to vote for either major party than at any time in recent history. Other polls show some of our candidates receiving higher levels of support than in times past.

None of the weapons we have at our disposal are significant enough to turn the LP into a dominant political party this election cycle. We clearly need more weapons and a larger army. However, every inch of ground gained in 2006 will enable us to utilize the strategy of Strategic Maneuver more effectively in 2007 and 2008.

An army that has enough assets can simply swamp their opposition. However, the enemy lines are growing thinner and we now have a few precision weapons in our arsenal. While a nail can certainly inflict a greater wound than a straight pin, consider how much easier it is to prick one’s finger with a pin than with a nail.

We are already experienced at guerilla warfare. We are now field testing new weapons so we can augment our guerilla tactics with an increased level of organizational strategy. Perhaps 2006 will be marked as the year the LP advanced from pure guerilla warfare to a coordinated war of attrition strategy.

We rely on your help to make all this effort pay off. If you aren’t already, become involved with some local, state or national level Libertarian Party activity. You can help by making Ballot Base calls, blogging for candidates, or helping your local campaign pass out push cards and conduct other polling place activities on Election Day.

If there has ever been a time to get involved, this is it.

Miss your LP News?

Please give us a call at (202) 333-0008 so we can update your contact information or send you another copy.

Because of you, the word “Liberty” still means something.

The Libertarian National Committee thanks the following members for renewing their level of membership between September 1 and September 21, 2006:

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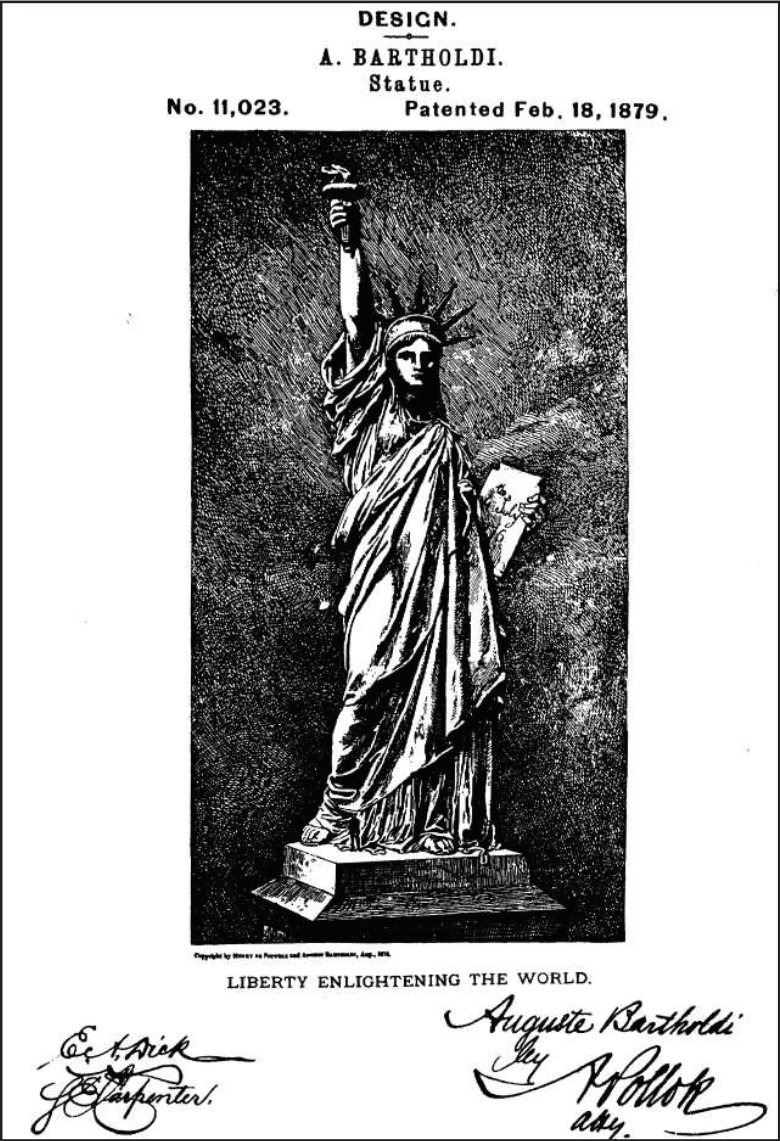
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UPCOMING

TODAY!

If you haven't done so already, please be sure to register at BallotBase.org today so you can be ready to help bring about unprecedented Libertarian vote totals during our 100 Hour GOTV Drive.

October 12, 2006

thinkLIBERTARIAN.com is proud to announce a benefit concert for the Libertarian Party of Georgia to be held at Smith's Olde Bar, October 12th. Local Atlanta bands have agreed to perform this show to raise money for Libertarian Party outreach projects.

"With access to the bands, a great venue, and the elections only a few weeks away, it seemed like a great idea." said Mark Augustyn, founder of the website thinkLIBERTARIAN.com. "Music has been an important part of every successful social and political movement; the Libertarian Party is no exception. Working with a 3rd party, money is always an issue. By bringing some great local bands together, on one of the city's best stages, while raising awareness of what the Libertarian Party stands for, this can only be a good thing for everyone involved.

To be held on Thursday, October 12, 2006 at Smith's Olde Bar (1578 Piedmont Avenue, Atlanta, GA, 404.875.1522), the show will feature performances by:

Whose House

The Lord Is My Shotgun

Alan Yates Band

Brainbox

King of Prussia

Doors will open at 7 p.m. The cover charge will be \$10 and 100 percent of proceeds from the concert will be donated to the Libertarian Party of Georgia.

November 3, 2006

Ballot Base 100 Hour GOTV Drive! Libertarians across the country will be making telephone calls to voters to help Libertarian campaigns. Please sign on at BallotBase.org to help LP candidates in our final hundred hour Get-Out-The-Vote push. With your help, our candidates can easily surpass previous vote totals!

November 7, 2006

Election Day! Please be sure to go out and vote for the Libertarian candidates in your area. If you've never done it before, this is also a good day to help with local Get-Out-The-Vote efforts or volunteer as a poll watcher or to help a campaign hold signs and pass out literature. If you aren't sure of who the candidates in your state are, please visit www.LP.org/candidates to find out.

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FIRST WORD

"Recent polls and focus group studies have indicated growing dissatisfaction with both major parties by many politically active Americans. At a time in which a self-described 'conservative' Republican president has overseen a greater percentage increase in federal spending than President Lyndon B. Johnson did and in which the power of the federal government to invade citizens' privacy has risen to unprecedented levels, such results are hardly surprising.

Still the questions remain. Will it matter at election time? Can Americans be persuaded to cast votes based on something more than party label and habit? Will the next two years witness, at long last, the rise of a truly viable third party – not one molded in the image of a wealthy egotist but one based on meaningful and substantive ideas? Will the 35-year-old Libertarian Party finally prove itself a party truly concerned with winning elections as opposed to defiantly championing issues that will never fit the description "mainstream?"

If the new management of the Libertarian Party has anything to say about it, the answer to those questions will be a resounding 'yes.' Newly elected party Chairman Bill Redpath, a 48-year-old financial consultant from Virginia, along with Executive Director Shane Cory and their management team, are recasting the Libertarian Party in the mold of a real political party for the first time in more than a generation.

Actions taken at the Libertarian Party's national convention in July in Portland, Oregon, show vividly how serious the Libertarians are about becoming a force in American politics." – former Congressman Bob Barr in the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*