

# Let Freedom Ring!

Volume 7 Number 2

Available electronically at [www.cmlc.org/cmlc/pubs.htm](http://www.cmlc.org/cmlc/pubs.htm)

February 2005

Let Freedom Ring: LNC Chair Effectively Opposes Badnarik Recount; Liberty for Massachusetts, SCLP Chair Speaks Out; LPMA State Committee Meets.....1 LPMA Social.....4; News From Pennsylvania.....4

Libertarian Strategy Gazette State Chairs Meet; Commitment to Local Victory is the Answer.....1

Let Freedom Ring/Libertarian Strategy Gazette are edited and published by George Phillips, 87-6 Park Avenue, Worcester MA 01605, who is solely responsible for the contents, for the Pioneer Valley Libertarian Association ([www.pvla.net](http://www.pvla.net)) and others. Subscriptions are available from the PVLA, c/o Carol McMahon, 221 Bumstead Road, Monson MA for \$15/year to Activists, \$20/year to others. Checks payable "PVLA", please.

## Editorial Salute!

To Bob Underwood, who singlehandedly translated *Stand Up for Liberty!* into Spanish. *Lucha Por tu Libertad* is now available in complete form on the CMLC web site [cmlc.org/cmlc/front18es.htm](http://cmlc.org/cmlc/front18es.htm)

## LNC Chair Opposes Badnarik Recount Effort

As many readers will have heard, Libertarian Presidential candidate Michael Badnarik joined with Green Party and other activists in requesting a recount to the Ohio Presidential election tally. The LP candidate provided standing to sue; Green Party supporters provided the bulk of the required money. The Badnarik-Cobb recount request is an important effort to ensure that future Ohio Presidential elections are conducted in an open, honest, democratic, verifiable manner.

[LNC Meets] (Continued on page 3)

## Liberty For Massachusetts

Massachusetts has a new statewide libertarian group, dedicated to moving Massachusetts in libertarian directions via lawful political activities. Meeting in Stoughton in early January, the Liberty for Massachusetts Organizing Committee approved to final proofreading stage the LfM Bylaws, and invited additional Libertarians from around Massachusetts to join the organizing committee. A partial list of LfM Organizing Committee members includes Bob Underwood, Shirley Underwood, Alvin See, Jonathan Lombardi, Rob Power, Doug Krick, and Peter Sheinfeld, with several other prominent libertarians around the Massachusetts considering invitations to join.

The Organizing Committee offered affiliation to the Pioneer Valley Libertarian Association, the Worcester County Libertarian Association, and the Cambridge City group now renamed Liberty for Eastern

[Liberty for Massachusetts] (Continued on page 3)

## SCLP Chair Speaks Out on Presidential Campaign

Chris Panos, State Chair of the Libertarian Party of South Carolina, addressed a letter to Libertarians nationwide. With respect to the Presidential campaign and related issues, Panos wrote on December 17 in a nationally circulated letter:

Dear Libertarians,

As you are probably already aware, our national officers have decided to distance themselves from Michael Badnarik's role in the Ohio recount. **See Badnarik's role in Ohio recount causes controversy within Libertarian Party**, by LP Communications Director, George Getz. In his article, Getz quotes National Chairman Michael Dixon as saying, "However, because no one anticipates that a recount will change the outcome in Ohio, the Libertarian Party prefers not to see taxpayer resources expended in this effort."

I strongly disagree with Dixon's comments and challenge his ability to lead our party any longer. Undoubtedly he believes that he is entitled to decide what the Libertarian Party likes and dislikes without a popular vote, which is a clear demonstration of a compromised leader with a

[SCLP Chair Speaks Out] (Continued on page 2)

## LPMA State Committee Meets

The Libertarian Party of Massachusetts State Committee held its quarterly meeting in January. The main item under consideration was the State Party budget. The National Party last sent us a readable list of members at the start of September; from available data we are down to about 400 members. National has been given a very long list of issues with "Raiser's Edge" data base outputs and has fixed a few of them. For the year 2004, the LPMA State Account raised \$555, and the Federal account raised \$13,475. A comparison with past years shows LPMA fundraising by year:

Year	State	Federal
2004	\$555	\$13,475
2003	\$1117.	\$46,850
2002	\$6610.	\$60,892
2001	*	\$77,883
2000	*	\$108,417.

\*not available on OCPF web pages

The budget for the next year was considered. The Financial committee did a good job of reporting what would happen if we stayed on current course. After estimating cuts, the budget was trimmed to

[LPMA State Committee Meets](Continued on page 4)

## Let Freedom Ring!

(Continued from page 1) [SCLP Chair Speaks]

grandiose self-perception. The Libertarian Party is to be the *Party of Principle*, yet when our 2004 presidential candidate decides to stand on principle, our national chairman cuts and runs. This is shameful to say the least, particularly when it is considered that the actions of Badnarik are not costing the Libertarian Party anything.

I have been deeply troubled by many of the decisions and overall conduct of the people whom we have charged to operate our national headquarters. I have reason to believe that they lack the intestinal fortitude and steady stewardship required to grow the Libertarian Party. Specifically, I question the judgment of *national* on the following points:

- (1) Switching to *Razor's Edge* in an election year
- (2) Switching to *Razor's Edge* was so untimely that two months prior to the election, South Carolina was unable to receive inquiries and monthly *dumps*
- (3) Not returning phone calls and e-mails of potential members
- (4) New SCLP members have told me that they first made inquiry on the national web site and received no response.
- (5) Pay bonuses have been awarded to people within the national headquarters apparatus even though their job performance has been poor. ... I am certain that left unchecked the current LP administration will at best barely keep our party afloat. More likely, they will squander our limited assets on pet technological projects that do little to help get a libertarian elected to a state house or senate seat. I need not remind you that as a party we haven't made much progress toward get libertarians elected to state congresses.

I share these concerns with you so that we can build bridges rather than walls. As a party, we cannot afford to be divided and we certainly cannot afford many mistakes. It's our future that is at stake here. We simply must establish transparency and accountability with the national level leadership. In short, we cannot let them run amuck. I welcome your thoughts and comments."

### Time to Run for Local Office

It's January. Over the next few months. Towns and cities across Massachusetts will be preparing for local elections and appointments to a wide number of municipal and regional boards and commissions. Now is your chance to participate in moving Massachusetts in a Libertarian direction. If you live in a large city, matters may be more difficult, but now is your chance to run for finance board, selectman, town meeting member, or city council. Even if you do not win, you can talk about frugality. As appropriate to your office: You can talk about t protects the property and liberties of its citizens. You can send the firm message that there are alternatives to the Republican War Party and the Democratic go-along party. Even if you don't run, you can take notes on what offices are on the ballot, to help future candidates. And in some places, the runnerup in the election gets the job if the incumbent leaves in mid-term.

### Web Pages:

Worcester [wcla.tripod.com](http://wcla.tripod.com)  
 Western Massachusetts [pvla.NET](http://pvla.NET)  
 America and the World [www.cmlc.org](http://www.cmlc.org) (Now in Spanish)

## On Presidential Campaigns

The preliminary report of the Badnarik for President committee is available on the web at [http:// www.CMLC.org](http://www.CMLC.org). I shall weigh in with my own suggestion. In selecting candidates for President and Vice President, many of the recent difficulties would be avoided if the party would insist on running people who had been active members of the party for at least a decade, who had participated actively in the previous presidential or some other substantial campaign in some significant way, and who had previously run for office themselves

The people who join the party and are immediately seized with the notion that they should be our presidential candidate should without exception be sent on their way I am including not only the eccentrics but also the "celebrity candidate" who is running based on the belief that a prior career as a famous person of some sort qualifies them to be a presidential candidate. For starters, you always have to worry to what extent these people support libertarian ideas.

Under current conditions, it is realistic to insist that the candidates for President and Vice President be able to answer coherent questions about their campaign organization, their campaign staff, and their plans for raising money. A candidate who has had no interest in his own campaign organization, no interest in fund raising, and who talks about libertarian ideas but not how to do a libertarian campaign, should not be taken seriously.

There should be a serious effort by libertarian activists who are not part of the campaign teams to vet the records of possible candidates. Any candidate should be able to explain clearly and verifiably where she spent her time starting when she was in college. If the candidate has published a book, made a motion picture, worked on a public speaking tour, or the like, there should be a serious examination of what the candidate actually said. People who rant about sovereign citizens, the invalidity of the income tax amendment ratification, et cetera, should be sent on their way.

For example many libertarians are firmly convinced that there was a media blackout against our candidates Libertarians across the United States should consider the performance of Keene, New Hampshire libertarians in studying how to set up their own newspapers and electronic news outlets. Rather than complaining that someone else's newspaper did not cover our candidate, we would be better off to establish our party's own press outlets. Fox News is so effective because it spends all its time covering legitimate important political and economic news, rather than obscure murder cases, actors, gladiatorial events, and other items that will not influence the political future of the United States. A libertarian press outlet can do the same thing and be just as effective for our cause.

### Now Available in Paperback

George Phillipies' books *Stand Up for Liberty!* on the Local Organization Strategy for the Libertarian Party, and *Funding Liberty* on the 1996-2000 Presidential campaign anomalies, are now available in paperback and ebook format.  
**For more information <http://www.3mpub.com/phillies>**

(Continued from page 1) [Badnarik-Cobb Recount Effort]

Let Freedom Ring has confirmed that LNC National Chair Michael Dixon stated to the press "The National Libertarian Party was unaware of this lawsuit until after it was filed, and no party funds have been spent in the effort...Mr. Badnarik and many other principled individuals are making a well-intentioned effort to protect the integrity of the voting process...However, because no one anticipates that a recount will change the outcome in Ohio, the Libertarian Party prefers not to see taxpayer resources expended in this effort." Recounts are paid for with taxpayer funds.

Vice Chair Lee Wrights opined: "The quote attributed to Michael Dixon is not an accurate summary of the sentiments of everyone in the party, in my opinion, and may not have accurately reflected what Dixon meant by his personal statement."

LP of Northeast Ohio Chair David Macko, in a public "Response to National LP Statement Declaring Neutrality in the Ohio Vote Recount" wrote: The taxpayer money issue is a Republican red herring. As an Ohioan I can assure you that our governor, to whom we refer as Bob Shaft and the Republican legislature squander that amount of money every hour, or worse yet, use it to rob us of more of our liberties. If there is any legitimate function of representative government, it is to conduct honest elections. Also, we should not be blamed if the politicians and bureaucrats failed miserably in their duty and have to follow the law and have a recount. Our presidential candidate Michael Badnarik's bold, brilliant leadership initiative was providing us with much more publicity (favorable, unlike the unfortunate candidate who self-medicating and turned his skin blue, the proselytizing Druid or other controversial issues manufactured or magnified by our enemies,) than we had received during the entire establishment media blackout during the campaign.

It was also providing us outreach opportunities to those outside the Party who oppose Bush, his unconstitutional, counterproductive war based on lies and his planned police state. Unfortunately, these opportunities are being stifled by the declarations of neutrality by the National and State parties.

See for example [http://www.americanfreepress.net/html/battleground\\_ohio.html](http://www.americanfreepress.net/html/battleground_ohio.html) Battleground Ohio by Ken Hoops in the current issue of The American Free Press, which gave us better coverage before the election than certain libertarian publications.

This brilliant Badnarik initiative offers us the opportunity of discrediting our enemy, Ohio Secretary of State, J. Kenneth Blackwell, election supervisor and Bush Campaign Chairman, who twice ruled us off the ballot with malice aforethought. Finally, if the drive reached its optimum goal, Kerry would enter the White House under conditions which would practically guarantee gridlock for the next four years. If you have any Democrat friends, remind them that this effort would not be taking place without Michael Badnarik. This will certainly help us all in 2008. I ask all of you, where is there any conceivable downside in this effort?

Dante said that the hottest places in Hell are reserved for those who, in times of moral crisis, maintain a position of neutrality. I hope that you will reconsider your position and help us continue our outreach efforts in a more vigorous fashion. For life, liberty and honest elections, David Macko Chairman, Libertarian Party of Northeast Ohio Volunteer Vote Recount Witness in Cuyahoga County

(Continued from page 1) [Liberty for Massachusetts]

Massachusetts. The PVLA, WCLA, and LfEM have provisionally accepted the offers. A web page <http://www.libertyfor-massachusetts.org> is in the process of being opened.

Liberty for Massachusetts plans to:

1. Recruit candidates and help libertarians to run for office;
2. Organize and support local and topical libertarian groups;
3. Perform non-electoral political acts, e.g., referenda, lobbying, and litigation;
4. Recruit members; help them to do politics;
5. Educate the public on libertarian political directions;
6. Create circumstances favorable to attaining the Organization's Objective, as by creating politically-effective legally-independent PACs, 527 organizations, and nonprofit or for-profit organizations;
7. Raise and spend money to do its work;
8. Provide an organizational structure focused on doing real politics; and
9. Perform needed internal operations.

In short, Liberty for Massachusetts intends to work to move Massachusetts in the Libertarian political directions, which include "smaller government, lower taxes, less intrusive laws and regulations, increased individual freedom, and equality before the law." Liberty for Massachusetts seeks to build an energetic, growing libertarian political structure across Massachusetts, with the intent of using lawful political means to advance forward to freedom.

Liberty for Massachusetts is focused on doing real, positive political work, such as local organizing, supporting libertarians in running for election, other political action such as referenda and public policy questions, membership, outreach and education, and fundraising through LfM and its PACs and 527 organizations. Liberty for Massachusetts is already in contact with libertarians around Massachusetts who want to run for office this year. LfM activities are open to all libertarian-leaning friends who want to work in a positive way on constructive projects.

The work of Liberty for Massachusetts will be facilitated by a Mutual Aid Committee, composed of officers (Political Facilitator, Operations Facilitator, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Editor, and Chair) elected for one-year terms, and regional representatives, two per region elected for staggered two-year terms.

To ensure that all members are equally and fairly represented in running the organization, LfM will elect all officers via mail ballot of all members, with all candidates and supporters equally able to campaign for election. Organization stability is promised by Bylaws providing that bylaw amendments are made by the entire membership, after mature consideration, and "**Competitive Market of Ideas**. In order to maintain open and honest competition in the marketplace of ideas, Liberty for Massachusetts may not be merged into another group.", which requires a 7/8 vote of the entire membership to change.

Draft Bylaws and information on Liberty for Massachusetts are also available from this newsletter, 87-6 Park Avenue, Worcester MA 01605. (508 754 1859 [phillies@4liberty.net](mailto:phillies@4liberty.net))

## Let Freedom Ring!

about \$14,000, the largest expense being \$4,500 for the newsletter and around \$4000-5000 for the state convention. [The latter number is somewhat variable, because most of it is fixed by attendance; the State Convention is planned to be self-supporting. Other substantial expenses are an 800 number, a web site, bank fees, credit card fees, stationary, and prospecting ; some money was left for local candidate support. Carla Howell and Carol McMahon identified a series of points at which it seemed likely we can get equal service at a far lower price.

## LPMA Social

At the home of Stephanie Woiciechowski and RJ. February the 12th at 2 PM, Milford, Massachusetts. We will do a potluck, BYOB, and have board games for adults and kids - kids are very welcome!! please RSVP with what you're bringing :) Directions: we are now in Milford at 4 Carp Road. From 495, take exit 19 (route 109). if you are taking 495 south, take a left at the end of the ramp to get on 109 east. if you are taking 495 north, take a right at the end of the ramp to get on 109 east. Immediately after 495, take your 1st left on to Trettle drive (there are a bunch of no u-turn signs and residents only signs). If you miss Trettle, take the next left onto Victor drive and the rest of the directions still work. At the end of the road, take a right onto Ferguson. Take your first left onto Carp. We are the 2nd house on the left - beige and brick, #4. You can park in the driveway or on the road. Phone #: 508.381.3002 We're looking forward to seeing everyone! :)

## News from Pennsylvania

Tom Crowley writes us about their latest State Committee meeting:

The state party meeting was very productive. We passed the A,B,C nomenclature for the different counties. The LPPa State convention will most likely be in Harrisburg on the weekend of April 29th to May 1st. Barry Dively works at the Harrisburg Hilton (same place as last year's) so he is getting a discounted rate. They needed an 'entity' to sign the paperwork. Russ Diamond volunteered to do it, and his committee includes Dauphin, Cumberland, Russ, and Ellen Blickman, who works as an events planner.

National's dues are still at \$25 but they may go to \$50 next year. [Editor: We understand that this may be up for a vote at the Portland meeting.] \$50 was narrowly defeated. An increase would make the LPPa dues a much better value, IMO. Fundraising, membership increases and county growth are being worked on, but they should be better coordinated.

The Pittsburgh area has a special election this winter. Also mayor of Pittsburgh. Same person will run, but probably as an Independent. Start exploratory committees to give you more time to get campaign staffs off the ground.

York, Lebanon, Dauphin and Cumberland want to form the Capital Area Libertarians. Also Schuylkill, Carbon, Bucks, Perry, Fayette, Westmoreland and Indiana Counties are starting to organize committees.

The County Organizing Manual: This is a 200 page book on how to organize a Libertarian county chapter. It covers everything. In fact, it covers too many things. But it is a good resource. Just click around and it will give you some good ideas. But don't get intimidated by it's length. Just leaf through it from time to time. [http://www.lppa.org/docs/org\\_man/](http://www.lppa.org/docs/org_man/)

Idea: Use meetup.com to organize campaign events.

LPPa membership letter got 60 renewals and \$2,000. They will do another one very soon. The membership committee should deal with renewals instead of the Treasurer. LPPa will try to work with other third parties on ballot access in 2005. They seem receptive.

Art Farnsworth is not seeking the nomination for Treasurer again. LibPenn wants to do two issues between now and the state convention, the end of January, and a few weeks before the convention. Bill Keslar is Editor and he is LPPa Secretary.

LPPa may have to file BCRA reports because they ran the ballot drive in Pennsylvania this year. The ballot drive handled over \$25K, so BCRA may kick in. The Web site will be overhauled. There will be new content. The maintainers will look at the best LP state web sites and get ideas. . There are also many good ideas on LP candidates' web sites. Also the web staff will set up a [media@lppa.org](mailto:media@lppa.org) email address for press releases.

Russ Diamond is now chair of the press releases. Ron Goodman is still on the committee helping. They are looking for ideas for releases. Submit articles for LibPenn articles to [secretary@lppa.org](mailto:secretary@lppa.org) Bill Keslar.

## Show Your Liberty Spirit!

Become

[yourname@4liberty.net](mailto:yourname@4liberty.net)

Now \$14/month

for Libertarians

[excell.net/excellnet\\_national-dialups.htm](http://excell.net/excellnet_national-dialups.htm)

Dialup in most states and Canada.

**Libertarian Owned  
Libertarian Operated  
Supporters of the  
Pioneer Valley  
Libertarian Association**