

Let Freedom Ring!

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On the Web cmlc.org/letfreedomring.htm
Electronic Poll National Chair Campaign: <http://www.smallgov.org>

March 2006

Let Freedom Ring: LPMA Continues Decline, Underwood Launches State Representative Campaign, Phillies Launches National Chair Campaign, Redpath Launches National Chair Campaign.....1 Good News.....6

Libertarian Strategy Gazette is not published this month. The Editor just purchased a house.

Let Freedom Ring! and Libertarian Strategy Gazette are edited and published by George Phillies, 48 Hancock Hill Drive, Worcester MA 01602, who is solely responsible for the contents, for the Pioneer Valley Libertarian Association (www.pvla.net) and Liberty for Massachusetts (www.LibertyForMassachusetts.org). 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".

LPMA Continues Decline Membership, Income Both Down National Party Also Lags

Libertarian Party of Massachusetts income continues on its long decline. The State and Federal accounts between them raised \$11,280 in 2005, down from the \$14,030 raised in 2004 or the \$47,957 raised in 2003, let alone the \$108,000 raised in 2000. In February 2005 LPMA membership was over 400; at the end of 2005, it was down

LPMA	Income	
Year	State	Federal
2005	\$400	\$10,880
2004	\$555	\$13,475
2003	\$1117	\$46,850
2002	\$6610	\$60,892
2001	*	\$77,883
2000	*	\$108,417.

to 333. Some of the difference between 2004 and 2005 income may be accounted for by UMP pay-

[National Party Challenges] (Continued on page 6)

Underwood Launches State Representative Campaign

Long-time PVLA Member Robert Underwood of Springfield has launched a campaign to be elected to the state legislature. Underwood last year ran for City Council last year, and has name recognition in his district. He writes on his issues:

Every law has a cost. Bureaucrats must be hired to enforce it. Courts and police may require more personnel to enforce it. If the new law results in people going to jail it is especially lucrative. It also gets the legislators on the stage and does not require than anyone do anything that works. Various driving laws for example are passed year after year about everything from driver education to drunk driving. But these laws do nothing about the people who willfully drive to endanger. The Republicrats do not want to talk about that because their program is a failure.

I would only support laws that actually do something useful. That means I would not support re-

[Underwood Campaign] (Continued on page 4)

Phillies Launches National Chair Campaign Organize Locally for Victory

We should have reached the Libertarian Party's golden moment.

Look at the political environment:

- * aggressive war on Iraq
- * Patriot Act
- * warrantless wiretaps
- * spiraling budget deficits
- * a Federal budget bloating faster than under LBJ
- * detention without trial
- * No Child Left Behind
- * Democrats for a bigger army
- * Kelo: your house belongs to whoever bribed your city council most recently
- * A police state at every airport

Our Libertarian solutions are made perfectly for the problems that frighten Americans.

[Phillies Statement] (Continued on page 2)

Redpath Launches National Chair Campaign

What the National Party Needs

The Libertarian Party, more than anything else, needs three things, and should focus on them:

1. Candidates—There are scores of libertarian organizations, but only one runs candidates for office: The Libertarian Party. That is how we differentiate ourselves from other libertarian organizations. Our candidates are our product. We need as many candidates for public office as possible, at all levels of government. With candidates, we are at least theoretically in the political "game". But, we also need...

2. Money, the "Mother's Milk of Politics." Money is needed to get our candidates on the ballot in many circumstances and to run the best campaigns possible once our candidates are on the ballot. But, in order to become electable to other than minor political offices, we need...

3. Electoral Reform. We need to work with all

[Redpath Statement] (Continued on page 3)

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(Continued from page 1) [Phillies Statement]

Americans are investing their names and their money in politics. After 9/11, ACLU membership doubled. ACLU fundraising skyrocketed. Republican and Democratic National Committee fundraising went through the roof. Median Republican and Democratic Congressional challengers, end of 2005, had 4 or 5 times as much cash on hand as their 2003 counterparts.

Where are we?

Last year, national party membership fell by 30%. Fundraising is down to levels not seen for the past decade. A core element of the party's long-term financial strategy, namely dues, went away, with no coherent plan for its replacement. In fact, there was no coherent plan as to how LP News would be sold or distributed to members.

We were the first political party on the web; our web pages are largely missing. The Minutes are gone. The Success 99 documents are gone. I was asked by the LNC to do a report explaining how our Presidential ballot access campaign spent money. I discovered the LNC has almost no orthodox financial records: There was no paper trail of who requested which ballot access expenditure or why.

It's time for a change

If we keep doing what we've done recently, the National Party will soon cease to exist except as a paper shell.

It's time for a change.

I've run for National Chair before. My positions are a matter of record. I wrote a book on what we should do: Stand Up for Liberty is available in html format at <http://www.cmlc.org> and as a trade paperback from Third Millennium <http://3mpub.com/phillies>.

There are things that we should be doing. You can help:

Elect me as National Chair, your party's CEO, and I will try to see that those things take place. If you elect a new LNC, composed of people willing and able to do work for the party, you will be taking a further positive step toward rebuilding our party. If you re-elect the current LNC, under which party membership has fallen 30% and income has fallen 50%, progress will be difficult.

Why should you believe that I can get things done? See the end of the article for my record.

What should our National Party do?

Support Candidates: The Libertarian Party should vigorously support libertarians who run for public office. My PAC's Candidate Support Disk, available since 2004, shows how we could have been doing this for years. Candidate support includes raising money.

Ballot Access: Ideally, in every race, every voter should have a

chance to Vote Libertarian! The National Party can help. The National Party should work vigorously to ensure its Presidential candidate is on the ballot in all 50 states. If elected National Chair, I will urge the LNC to make Presidential and other ballot access a top priority for our party.

Incite and support activism: The party newsletter and web pages should vigorously encourage libertarians to be active in politics. They should supply extensive material on how to do activism, how to find your fellow activists, and actual projects of local activists. If elected National Chair, I will ensure that LP News vigorously and effectively supports activism.

Educate the Public: The Libertarian Party should conduct a vigorous campaign for libertarian stands on issues of public interest. Topical web pages like Defend Your Privacy are an effective approach. If elected National Chair, I will see we do our best to reach the public.

Establish Affinity Groups: Other parties are surrounded by affinity groups and think tanks like the NRA, NARAL, and CATO, groups nominally nonpartisan that routinely support candidates of particular affiliations. The Libertarian Party needs similar support. If elected National Chair, I will vigorously support affinity group formation.

Lobby and Press Presence: Our expensive Washington DC presence lets us hold press conferences, interact with the real press at other events, and lobby Congress. As National Chair, I will strive to take advantage of the circumstances for which we have already paid.

Back office operations. We should mind our store:

1. We should have a solid set of financial records, so that when the LNC asks why our money was spent, and on whose say-so, we can find the answer. At the present time, we cannot do this. As National Chair I will ensure we have sound financial records.

2. "Project-based funding" should be fixed. Under project-based funding, money is collected for a project, with spending limited to what was raised. Our 2004 project-based ballot-access campaign went grossly into debt because its accounting controls failed. It spent far more than it raised. As National Chair I will see that LNC votes on spending are carried out.

3. We should honor our donors' intents. When money is collected for a project, it should be spent on that project, not on general operations. Our National Treasurer is justly concerned that we are not doing this. As National Chair, I will see that when we raise money for a project, we spend it on the project.

4. Serious boards have a committee structure. They have groups of members who focus on key operations, such as candidate recruitment and support, ballot access, outreach and

Now Available in Paperback

George Phillies' 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 2) [Phillies Statement]

advertising, affinity groups, lobby and press presence, and audit and compliance.

It's time for a change.

To State Chairs: How often have you been phoned by the National Chair? Elect me Chair, and I'll call regularly to listen to you. As Russo and then Badnarik national volunteer coordinator, I called every state coordinator regularly. As National Chair I'll keep in touch with you.

It's time for a change. Elect me, and elect a new LNC.

A Record of Achievement:

Wrote books Stand Up for Liberty on national party strategy and Funding Liberty on spending by our political campaigns.

Since 2000, published Let Freedom Ring! covering Libertarian Party news from coast to coast. Assembled and published the Libertarian Party Candidate Support Disk, with a vast array of materials for building better political campaigns.

National Volunteer Coordinator for the Russo and Badnarik campaigns. Found and assisted state coordinators in most states for each campaign. Treasurer, McMahon and Underwood State Legislative campaigns. Ran for Congress, 1998. Since 2002, published Libertarian Strategy Gazette on campaign techniques, approaches, and methods. Co-founder Pioneer Valley Libertarian Association, the oldest continuously existing Libertarian organization in Massachusetts.

Co-founder and Political Facilitator of Liberty for Massachusetts, a Massachusetts statewide activist group. Elected members, State Committee, LP of Massachusetts. Treasurer of Libertarian Federal and State PACs. Principal Officer of Freedom Ballot Access, which in 2004 raised \$18,000 for ballot access.

Stand Up for Liberty!

Funding Liberty

George Phillies' books on our Party's strategy and history

New! Now in trade paperback format!

Also available in e-book
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(Continued from page 1) [Redpath Statement]

allies on this issue to bring proportional voting to legislative bodies and institute Instant Runoff Voting for single winner elections. With IRV, we will eliminate the "wasted vote syndrome" that plagues all third parties, and with proportional voting for city and county councils, state legislatures and Congress, our candidates will become electable and the LP will become a force in US politics.

THE LP IS A POLITICAL PARTY. WE NEED A POLITICAL DIRECTOR IN THE NATIONAL OFFICE

The LP National Office has not had a Political Director since Ron Crickenberger. We need a full-time National Office employee whose focus is working with our state parties and our presidential tickets to help them achieve ballot access and a high number of candidates. Without a Political Director, the LP had about 100 fewer candidates for US House of Representatives in 2004 than we did in 2000 and 2002. (Without the national LP Ballot Access Project, we would have been down about 140 candidates.) There is always ballot access legislation to lobby for, ballot access drives to run, candidates to recruit, campaigns to assist. The lack of a Political Director has taken its toll on LP political activism. That needs to change.

BALLOT ACCESS SHOULD BE A CORE FUNCTION OF THE NATIONAL PARTY, NOT A PROJECT

The LP needs candidates. Candidates need ballot access. At least with respect to the LP presidential ticket, the Libertarian National Committee needs to be responsible for ballot access. With our presidential nominating conventions no more than five months before election day, presidential ballot access cannot be left to the nominee's campaign. Also, all LP members suffer when our presidential ticket is not on the ballot in a state. It should not be left solely to each state party as to whether the presidential ticket is on the ballot there.

While there may be states where the cost of ballot access sometimes exceeds its benefit, the LNC should generally work proactively with state parties that don't have ballot access to help them get their candidates on the ballot and to lobby and litigate to reduce ballot access barriers going forward.

IT'S TOO EXPENSIVE TO BE ON NATCOM

I've been on the LNC during two periods: September 1989 to September 1993 and March 2003 to the present. During the earlier period, the LNC met three times per year in face-to-face

Liberty for Massachusetts

Massachusetts' Libertarian Activist Organization

<http://www.LibertyForMassachusetts.com>

Newsletter Events Campaign Support Outreach

Dues \$10/year with your email address

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meetings. During the latter period, the LNC has had in-person meetings four times per year. I would be surprised if the total cost of any LNC meeting is less than \$10,000, with the members of the National Committee paying the bulk of this as travel expenses. Given our resources, this is far too expensive. And, with the airline industry's financial problems, I wouldn't be surprised to see the cost of air travel increase.

The LNC should strongly consider online meetings. Six online meetings per year, each taking six to eight hours, should be sufficient to handle the LNC's business. NatCom members would probably need to have broadband Internet service, but that would be much less expensive than traveling to NatCom meetings.

If the LNC doesn't institute online meetings, it should at least reduce the number of annual meetings from four to three. It worked from 1989 to 1993; it would work again.

With these changes, more people can run for the LNC and delegates will have a wider choice of potential representatives.

CHANGE THE ELECTION METHOD FOR NATCOM

Why does the LP use election rules for internal elections that are the same rules that are used to make our candidates unelectable in the United States? Single member legislative districts hurt the electability of our candidates. So, why do we use them for NatCom? And, how can all the effort expended to form NatCom regions before and at our conventions be termed anything but "waste?"

I will ask the Bylaws Committee at the upcoming convention to recommend that the delegates amend the method of electing NatCom members. Instead of five at-large representatives and up to nine regional representatives, I suggest 14 at-large reps should be elected using Single Transferable Voting, also known as "Choice Voting."

This is a proportional voting system that has a history of being used in the United States and other democracies around the world. In many instances, Choice Voting would greatly enhance the electability of LP candidates to legislative bodies. You can learn more about Choice Voting at fairvote.org/pr/choiceintro.htm or elsewhere on the Internet.

I have nothing against NatCom regional representatives personally. but this is not about them. This is about internally adopting voting systems that would greatly enhance our election prospects if implemented in the outside world.

THE LP NEEDS YOU

If you agree with me, please let me know. It's time again for a proactive, involved National Party to help the State Parties be all they can be. If you agree with my positions and support me for Chair, please let me know. Please attend the National Convention this coming July 1-2 weekend in Portland, Oregon, and run for the Libertarian National Committee to help bring about the changes that are needed to make the LP a force in US politics. Thank you.

(Continued from page 1) [Underwood Campaign]

dundant legislation when simply enforcing the existing laws would solve the problem.

Crime

The Republicrat (Democrat and Republican) crime program is a farcical diversion for the people. People demand that serious offenders be locked up, and they get drug and prostitution arrests.

Cops and Probation officers indirectly make their living off prostitutes. Cops get paid for arresting them. Judges and court personnel get paid for trying them. And then probation officers collect "probation fees" or the prostitutes and drug users go back to jail. These are usually safe arrests because the "criminals" are relatively non-violent. There are no federal or state grants for arresting real criminals, so the crime wave continues at the hands of the Republicrats.

I would vote to abolish the practice of plea bargaining. Judges and Prosecutors like it because it cuts down on their work load. Serious offenders like it because they end up with a lesser sentence. But an innocent person can be hurt by plea bargaining. Defendants are kept isolated. They are threatened with waiting a long time for trial if they do not plea bargain. The tax payers also pay to keep innocent people incarcerated. The tax payers pay the lawyers involved in the case, court personnel etc. Getting a wrongful conviction encourages more of the same. Plea bargaining is used to finance parts of the patronage system, such as the county jails and the probation department.

I, and other Libertarians, would abolish victimless crime laws and eliminate the legalized stealing on the part of Republicrat cops, courts, and probation officers. I would abolish plea bargaining. If the accusations are justified then let the process more closely resemble the process described in the constitution, an open trial, so we can all see how brilliant the cops and prosecutors are. It would also mean that if someone was guilty of a serious offense, they would be convicted of that offense, instead of a lesser offence.

What They Promise and What They Do

While Republicrats promise safety and economic development they have run a revolving door system for serious offenders and shipped their constituents jobs to cheap labor countries. While as local officials they do not control the exportation of jobs they attend party conventions where they support candidates that ship our jobs to other countries.

While they take to the stage claiming to have saved Social Security they support the job losses of those who used to work to support the various economic safety nets. While we may not be strong enough yet to boot our Kennedy and Kerry, we can eject some of their local lackeys from office. It is pointless for us to pay union dues, support legislation for health care and minimum wage and then elect people to sabotage the economy of the United States.

We have all read the papers. Many Republicrat politicians or their families have jobs in the lottery, probation office, other branches of government, or the liquor business. They are not

average working people, and they are not acting in our interests. Most of their proposed projects do nothing to improve economy for the average person. The initial construction may provide a few good jobs for the politically connected, but after that, is only cheap jobs to go to the masses of people.

Most laws passed by Republicrats make life worse. They create red tape and loss of personal liberties. So we have incidents in which people get arrested for protecting their mail box while the perpetrators go scot free.

The Control Board of the City of Springfield

The Control Board has been the whipping boy of local politicians. The incumbent Republicrat has a problem, he voted for it, but yet has not desire to be intimately associated with the results of his vote. In private industry we would say that the company is bankrupt. Contract holders and bill holders would now have claims against a bankrupt company. The harsh reality is that the city is bankrupt, the people are heavily taxed, and a change was needed.

Only about half the people who are eligible to vote in Springfield are registered to vote. Of those only 20% voted in the last election. The top person on the City Council got about 10,000 votes out of 160,000 who could have voted had they wanted to. So there is poor case to be made that the City Council has the support of the people.

A Compromise was found whereby a group of Republicrat experts would attempt to bring the city of Springfield out of Bankruptcy. The Control Board consisted of the Mayor of Springfield, the President of the City Council, and three appointed by Governor and millionaire Mitt Romney. One can say that the millionaire class in this country at this time has most of its investments in other countries, derives its standard of living from those countries rather than the United States. The Republicrat politicians have been good servants.

The Control Board paid to have several studies done which said that Springfield did not have a revenue problem, but a spending problem. They also said that Springfield had more police, and higher paid police than "comparable" cities. To say anything else would have made the legislature somewhat to blame for the revolving door criminal justice system, sending the money to Boston, and dumb laws that cost money.

The Control Board certainly did not want to blame the Republicrat Congress and Presidents for exporting American jobs which destroyed the tax base of Springfield. The Control Board then went against its own study and said that we Springfield needed to hire more police in response to a wave of armed robberies and murders. The Control Board with the silent assent of the incumbent Republicrat Legislature spend hundreds of thousands of dollars on studies getting information that they could have obtained elsewhere free.

Libertarian Solution of Robert Underwood

Abolish dumb laws that cost money. No one has been held up with a marijuana reefer, yet that is a large part of our law enforcement effort. If I needed to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to understand what the problem is, as did the Repub-

licrats, I should not have the job. Any solution that involves moving money from Boston to Springfield will not pass the Republicrat legislature. But I can try to eliminate ineffectual spending throughout the state. Criminals need to be put in jail, real criminals not prisoners to get federal grants. Some need to be put into reforms schools. This will free up some money on the local level that attempts to deal with their crimes.

Republicrats exporting American jobs is a big problem. It has decimated the tax base throughout Massachusetts. Since Colonial times Massachusetts has been dependent on manufacturing. Republicrat politicians have sold out their country more than any other group of traitors. Now Massachusetts citizens protect foreign investments with their lives, I would be a loud voice attempting to get them out of office.

Same Sex Marriage

The Supreme Court of Massachusetts has ruled that same sex couple can be married under Massachusetts State Law. The is also a ballot question related to the topic, and it looks like it has enough signatures to get on the ballot.

If I had it my way I would just put everyone under a civil union law. But since the court has spoken, I would do nothing. The voters will probably vote on it anyway making any opinion I have irrelevant.

I am all in favor of getting every day people lower taxes and health insurance. I am not going to spend time and energy making someone ineligible for health insurance or raising their already exorbitant taxes.

The real threat to families are:

Poverty, in part because the Republicrat have shipped the bread winners job to a slave labor country, in some cases causing homelessness.

The 24 hour 7 day a week global economy the deprives families of quality time so that some charlatan can wear a \$600 suite while he harangues against same sex marriage

Houses and cars that are too small to accommodate families.
Lack of quality education for children

If you like gay marriage, the ruling may be to your liking. If you do not like gay marriage, you are not affected because no one is forcing you to go to one. Ask yourself some questions.

How many people do I know that have participated in a gay marriage?

When is the last time I have read of a gay marriage?

Am I in fear of being a participant in a gay marriage?

How many people do I know who have lost their jobs?

When is the last time I have read of a plant closing or a reduction in the work force?

Am I in fear of losing my job?

What will I do about Gay Marriage? Not much. The courts have spoken, the voters will speak, the small number of people who want same sex marriages have it, and it is not bothering the rest of us. If elected I intend to work on things like wasteful spending, a system of justice that does not work, Springfield's financial crisis and getting national politicians that export jobs out of office.

Let Freedom Ring!

(Continued from page 1) [LNC Meets]

ments that appear to have been made by the LNC but not yet received by the state party. By contrast, in 2005 the Green Rainbow Party brought in \$2,614 in its State (OCPF) account and \$18,876 in its FEC account.

Month	Income	Net	Cash	Debt
July	103	-5	3	105
August	99	-10	-7	92
September	83	-7	-14	99
October	159	+31	17	88
November	76	-35	-17	66
December	81	3	-14	110
January	93	25	11	140

Last month we presented a table of LNC FEC filings, which was a bit hard to read even before the typographic error was inserted. We try again: **The above table shows for the past seven months LNC income and other numbers.** "Month" gives the month. Numbers are in thousands of dollars. FEC reports are named by the month in which they are filed. Thus, the July data is in the "August" report. "Income" refers to in money through the door. Net is the difference between income and expenditures, a negative number meaning that the LCN spent more than it took in. "Cash on Hand" is the reported Cash on Hand at the

end of the month. The negative number should be familiar to many people who pay their bills on the last day of the month. The change in *Cash* from month to month is exactly matches *Net*. The last column *Debt* refers to how much the party owes. It is reduced by Expenditures (not shown) and increased when bills arrive. Note that income is now at the \$1 million a year level. Our earliest FEC reports on record, dating from 1993, show income of 814 thousand dollars; allowing for inflation, that's over a million in today's money. For that last three months, income is running at a lower level than in 1993, let alone intervening years.

In a miscellaneous filing to the FEC, the LNC explained negative cash on hand, writing "Please be advised that the negative Cash on Hand at End of Period Balance is the result of a timing difference between the date on which the Committee issued checks in December as vendor payments and the time at which it processed deposits in January...At no time was a bank overdraft created by this practice..."

Good News!

As reported by Hammer of Truth: <http://www.hammeroftruth.com>: On February 24, Paul Edward Trujillo, chair of New Mexico's Valencia County Commission, changed his registration from "Democrat" to "Libertarian". He is running for re-election this year and will run as a Libertarian.

This issue is short because your editor just bought a house. Note the new address, which is operational, though I am not yet moved.

Let Freedom Ring!
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