

Let Freedom Ring!

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Let Freedom Ring: New Hampshire Libertarians Meet, Badnarik Misses All-State Ballot Access, Where Is the Libertarian party of Massachusetts.....1; Where Your Money Went, Editorial.....2

Libertarian Strategy Gazette: Stand Up for Liberty!.....1

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New Hampshire Libertarians Meet

State Chair Babiarz Re-Elected Without Opposition; Badnarik Ballot Access Is Explained
Saturday, October 2, 2004. The Libertarian Party of New Hampshire held its fall convention. Chair John Babiarz noted successful outreach to other groups, including a fundraising dinner for the NH Liberty Alliance that was picketed by Democrats. 'We were inside in suits. Democratic pickets were outside in scruffy clothing.' Ballot access was less successful than hoped. Speakers all agreed: 'We need to put this behind us and do better next time.'

Howard Wilson explained the ballot issue to our correspondent. The LPNH collected perhaps 4000 nominating papers, one paper per signer. Of these, about 1000 collected before the LP national convention did not carry Badnarik's name. Badnarik did not have enough raw signatures in one Congressional District. Furthermore, the National Committee had hired petitioners. The petitioners were simultaneously collecting signatures for Nader. In NH, you may only sign for one candidate per office, so many of the LNC-assisted nominating papers were invalid. In net, of 3000 possible Badnarik signatures, only 2200 of the needed 3000 signatures were actually valid.

State Chair John Babiarz reported on Democratic Party efforts to force Nader off the ballot in New Hampshire. The Democrats needed to separate Nader from three hundred nominating signatures, by persuading voters to retract their signatures. They failed. They went to the Secretary of State's office, copied the nominating papers, looked up every phone number, and set up a phone bank "Clean Ballot Access" that called every signer they could reach.

A prominent NH Libertarian who believes everyone deserves to be on the ballot was phoned by them. "Did you sign? Why did you sign?" Clean Ballot Access callers used call blocking, to hide their identities, and never left phone messages, which avoided having their voices recorded. For people with no phone number on record, pairs of people from Clean Ballot Access appeared at front doors and spent a half hour to try to per-

[LPNH Meets] (Continued on page 2)

Badnarik Misses All-State Ballot Access

His State Fundraiser Nets \$3100

Michael Badnarik has missed ballot access in Oklahoma and New Hampshire. In Oklahoma, supporters had filed a large number of signatures and then gone to litigation against the state ballot access law. The litigation is ongoing. In New Hampshire, the LPNH volunteers did not collect enough signatures. There is some litigation advancing.

Badnarik appeared on September 17 for a Fundraiser at Bickford's Restaurant in Framingham. He gave an excellent speech explaining why he should be our next President. A fundraiser, supported by a challenge matching donation of \$500 from Jay Vandersloot and another of \$1000 from an anonymous donor brought the total raised at the event to \$3100. Unfortunately, the next day the remnants of Hurricane Ivan rained out the Boston Freedom Rally and Badnarik was unable to speak to pro-freedom activists and supporters.

Where is the Libertarian Party of Massachusetts?

Two months ago, I ran an article listing the duties of the LPMA State Committee. Alas, most of these duties are not being performed. In particular:

A) There shall be a Regional Chairman and Regional Vice Chairman for each Region...Each shall be elected by majority vote of the State — No such election occurred.

B) The Chairman shall:
(a) call meetings of the State Committee at least quarterly --Done
(b) appoint a General Counsel, Parliamentarian, and Sergeant-at-Arms -- Done
(c) fill all vacancies for Regular Member positions - - Not performed.
(d) appoint membership on all standing committees (Executive, Budget, Candidates, Finance, Program, Public Relations, Registration and Membership, Convention, and Rules.) -- Members of Budget, Convention, and Rules have been appointed. Executive, Candidates, Program, Public Relations, Registration, and Membership, and Finance have not been appointed.

I could go on, but you get the idea. The record here is one of inactivity. The LPMA is missing in action.

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(Continued from page 1) [LNC Meeting]

suade people to retract their signatures. John Babiarz, who received a call, noted checking with the Secretary of State's office, and finding there was no business or other filing for 'Clean Ballot Access'. In New Hampshire, paying money to keep someone off the ballot is apparently illegal. There is some likelihood post-election of significant indictments.

New LPNH officers, each elected substantially without opposition, are Secretary: Rich Kahn, Vice Chair—1st: Brendan Kelly, Vice Chair—2nd: Mike Lorrey, Treasurer: Rhonda Kieper, and State Chair: John Babiarz.

Where Your Money Went

The Badnarik Campaign refiled its July FEC disclosure. The new disclosures are quite different from the old ones. The campaign had claimed receipts of 179470.58 and Disbursements of 139824.63; under the new filing, for July the campaign received 220683.91 and disbursed 253703.38, almost twice as much. For August, the campaign received 177509.43 and spent 170289.43. We are advised that the former Badnarik accountant has ceased to be employed by the campaign.

Expenditures for July included \$7200 to Fred Collins for campaign management, \$1729 in advances to Richard Campagna, \$2125 to Carl William Printing for Literature and Public Materials, \$3000 to Genama Inc. of Bee Cave, TX for Information Systems, \$19000 of travel reimbursements to Barbara Goushaw-Collins, and \$12000 to Rasmussen for polling, interns, various amounts totally almost \$8400 to Lorrie B Kopp for Administrative Assistance, \$345 to Web Ad Engine, \$2000 to Lyndon Johnson for TV Ads, \$350 to Lively Creations for TV Ads, \$65550 to MJA Advertising Associates Inc. for A/V, to TheBumperSticker.com for Literature and Public Materials--\$1728.00, 10000.00 to TRA Consulting for TV Ads, and \$1695 to Tracy Valleau for A/V. Ballot Access Expenses included CT--\$5000.00 and ME--7096.52

The LNC for list usage received \$2687.50.

Expenses for August included \$7200 to Fred Collins for Campaign Management, \$6000 to Genama Inc., 12903 Grubstake Gulch, Bee Cave, Texas 78738 for Information Systems, \$7500 to Gordon Campaign Services for Information Systems, \$6215 to Lorrie B Kopp for Administrative Assistance, and 1058 to Jack Wilhelm for Legal Fees. Advertising expenses of various sorts included: 25000.00 to All Our Freedoms Inc for A/V - Production, 10950.00 to Communication Consultants for TV Ads - Airtime, \$7500 to Anne Jennings PR for Public Relations, \$13245 to Capitol Promotions for Literature and Public Materials, Manhattan Mailers of Macomb, Michigan--5871.62. There were payments to minimum-wage junior staff, and modest expenditures for campaign materials and supplies. Ballot Access Payments were made to LP AL--5000.00, LP CT--10000, LP KY--5000.00, LP LA--500.00, North Dakota--3000, and the Oregon Secretary of State--1000.

The LNC was paid \$2736 for List Usage.

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Editorial

In 2003, the Committee for Small Government of Carla Howell and Michael Cloud raised \$48,820. During 2004 it raised \$13,882. (Source: http://www.mass.gov/ocpf/homepage_data.htm and through dynamic links to the Committee for Small Government OCPF Filings.)

Almost all of that money was paid, as consulting fees, to....

Carla Howell and Michael Cloud.

In particular, in 2003 the committee gave \$17,950 to Michael Cloud for consulting fees and \$25,000 to Carla Howell for consulting fees. In 2004, the Committee gave \$4000 to Carla Howell for consulting, and \$8500 to Michael Cloud for consulting.

In 2004, the Libertarian Party of Massachusetts has had three major expenses. It published its newsletter. It ran its state convention. And it gave the bulk of its Treasury, \$4750, to the 2002 Senate Campaign, now long since ended, of

Michael Cloud.

That Campaign is subject to 'Notice to Failure to File' letters from the FEC, but when it last did file it claimed to have debts to Time Printing, Liberty Publishing, and

Michael Cloud.

Last spring, control of the LPMA State Committee ended in the hands of Carla Howell, Michael Cloud, and a slate of 13 State Committee members. They made many promises. Since then, the State Committee has been a model of inactivity. State Committee support for our Presidential candidate has been nonexistent. Even the request of the Badnarik State Coordinator, Richard Watras, for contact information on Massachusetts Libertarians has been not been answered. (The Badnarik appearance and fundraiser was organized by Doug Krick and I.)

As a result, it seems rather likely that Michael Badnarik will not break the 3% barrier in Massachusetts.

When the votes are counted, a month after the election, the Libertarian Party of Massachusetts will almost certainly cease to exist as a major party. The Party State Committee will lose its State recognition, as will any town or ward committees that happen to exist as of that date.

At that point, it is up to Libertarians around the state to decide for themselves what they want to happen next through voluntary self-organization. The excuse that we already have a State Party that we trust to do the real work of politics will cease to apply.

It would not be surprising if the state's real libertarian activists decide that an organization led by the former State Committee inactive faction has no worthwhile future.

It would not be surprising if the state's real libertarian activists decided that we need a new, honest organization that actually wants to build a libertarian movement in Massachusetts.