

Let Freedom Ring!

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March 2005

LPUS Dues To Increase

Let Freedom Ring: LPUS Dues to Increase, LFR Readership passes 4000/Month, Town Elections Forthcoming, PVLA, WCLA, LFM Elect Officers...1; Local TV Access, Open Source Party Structure, Conference Calls, Stage A Primary, Translations...2 Campaign Management, Addendum...3

Libertarian Strategy Gazette State Chairs Meet; Public Policy Questions.....1

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Let Freedom Ring!/ Libertarian Strategy Gazette Readerships Hit New High

We have recently been able to count how many issues of Let Freedom Ring! and Libertarian Strategy Gazette are downloaded from www.cmlc.org, our archival location. For the past three complete months, the numbers are 2715, 3341, and 2774. Robot down loads to remote sites lead to further downloads without being counted. When we combine these numbers with the known paper and other circulations of our two magazines, we find that the combined readership of Let Freedom Ring! and Libertarian Strategy Gazette has passed the 4000 per month mark, mostly going to people who specifically asked for specific issues. Look for a forthcoming upgrade in the CMLC web site, which will greatly improve the attractiveness of LFR and LSG as downloadables.

Town Elections Forthcoming

Over the next few months, Worcester cities and towns will be gearing up to elect mayors, councilors, selectmen, town finance board members, town meeting members, and other elected public officials. Now is your opportunity, if you live in Massachusetts, to become more actively involved in town government, and help move Massachusetts in a Libertarian direction.

While some offices involve high price campaigns (if I wanted to run for Mayor of Worcester, I would want to spend \$50,000 or more), in other cases there are few candidates. Some offices go vacant because in small towns few people are sometimes interested in politics. Forthcoming elections between now and early April include , Reading, Freetown, Lexington, Orange, Peterham, Bedford, Norwell, Warwick, Dedham, Andover, Duxbury, Scituate, Lincoln, Medfield, Sudbury, Acton, Concord, Natick, North Andover, Winchester, Arlington, Billerica, Burlington, Middleborough, Tewksbury, Abington, Acushnet, Barre, Belmont, Blackstone, Dartmouth, Fair-

Increase for Renewals Only UMP Payments Will Not Increase Secret Ballot Hides Names of Supporters

Correspondent Sean Haugh, telephoning from the LNC Meeting the weekend of February 26 in Oregon, reports that the LNC has voted to increase membership renewal dues from \$25 to \$50. New member dues will remain at \$25. The LNC defeated a motion to increase UMP payments; the LNC will retain all of the increase. The increase is set for the start of 2006; the LNC recognized that the vote might be reconsidered. The LNC first voted by show of hands to conduct the votes *by secret ballot*. If you were wondering how your representative voted, we are unable to tell you. However, the vote to increase dues was 11-6, and the vote to increase UMP payments was defeated 5-12.

The LNC also voted to form a Libertarian National Congressional Committee, analogous to the DNCC, with M Carling at its head.

PVLA Elects Officers

As a result of Elections, Richard Watras is Chair. Carol McMahon is Treasurer. George Phillies is Secretary. Carol McMahon was elected as PVLA Local Group Representative to Liberty for Massachusetts.

WCLA Elects Representative

Douglas Krick was elected to be WCLA Local Group Representative to Liberty for Massachusetts.

Liberty for Massachusetts Elects Interim Officers

As part of the organizing process, Liberty for Massachusetts has elected some interim officers. Steve Drobnis is Chair. Alvin See is Membership Secretary. Rick Rajter is Webmaster. Other current Organizing Committee members include Jonathan Lombardi, Rob Power, Peter Sheinfeld, Bob Underwood, and Shirley Underwood.

Liberty for Massachusetts has adopted a final

[Liberty for Massachusetts Plans](Continued on page 3)

Local Television Access

Rob Power writes:

I think we should put Libertarian Alternative with Mark Selzer on local cable access. Do you agree? I've printed out the application for "training," and I encourage others to apply as well: <http://www.cctvcambridge.org/member/>

For those in other cities and towns, I encourage you to find out what it takes to broadcast on your local cable access. San Francisco's LP has been doing these Libertarian Alternative shows (twice a week, since 2 people signed up for training) for several months now, and they're generating good membership leads.

The tapes he discusses are from Mark Selzer <libertarian1@comcast.net>, who is quoted as saying: 4 amazing episodes of the Libertarian Alternative now in streaming video free on the web at: <http://www.libertariantv.com/> Harry Browne says this is his best interview ever.

Open Source Party Structure

Steve Gordon writes: I would appreciate your comments and constructive criticism at: <http://flashoffreedom.com/index.php/archives/2005/02/10/fixing-the-lp/> Proposal: An Open Source LP

There has been an ongoing blogologue about what to do to steer the Libertarian Party in the direction of its stated goal of moving "public policy in a libertarian direction by electing candidates of the Libertarian Party to public office."

Stephen VanDyke <<http://hammeroftruth.com>>, almost certainly without intent, probably started this conversation with the article Libertarians: <<http://www.watchblog.com/thirdparty/archives/001248.html>> Whispering from the Rafters. He is the first person of whom I am aware to publicly interview all three recent primary Libertarian presidential candidates about their internet activities. To provide proper credit to Lance Brown <www.freedom2008.com>, he and I had many (sometimes heated) e-mail and telephone exchanges on this same topic pre-dating the VanDyke interviews. While VanDyke, Brown and I don't agree on each and every issue, we generally agree on the overall schema.

To give Brown a bit more credit, he unwittingly introduced a concept called Open Source Politics to me in our exchanges. Tim West covers this issue a bit more at Libertarian <timwest.blogs.com/the_new_libertarian/2004/11/libertarian_ope.html> Open Source Politics: If Not Now, When? For those of you not aware of the definition of open source, it is a concept used in the high tech world to work collaboratively on projects, as opposed to top-down management styles. Open source refers to projects that are open to the public using sources that are open to the public.

Web Pages:

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

Conference Calls

Consider the web site <http://www.freeconferencecall.com> Eric writes of this: "It works instantly 24/7 with a number and access code, and no need to schedule/make reservations, it works for up-to 96 callers, and up-to 6 hour conference calls... it works great, I have used it at work recently."

Stage a Primary?

Yes, the cost to taxpayers is a factor to consider, definitely. Most states don't give you a choice though, so there is a lot of info out there on Libertarian primaries. Our experience with them has been overwhelmingly positive. The year we had one for Governor, our media recognition jumped dramatically, even though only about 1500 people voted in it statewide. We were considered players from the beginning of the election cycle and that status stuck with us throughout the election season. Competition for top offices is also good for the party, in my view.

I'd also recommend you lobby for the ability to invite Independents to vote in your primary, if possible. As I recall, there is case law on your side if you want to force the issue. We found that the positives of inviting non-Libertarians to think about voting LP vastly outweighed the illusory fear that non-Libertarians would decide the outcome. I do not find it a coincidence the NC GOP started to take off and break up our one party state at precisely the same time that they opened up their primary.

yours in liberty --
Sean Haugh
Executive Director, LPNC

Translations

I guess I am somewhat flattered to find usage of my Spanish translations.

There are various translation programs out there. Technical items seem to translate the best. A manual translation is always better. But, an automated one is better than nothing, maybe.

When I translate for others I try to :

Use good Spanish that will be understood internationally

Convey the same tone and meaning as the English version

When I write my own campaign material, where I can say what I want I do not necessarily say the same thing because humor and sarcasm is different. Alliteration and Rhyming are different. Different issues are of varying importance to different groups. In my House District most of the Spanish speakers who

Now Available in Paperback

George Phillip's 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) [Translations]

can vote are Puerto Rican, so the language and humor tend to lean toward that group.

It is harder to translate languages which are further apart, like Greek to English. Some people laugh, but I prefer my Greek interlinear in Spanish (I am learning Greek) , rather than English, because Greek and Spanish are "closer" in structure. Asian languages I am sure must be further apart.

I just read a book on several business problems

Ronald McDonald's white face resembles the face of death in Japanese culture so no one was buying their hamburgers. (maybe the Japanese are right on that one).

A perfume called mist did not sell in Germany where "mist" means manure

Chevrolet's Nova did not sell in Spain, the name "Nova" is close to the Spanish for "No Go."

The word "it" was mistranslated in Japanese and everyone thought it was the name of a company. People would not sign the contract because they were wondering where the other company was.

On the other hand I have run German text through translation software. It came out in broken English, but better than nothing. But I would make the translation software available, but make the disclaimer very clear. Does the disclaimer get translated?

I guess ideally it might be nice to have some things in Russian because there are so many of them in Massachusetts right now.

The other thing I learned is that no one likes to admit that they do not understand English completely. Many are embarrassed to not understand something, except for the Americans who expect everything in Quebec to be in English. So, instead of asking people which the preferred I just said everything in both English and Spanish. Some took my Spanish leaflet and gave me back the English leaflet. On our web site one gets a Choice. www.wmlp.org

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Campaign Management

Timothy Crowley <timcrowley@worldnet.att.net> writes us: In my opinion, the best way for the LPPa to counter this 'losers limp' phenomenon is to seriously study the campaign management transcripts in the files section of the lppa.org web site. There are over 70 entries on a variety of campaign topics -- fundraising, media relations, campaign budgeting, coalition building, to name a few. Also, here is my list of books which could make the LPPa more effective, if every LPPa member read at least one of them.

Even if we are doing things on a small scale, at least we will be doing he 'right' things.

Campaign Books: (The nuts and bolts of organizing a political campaign)

The Campaign Manager- by Catherine Shaw

How To Win a Local Election - by Judge Lawrence Gray

Winning Elections - by Faucheux

Sales Books:(We are in the communications and sales business)

Selling for Dummies -by Tom Hopkins

Prospecting for Dummies - by Tom Hopkins

Advanced Sales Strategies - by Brian Tracy

The 25 habits of Highly Successful Salespeople - by Steve Schiffman

Power Sales Presentations - by Steve Schiffman

Other:

Robert's Rules of Order - Needed to conduct a meeting.

Fundraising For Dummies- Another excellent 'Dummies' book.

The Pennsylvania Manual - Available for free at any state office

Addendum

Year	State	Federal
2004	\$ 555	\$ 13,475
2003	\$ 1,117	\$ 46,850
2002	\$ 6,610	\$ 60,892
2001	\$24,675	\$ 77,883
2000	\$23,653	\$108,417

We have added to the above table on LPMA fundraising the 2000 and 2001 State account numbers.

(Continued from page 1) [Liberty for Massachusetts Plans] set of Bylaws, based on its intent.

First, Liberty for Massachusetts seeks to do real political work to move Massachusetts in a Libertarian direction. Liberty for Massachusetts does not appear to compete directly with any other libertarian groups in Massachusetts. Good organization does not guarantee good work, but it does point you in the right direction.

The Objective of Liberty for Massachusetts is to create political change in libertarian directions through lawful political actions. The libertarian directions include smaller government, lower taxes, less intrusive laws and regulations, increased individual freedom, and equality before the law.

The people elected to see that things happen are the Mutual Aid Committee. There are six officers: Political Facilitator, Operations Facilitator, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Editor, and Chair, and two regional representatives elected from

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each of eight regions. Everyone is elected by the members, using mail ballots so every Voting Member gets to vote.

The Political Facilitator supports political activities. The Operations Facilitator supports back-office activities. The Treasurer and Membership Secretary keep financial records and lists of names. The Editor produces the newsletter. The Chair runs meetings and serves as public spokesman. At some future date, the Mutual Aid Committee may want to hire clerical support staff, or when we are large enough even an office manager, but the Bylaws forbid hiring an Executive Director or anyone with similar title or duties. Liberty for Massachusetts will be run by its members and their elected representatives.

The core of Liberty for Massachusetts is its working groups: Local Organization, Elections, Political Action, Outreach, Membership, Fundraising, Budget and Finance, Nominations, and Audit and Compensation.

Every Mutual Aid Committee member serves on two working groups; anyone else who supports LfM objectives and wants to be a constructive help may join a Group. Each working group has a Facilitator to ensure that the Working Group performs its duties.

The Local Organization Working Group encourages libertarians to act as local organizers, helps them to organize, and supports local and topical groups once they are formed.

The Elections Working Group works to elect libertarians, including everything from candidate recruitment, volunteer training, and electioneering, to supporting Libertarians while they

are in office.

The Political Action Working Group supports political activities beyond electing people, including lobbying, Referenda, Public Policy Questions, rallies, demonstrations, letter writing campaigns, and litigation. The Outreach Working Group produces newsletters and web pages, and educates the public.

The Membership Working Group recruits new members, welcomes them, supports social events and other member activities, and performs exit interviews on former Members. The Fundraising Committee generates income for the Mutual Aid Committee and its Working Groups, PACs, and 527 and other organizations. The Nominations Working Group recruits Members to serve on the Mutual Aid Committee and its Working Groups.

The Audit and Compensation Working Group annually reviews Mutual Aid Committee and Working Group financial records to ensure that finance records are complete, accurate, and fully disclosed to the membership. It tells the Membership about irregularities and recommends corrections. It reviews all proposals for paying employees, consultants, independent contractors, or vendors recommends affirmatively or negatively on each proposal before any action may be taken. No Officer may serve in Audit and Compensation.

The Mutual Aid Committee, which meets at least bimonthly, provides organizational structure so Working Groups will succeed. It appoints a recording secretary and a webmaster. It offers affiliation to Local and Topical Groups. A local group supports libertarian activities in a geographic region. A topical group supports libertarian activities centered on issues. Local and Topical Groups get representation on the Mutual Aid Committee. Mutual Aid Committee members are dedicated to advancing liberty. Each Mutual Aid Committee member is committed to serving on two Working Groups.

Members are in three classes: Voting, Associate, and Subscribing. Subscribers live outside of Massachusetts. To be a Voting Member, you must make your contact information available to all other Voting Members for internal political activities. Only Voting Members may vote or hold office. Associate Members live in Massachusetts, but decline to make their contact information available.

Conventions are held to do LfM business: Nominate candidates for internal office. Hear reports from Officers and Working Groups. Introduce officeholders. Hear motions to amend By-Laws. Discuss Practical Politics. Pass resolutions on important public issues. However, conventions do not elect officers or amend rules: All votes are done with a mail ballot sent to every Voting Member. There are no provisions for a platform or a platform committee.

Liberty for Massachusetts may affiliate with like-minded pro-Liberty groups outside Massachusetts, and may form, participate in forming, or participate in national associations of like-minded organizations from other states. There are already several other states in which libertarians are looking at Liberty for Massachusetts as a model for effective political action.

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