

Let Freedom Ring!

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Let Freedom Ring! LNC News, State Convention Meets.

Libertarian Strategy Gazette: Log Cabin Libertarians,

Let Freedom Ring!/Libertarian Strategy Gazette are edited and published by George Phillies, 87-6 Park Avenue, Worcester MA 01605, who is solely responsible for the contents, for the Pioneer Valley Libertarian Association (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.

Givot Resigns As National Party Secretary

The immediate resignation was accepted by the Chair, reports LNC member Lee Wrights.

Harry Browne Returns

To the 2004 Libertarian National Convention
Harry Browne, whose 1996 and 2000 Presidential campaigns led to controversies chronicled in my book *Funding Liberty*, has been appointed Master of Ceremonies for the 2004 LP National Convention Banquet.

Joe Dehn Removed

Long-time LNC Representative Joseph W Dehn, who over the last decade has been one of the LNC's clearest voices for transparency, honesty, and integrity, has been removed from the Libertarian National Committee. The removal was effected by California State Chair Aaron Starr, who under LNC and California Bylaws and Roberts' Rules of Order asserted the authority to appoint and remove his region's LNC Representatives. Starr identified a state convention vote as electing in Dehn's place M Carling, who had been elected by the California State Party as a 2004-2006 LNC Regional Representative.

There was considerable controversy on the LNC as to whether Dehn had actually been removed, whether the action was consistent with the agreement forming the region and the votes in the state convention, and whether the State Convention had voted for the term of Dehn's replacement to begin immediately or at the date of the National convention. The Oregon State Chair, Adam Mayer, has denied that the alleged agreement exists.

Starr/Carling Removal Moved

Sean Haugh has offered the following motion to the LNC: It has obtained its required seconds.

Moved, that Aaron Starr and M Carling be removed from the Audit and Bylaws Committees. Haugh wrote: "I'll speak to my motion very briefly. I believe this action is necessary to retain the confidence of the board and the membership in the reports of these committees. They must be free from the appearance of conflict of interest, or any other suspicion that their recommendations are tainted by personal interests. I want the debate on these reports to be solely about the merits of their proposals, and not about the personalities of the people who produce these reports.

State Convention Meets

Badnarik, Nolan, and Russo Representative Present Presidential Campaigns. A New State Committee is Elected.

The Massachusetts Party had its State Convention on April 3, in Bickford's Grill in Framingham. As you may recall, the LPMA Bylaws provide for 7 at large representatives and 8 regional representatives. A largely eastern Massachusetts group appeared with a slate of 13 candidates. The following is the text from a sheet given to me by Jay Vandersloot at the convention. The sheet read:

Dear Fellow Libertarian,

We request your vote for us for State Committee of the Massachusetts Libertarian Party.

Here's What We offer:

- 1. Positive and Productive Libertarian Leadership*
- 2. To fulfill the legal and organization requirements of the Libertarian Party*
- 3. Individual Initiative and Personal Responsibility for Massachusetts Libertarian Activism and Campaigns*
- 4. To work with, not against, Libertarian Party Candidates and Activists*

Thank you for your support. Thank you for your vote. Rich Aucoin Jess Bowen Michael Cloud Chris DeLeo Bob French Carla Howell David Hudson Rocky Jepson Peter Kuntz Ann LaRoche Tom LaRoche Jay Vandersloot Al Wilcox

When elections were reached, a motion was made, for this convention only, to eliminate election of regional representatives, and elect all representatives at-large. The proposed reason was that we did not know exactly where the regions are. I protested emphatically against the motion, but to no avail.

The convention passed the motion by the required 2/3 vote. The convention elected as national convention delegates Carla Howell, Amanda Phillips, Michael Cloud, Jay Vandersloot, Arthur Torrey, Charles Separk, Tom LaRoche, Carole McMahon, Dan Edmonds, Alvin See, George Phillies, Walter Ziobro, Tristan Lewis, Kamal Jain, Celeste Parent, Ann LaRoche, and Craig Franklin.

The State Convention votes for State Committee were:

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(Continued from page 1) [State Convention]

Nominee	Vote Total	Status
Rich Aucoin	54	Win
Jessica Bowen	47	Win
Carla Howell	47	Win
Michael Cloud	43	Win
Rocky Jepson	39	Win
Jay Vandersloot	36	Win
Amanda Phillips	34	Win
Peter Kuntz	47	Win
Tom LaRoche	51	Win
Chris DeLeo	36	Win
Alan Wilcox	45	Win
Ann LaRoche	40	Win
David Hudson	43	Win
Bob French	37	Win
Doug Krick	24	Win
Tristan Lewis	22	
Steve Drobnis	23	
Walter Ziobro	23	
Charles Separk	21	
Marcie Duda	21	
Alvin See	8	
Mark Tuniewicz	7	
Mike Lupacchino	10	
Alvin See	8	

We also had presentations by Presidential candidates. I had fifteen minutes. Michael Badnarik went on for under a half hour. on my watch Gary Nolan appeared very late (we had dinner first) and was allowed to go on including questions for by my watch half an hour.

The actual election of the State Committee was by the two people who were actually elected to it in the Presidential Primary, namely Carol McMahan and I. I proposed broadening the committee by electing to the state committee some of the additional people who had been nominated, so that we could have a policy of openness instead of inclusion. I didn't know the difference at the bottom was 1 or 2 votes. Carol McMahan preferred that this be done by the full committee. I deferred to Carol.

In the Committee meeting I proposed adding to the committee Walter Ziobro, Steve Drobnis, Alvin See, and Charles Separk, who were all nominees. I considered adding, e.g., Mark Tuniewicz, who was a nominee, but he had previously indicated to me that he was not interested. The motion was overwhelmingly defeated.

The State Committee discussed at brief length various issues. I urged that the State Committee should publish or post its meeting minutes to the Party Membership, rather than regretting that people who attended the meeting were publishing reports as to what happened. A proposal was

made about Committee Members and how they should interact. The proposal was about civility in interaction and working with each other, and approaching each other first rather than discussing matters on lists or newsletters. Without discussion, the proposer immediately asked each committee member to agree. I was by his choice at the end of the line to be asked, and said I would consider it.

So I thought about the proposal overnight. I was also reminded of the message that one of the slate members sent Lee Wrights, Editor of Liberty for All!, discussing my recent editorial there, saying within the past week:

I am acquainted with Mr. Phillis. I and many other members of the Libertarian Party of Massachusetts (LPMA) consider him a disruptive and dividing influence to the party. The LPMA, a former powerhouse in the Libertarian movement having fielded candidates such as Carla Howell and Michael Cloud, is now a shadow of its former self due, in no small part, to the "work" of Mr. Phillis. While he is an intelligent person and an eloquent writer, he is known for publishing smearing remarks about very good people. This has caused many activists to cease their activities. It is very disheartening to work so hard to be dissed in a public forum because your efforts did not match Mr. Phillis' ideas or expectations. He publishes a monthly newsletter airing details of State Committee meetings he has attended which should not be made public especially out of context. He is likely to become the next State Chair which will cause me several others to join the list of former party activists. We will not work with him. You should consider this whenever reading essays he has published and seriously reconsider if you want them repeated on [Name of elist omitted].

I'm not going to say which person from the slate wrote it. It doesn't matter. I'm not offended by the remarks, though I may differ with them. However, the *me and several others to join the list of former party activists. We will not work with him.* is not ambiguous. If we can't work together, that's sad, but then we can't work together. I intend to continue to work as a member of the State Committee and to offer my suggestions.

Editorial

Two and four years ago, Libertarians of central and western Massachusetts might have been a minority on the committee, but at least we had the opportunity to elect Regional Representatives. The time, the election rules were changed at the election, so that the Libertarians of Regions A and B (and every other Region) were denied an opportunity to elect Regional Representatives of their choice to the State Committee. In the end, there is not one single representative from Region A, and only the slate's candidates were elected as Associate Members from Region B, largely by people from other regions. To my ear, this is a bit different than *To work with, not against, Libertarian Party Candidates and Activists.* To each their own taste.

If any of you have issues you would like presented to our State Committee, especially issues that you might have been able to present had you been allowed by your fellow Libertarians in the State Convention to elect a regional representative, I should be happy to do so.

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**Worcester County
Libertarian Association**

Founded 1996.

Meetings (except December) the Third Sunday at Tweed's, Grove Street, Worcester. Contact George Phillies, 508 754 1859
phillies@4liberty.net for future meeting plans

Pioneer Valley Libertarian Association

Meets the Second Wednesday of the Month
7PM, Bickford's Family Restaurant, Springfield
Corner of Old Boston Highway and Pasco Roads
(Mass Pike, Exit 7, south on 21 to Old Boston Highway, and three blocks to the Right)

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