

Let Freedom Ring!

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Let Freedom Ring! Packing the Massachusetts Delegation—The Inside Story; Re-Legalization on Ballot; Duarte Arrested!; Good News from Missouri...1 Other Massachusetts News....2; News Notes, Where Your Money Went, More Challenges for the LNC...4
Libertarian Strategy Gazette State Chairs Conference Report, Alternative Pledge of Allegiance...1; Letter (Oregon)...2; Carver Model....2; Electoral Activism Via Meeting Attendance....3; Better Web Sites....3; Let Everyone Know You're Cheap and Easy....4; Real Campaign Material You Can Actually Use....4; Errors in Direct Mail.....7

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Packing the Massachusetts Delegation—the Inside Story

As most readers have now heard, a concerted effort was made to pack the Libertarian National Convention with people supporting Eli Israel's campaign for National Chair. How was this done? The Massachusetts delegation was inflated with over a dozen Indiana carpetbaggers, not to mention the Tennessee expatriate who nominated Mr. Israel.

To see the process, we return to June 27, 2002 and an email from Dennis Corrigan of Massachusetts to his delegation: "...I have been appointed as the delegation leader following Kamal Jain's [GP: Candidate, State Auditor] decision to not attend the convention...we have the chance to add more people to the delegation.

"Accordingly I am calling a meeting of the Massachusetts [Carpetbaggers](Continued on page 2)

Re-Legalization On Ballot

Our friends in the Massachusetts Cannabis Reform Coalition write that Marijuana Public Policy Questions will be on the ballot in 20 different state representative districts. Massachusetts Public Policy Questions are non-binding referenda advising State Representatives and State Senators as to what they should do.

The 14th Worcester District (West Boylston and part of City of Worcester) will vote on medical marijuana ("Shall the state representative from this district be instructed to vote for legislation that would allow patients with certain diseases, who have a written doctor's recommendation, to possess and grow small amounts of Cannabis (marijuana) for their personal use until such time that the federal government puts into an effective distribution system for these patients?") and decriminalization

[Public Policy Questions](Continued on page 2)

Duarte Arrested!

Joe Duarte, Libertarian Party of Arizona candidate for U.S. Congress was arrested while picketing the League of Women Voters' Gubernatorial debate at Pima Community College. The League invited the Democrat and the Republican candidates, but excluded the two Libertarian candidates—Barry Hess and Gary Fallon—who are running in the Libertarian primary.

Duarte was charged and released. He is due to appear in Pima County Justice Court on September 16 on charges of Disorderly conduct and Disruption of an educational institution. Duarte reports he was arrested for holding a sign reading

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
PIMPS FOR "PREFERRED" POLITICIANS

Duarte writes: "We were instructed by the Pima College Police that we had to stay out by the parking lot with our signs. Eventually, a couple of us decided that since it was all public property, we would stand in the courtyard. The police followed us there and made a series of threats. Finally, the choice they presented me was: put down your sign or leave. Holding up the sign that was deemed an arrestable offense. There was no question about my right to be there. Contact Duarte. www.duarte2002.com. 520-245-4245

Good News from Missouri

Tom Knapp writes: August 8, 2002. Yesterday's Missouri primary elections were good for Libertarians. In 1998, the last off-year (non-Presidential) primary for U.S. Senate, 1,598 Missouri voters cast ballots in the Libertarian primary. This year, 3,263 did. Overall Missouri participation in the primary between 1998 and 2002 grew by 61%. Libertarian primary participation grew by 104%. We're still small, but we're growing. Tamara Millay won the U.S. Senate primary 59.3% to 40.7%. A fraud convict won the Republican primary for auditor (he spent \$600 to the hand-picked candidate's \$60,000, and won 65-35), and suddenly there is serious talk that the GOP may endorse Libertarian Arnold Trembley instead.

If the primary-to-general election ratios of votes cast and votes for the LP candidate hold true from 1998, she can expect to receive about 63,000 votes in November (she received about 32,000 in 1998). If the 1998 trend holds true, Tamara may very well already be "the balance of power" in this election.

Those ratios won't hold true, because this year Tamara is running an extremely active campaign.

[Senate Candidates](Continued on page 3)

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(Continued from page 1) [Public Policy Questions]

of less than an ounce ("Shall the state representative from this district be instructed to vote in favor of legislation that would make possession of less than one ounce of marijuana a civil violation, subject to a maximum fine of \$100 and not subject to any criminal penalties?"). Also voting on decriminalization of less than an ounce will be the voters of the 1st, 2nd, and 12th Norfolk Districts, 5th Plymouth District, 2nd Suffolk District (Suffolk County is largely Boston—very hard to get on the ballot), 4th, 10th, 11th, 13th, 14th, 17th, and 18th Suffolk Districts, 2nd Worcester District (Ashby, Ashburnham, Gardner, Royalston and Winchendon); and the 5th Worcester District (Barre, Brookfield, Hardwick, New Braintree, North Brookfield, Petersham, Phillipston, West Brookfield and parts of Spencer Templeton, and Ware.

A different decriminalization question will be on the ballot in the 1st, 2nd, and, 18th Essex District "Shall the state representative from this district be instructed to introduce and vote for legislation making possession of marijuana a civil violation, like a traffic ticket instead of a criminal offense, and requiring the police to hold a person under 18 who is cited for possession until the person is released to a parent or legal guardian or brought before a judge? "

Hemp agriculture will be on the ballot in the 2nd Franklin District (Athol, Erving, Gill, Greenfield, Orange and Warwick) where the question submitted is, "Shall the state representative from this district be instructed to vote in favor of legislation that would allow licensed farmers in Massachusetts to grow Cannabis hemp (a crop with a 1% or less, THC, the active ingredient in marijuana) for legitimate agricultural and industrial purposes?"

The Worcester Referendum is on the ballot through the efforts of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute student activists and the Worcester County Chapter, ACLU of Massachusetts.

Other Massachusetts News

The Gun Owners Action League Newsletter, reporting on the candidates for the 2002 State Legislative election, documents the continuing collapse of the Massachusetts Republican Party. For 40 State Senate seats, 14 Republicans are running, including 2 in the same district and 3 incumbents running unopposed. 26 Senate Districts only have Democrats running; Senator Brewer faces the only Libertarian. Of 160 State Representative seats, Republicans have candidates in only 54 (some face Republican primary opponents). There are also 5 Green candidates, 13 Libertarian Party candidates, and at least one libertarian independent. Of 10 Congressional Districts (all held by Democrats), the Republicans have candidates in three, including the Fifth District, in which there are two Republican primary opponents (one being a life-long Democrat who lives outside the district) and a Libertarian.

(Continued from page 1) [Carpetbaggers]

sachusetts delegation to be held Saturday June 29 at 3:00 o'clock p.m. at my home...The primary purpose of the meeting will be to add delegates to our list and so to permit us to field a full delegation...Our by-laws allow non-MA residents to form part of our delegation, and attendees at past USLP conventions may remember daily motions to add delegates to states' delegations.

"Typically registrations from the state in which the convention is held exceed the delegate allocation to that state while out-of-state parties are often not able to send full delegations. It has been a common practice in past conventions to accommodate local party members by including them in out-of-state delegations. We have a list of Indiana LP members registered for the convention from Mark W. Rutherford, Chair - Libertarian Party of Indiana which will be presented for your approval on Saturday."

Because of issues with a quorum, the LPMA delegation did not actually vote to add the delegates until it reached Indianapolis.

Let Freedom Ring! has researched the claim that delegates from the convention state were commonly used to fill in delegations from other states. In 2000, the National Convention was in Anaheim, California. A grand total of two California residents were seated that year with other delegations. North Carolina—which did not have a full delegation—had four North Carolinians seated in other states. The only substantial group seated elsewhere were Arizonans, because of the ongoing dispute as to who was the legitimate Arizona Libertarian Party.

Was this a real effort to pack the Massachusetts delegation? As your editor said, tongue slightly in cheek, in another venue:

"Just because the list of Indianans to be added to the Massachusetts delegation was supplied by one of Mr. Israel's endorsers in Indiana [the Tennessean who was added to the MA delegation and who nominated Eli brought himself to the MA delegation], just because almost without exception I only found these Indianans (remember, I was a Massachusetts delegate, too) with the Massachusetts delegation in time for the Saturday morning vote for National Chair (most of them were gone by the afternoon, if there had been a second ballot), and just because two of them were seen to be wearing "Indiana Carpetbagger for Eli" buttons, there is no reason to become suspicious."

To my remarks, Richard Freedman of Massachusetts responded: "Let me add to the list, having been a voting observer in the MA delegation: '...just because these Indianans, without exception, voted for Eli Israel...' (That is, not every Indianan added to the MA delegation voted. But every one who did, voted for Eli.)" In the end, the victory margin in the chair vote was large. However, the vote for Vice Chair was very close. One might legitimately wonder whether these people (though many left early) did not signify, or whether Indiana State Chair Mark Rutherford and his Massachusetts cronies managed to procure the National Vice Chair election for Indianan Ken Bisson via these carpetbaggers and their morning gladhanding and campaigning.

(Continued from page 1) [Senate Candidates]

She's appeared at numerous events. She's been on television in Kansas City and St. Louis. She was endorsed in the primary by the Kansas City Star (a backhanded endorsement calling her Libertarian views "indifferent to the fundamental responsibilities of government," but an endorsement nonetheless). In 1998, when Tamara was also the U.S. Senate candidate for the Libertarian Party, her campaign was extremely limited -- primarily because she gave birth to Daniel, our oldest son, in late August.

This race does affect ballot access. "Automatic" ballot access in Missouri comes in four-year stints, based on 2%+ in a statewide race. In 1998, Tamara needed to exceed 2% in order to keep us on the ballot through this year, and did so. In 2000, our Attorney General candidate exceeded 2%, extending our ballot access through 2004. In Missouri, ballot access means that we have a primary and the winner proceeds as the party's nominee to the general election. To get on the primary ballot you pay a filing fee. It's not an especially onerous, either -- \$50 for state representative, on up to \$200 for U.S. Senate, etc.

On election day, I hope to have a "test district" effort together. I am running for state representative, and would like to get enough volunteers together to have someone at all 14 polling places in my district, all day, handing out sample ballots featuring Tamara, myself, our congressional candidate and our county executive candidate. Combined with my precinct walking, etc., I hope to show that significant results

can be achieved -- and that the key is mobilizing enough activists in each area to do this real political work. I watched the Democrats yesterday, and they know what a political organization is -- volunteers at each polling place, the candidate moving from polling place to polling place, an activist bringing lunch and relief to the volunteers, etc. I want to recreate that in one district, for one election. Alas, this all costs money. **Please help: Millay for U.S. Senate, 2224 Normandy Dr., St. Louis, MO 63121.**

No fewer than three Libertarian Senate candidates are running this year against only one other major party: In Kansas, LP State Chair Steven Rosile is running against Republican Incumbent Pat Roberts and Reform Party ("where the True Conservatives belong") candidate George Cook. In Massachusetts, Libertarian Publicist Michael Cloud and the Democratic incumbent Kerry are probably in a two-way race.

In Virginia, long-time activist Jacob G. ("Bumper") Hornberger is running against Republican Senator Warner and a LaRouche supporter in a three-way race. Hornberger (and Libertarian Party Political Director and Congressional candidate Ron Crickenberger) are running as independents. Crickenberger's paperwork left him on the ballot as an independent. Hornberger learned that if he asked for the LP endorsement, outbound Libertarian Party National Chair James Lark would have staged a floor fight against endorsing Hornberger. In the interests of Party unity, Hornberger chose to run as an independent.

ATTENTION: WANDERING LIBERTARIANS - WANT TO COME TO NEW HAMPSHIRE? -

HOUSE FOR SALE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

by **Don Gorman**

(This house is located in southeast NH, 1/2 hour from the seacoast and the commercial centers of Rochester, Dover, Durham and Portsmouth.)

One-bedroom home on 2 acres of land - in Strafford, on Barrington line, near Rtes. 202, 202-A, 9 and 126

Under \$ 90,000.00; well and septic in good operating condition. Lots of room for expansion.

Good investment potential. Ideal for single person or couple.

Great starter home with potential for high appreciation.

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News Notes

The Public Policy Institute of California has a new poll out showing Libertarian Party candidate Gary David Copeland tied with Green Party candidate Peter Miguel Camejo, at 4% each among likely voters. Gary was pulling equally from Democrats and Republicans. Copeland and Camejo lag Gray Davis and Bill Simon, who are at 41% and 30%.

The LPNH has probably put on the ballot John Babiarz (Governor), Ken Blevens (US Senate), Dan Belforti (Congress) Rosalie Babiarz (Congress) and State Representative candidates Fred Strong, Brad Dorsey, Howard L. Wilson, Paula Werme, Rhonda Keiper, Lisa Wilber, Phil Greazzo State, Len Epstein, Bill Discipio, Sr., Dan Belforti, and Joseph Carringer. Another 9 State Representative candidates are possible.

American Liberty Foundation elected a new board of directors. The new Chair is Eli Israel, who succeeds David Bergland. The ALF President is former Browne campaign Press Secretary James Babka. Other new board members are David Ruprecht of Sierra Madre, California (who hosted Harry Browne's campaign video, "The Great Libertarian Offer"); Jim Babka of Lorton, Virginia (President of American Liberty Foundation and RealCampaignReform.org); Art Matsko of Great Falls, Montana (CEO of Liamworks and LibertyTools.com, publisher of two of Harry Browne's books, and proprietor of the Harry Browne 2000 Campaign Store), and Laura Carno of Monument, Colorado (road manager for the Harry Browne 2000 campaign)

Where Your Money Went

The Libertarian Party of Massachusetts has made its June 30 FEC Filing. The Party began the quarter with \$11,151 in the bank, took in \$23,184, and spent \$28,536, leaving it with \$5,799 in the bank. State Party income included nearly \$3,400 from LNC, Inc. These numbers do not include the state account.

Convention expenditures included \$14,142 to the convention hotel, \$5,000 to the Drug Policy Alliance in lieu of a speaker's fee for Governor Johnson, \$1,760 to Leading Authorities, Inc, as a convention speaker fee, \$1,416 to the Gun Owners Action League newsletter for state convention advertisements, and \$500 to Solstice Sun Design for work on the Convention web site. Not included on this list is approximately \$1,400 to LNC, Inc, for the full-page convention ads run in LP News or the charges we reported in May: a \$10,000 deposit for the state convention, \$962 for a convention mailer, and \$1,500 of convention web site maintenance. The total of the above exceeds \$35,000.

Other expenses for the state party included \$1,503 in Charges by business manager, \$1,100 to the LNC for memberships, \$1,000 to Edward McCormick for Legal Services, \$568 to North Shore Bank for Credit Card Fees and Bank Service Charges, \$244 to David Roscoe for Membership Secretary expenses, \$300 to AT&T for telephone, \$195 to Linx Communications for telephone.

More Challenges for the LNC

Extremely highly placed sources in the Libertarian National Committee confirm that the new National Committee has inherited a range of critical issues from the former committee. These issues were pre-existing. Efforts are now being made to fix them. As previously reported, it seems that there was not a coherent process for billing or charging candidates and others for LP News advertisements, so that several candidates have stated to us that they never received bills or dunning notices for their unpaid ads.

Further complications arise because a year and a half ago LNC, Inc switched from being a monthly to a quarterly filer with the FEC. This change actually greatly increases the frequency with which FEC filings are potentially due. Quarterly filers are not notified by the FEC as to when they must make additional filings.

The FEC Guide for Political Party Committees notes: "In addition to filing quarterly reports, a committee may have to file pre-primary reports. A pre-primary report is required if the committee makes contributions or expenditures *in connection with* a primary election during the coverage dates for the primary report...The treasurer is responsible for determining whether the committee must file a pre-election report."

In the last year, the LNC made expenditures relating to the Georgia and Massachusetts Federal primaries. Advertisements were run in Georgia against Congressman Barr. The Cloud campaign began running full page ads in LP News and paid for them several months later. This is a gift in kind to the campaign. (Late payment in cash crunch periods, IMHO, is a sound policy within reason). At least some expenditures happened after the last quarterly report. The Massachusetts Pre-primary report is due on approximately September 5. The Georgia report was due a while ago.

The FEC notes "Committees contributing to Federal candidates in several states may wish to file on a monthly basis since monthly filers do not have to file pre-primary reports."

How did we get here? In 2001, the Staff moved us from monthly to quarterly reporting, without first asking the National Treasurer. Apparently there was no recognition that this change had other legal implications.

The LNC also inherited loans (some of which have since been paid off) to Federal and state candidates that were hidden in the party's nonfederal accounts. The LNC's internal financial reports also failed to note loans made to the Howell Campaign, which began paying for full-page LP News ads several months after it began running them. In 2000, a widely-circulated rationale for supporting my opponent, James Lark, was that he lived close to LNC Headquarters and could supervise staff operations well. The realization of this rationale appears to have turned out very poorly for our National Party.