



Libertarian Lines

The Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of New Hampshire

Volume 28, Issue 2 ★ November/December 2002

Election 2002 Recap

Well, what to say. The bad news is none of our candidates won and we didn't gain official Party status. The good news is we ran a more energetic and active campaign than we have in about 10 years.

And the income tax is dead for at least another decade. And since we're not an official Party, we can largely ignore the BCRA (though it still needs to be repealed).

A huge thank you to those who helped with the campaigns, collected petitions, worked OPH booths, handed out flyers, edited press releases, wrote letters to the editor, put up road signs, stood at the polls on election day and who contributed financially to the campaigns. We couldn't have done all we did without you.

Two things in particular hurt us: straight-ticket voting and turnout. With the GOP's massive Get out the Vote effort, the strong opposition to the income tax, and the perceived tight US Senate race, folks came out in force, even though it was clear we weren't going to get an income tax and the governor's race wasn't even close so some of those voters could have checked off John's name. Turnout was a record high, good even for a presidential election. John's 13,000 votes would have been enough with the typical 320,000 turnout, but this year turnout was 450,000, just too much to overcome with the resources and volunteers we had.

Campaigns Did Well

This election marked several new milestones for the party. We got more good press than all of the past two election cycles. John Babiarz was in all the major forums and debates and got several hours of broadcast interviews. John's presence also added to the pressure against an income tax and against increased state spending in general. Rosalie Babiarz forced Charlie Bass to talk like a true conservative and take a stronger stand on many issues. Ken Blevens was the only one seriously addressing arming airline pilots and protecting the right to keep and bear arms in the US Senate race. Dan Belforti was the only candidate in the 1st district to advocate individual

retirement accounts as a vital reform for Social Security. For the Federal races, our candidates were the only ones voicing criticism of going to war with Iraq.

Our candidates had flyers distributed across the state. We had a central campaign office and did candidate workshops. We had hundreds of road signs and bumper stickers for candidates and the Party all over the place. Our campaigns had more volunteers than ever, the majority of whom weren't even LPNH members.

John Babiarz more than *doubled* his vote count from two years ago, and Dan Belforti showed a noticeable increase as well.

Nationally, the LPNH was one of the most successful affiliates. John had the third best showing for governor and Ken had the second best showing for US Senate. We were one of the few states to challenge every statewide office and every Congressional seat. LP gubernatorial candidates earned about 800,000 votes collectively, more than double our 1998 total of 363,000.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

we ran a more energetic and active campaign than we have in about 10 years

News from the Executive Board Meeting:

- John Babiarz is the new LPNH Chair. We've got some great challenges and opportunities for the coming year, we hope everyone joins us in rebuilding the party.
- We will be having another strategy meeting in early in 2003.
- The LPNH is working with legislators on a ballot access reform bill. We ask all of you to contact your state rep to support this vitally important bill. We will provide LSR and bill number information as soon as we have it. Contact Rich Tomasso if you'd like to be part of this effort.
- Phil Greazzo has a videotape of Gary Johnson's speech at Dartmouth.
- If you are a Libertarian holding elected or appointed office, please let us know so we can update our list.

A Call for Candidates

Local elections are this spring, and we want as many libertarians as possible running for office.

Nearly all these races are non-partisan, so there's no Party label to discourage voters, petitioning is minimal (usually 5-15), and the districts are all small, so campaigning is cheap and easy.

Success begins at the bottom in politics. Local races are extremely important for several reasons, not the least of which is they are the most winnable for our candidates.

We want a libertarian running for office in every city and town in the state. Of particular note, School Board and Planning Board are important races, given the power they have over the lives of our fellow citizens and their wallets. Plus, many school boards across the state are very upset with the new federal mandates, at least one has declared "No Child Left Behind" is unconstitutional and will not be complying. Whether you run for Alderman, Election Supervisor or Cemetery Trustee, every race is important, and every potential libertarian win is important.

We have experienced volunteers and campaign staff available, and there are PACs which will support serious local races. If you run, the Party will help. If you would like to run for office in 2003 or have any questions, you can contact Party Chair, John Babiarz, personally for advice and help. Let's make 2003 a winning year for the LPNH.

**THE FILING PERIOD FOR LOCAL OFFICES
IS JANUARY 22-31.**

**We want
as many
libertarians
as possible
running for
office.**

And For the Ladies...

It's no secret that the Libertarian movement is mostly male. Two websites are trying to change that: <ifeminist.com> and <CapitalistChicks.com>. Both are highly recommended to dispel some of the myths about our movement and about free enterprise in general.

Freedom Action of the Week

Sign up at <www.free-market.net/features/action> and each week you will get an action item you can do to help promote freedom.

Real Campaign Reform

Sick and tired of Libertarians and Independents not being able to compete in elections? Take a stand and fight to restore political free speech. Check out <RealCampaignReform.org> and see all the great work they're doing to kill the BCRA and other regulations against political speech.

Libertarians Moving to NH

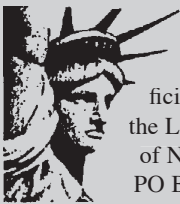
A Yahoo Group for libertarians interested in moving to the Granite State. Feel free to share your insights and let out-of-state friends know about it. <yahogroups.com/group/NHLiveFreeOrDie>

NH Libertarians Mailing list

A general-interest mailing list for NH Libertarians and other fans of the Granite State to discuss current events, politics and the issues. <yahogroups.com/group/nhlibertarians>

2002-2003 Executive Board

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Libertarian Lines is the official newsletter of the Libertarian Party of New Hampshire, PO Box 5293, Manchester, NH 03108.

The views expressed by columnists are their own and do not necessarily represent the positions of the LPNH. Brief quotes taken in context may be used with proper attribution. (c) 2002 by the individual authors.

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For a free information package or to join call 800-559-5764 (NH only) or 603-431-1618.
Visit our Web site: <http://www.LPNH.org>

LP Squandering a Golden Opportunity to Exploit Prohibition

by Carmen Yarrusso

[These are the opinions of Mr Yarrusso and do not necessarily represent the position of the LPNH Executive Board. —Editor]

The Libertarian Party's timid campaign to exploit prohibition will only gain fleeting publicity and waste scarce funds. Did our membership grow significantly after spending \$70,000 parodying the Super Bowl ads? Is prohibition any closer to ending? Targeting drug warriors in close races will be equally ineffective. Did our membership jump after spending \$54,000 against Bob Barr? Unless the LP adopts a bold and aggressive strategy to exploit prohibition and stops appearing ashamed of supporting drug re-legalization, this effort is doomed to fail.

Ron Crickenberger, the LP's Political Director and leader of the exploit-prohibition campaign, refuses to allow open debate on this issue. All efforts to have my strategy heard by rank and file members have been thwarted by Mr. Crickenberger and the then editor of LP News, Bill Winter. The LP is squandering a golden opportunity to vastly increase its membership while simultaneously striking a significant blow against prohibition.

Crickenberger's strategy makes very little use of our most powerful weapon: The Internet. Instead of playing the same sound-bite game as the beltway bandits, we should

spend our precious money challenging people to visit our website where they would see intelligent arguments explaining the absurdity and immorality of prohibition. Our website visitors could then be recruited by exposing them to general libertarian principles.

Imagine

Imagine if we spent \$70,000 on ads that strongly stated the LP will make liberating ASAP the 500,000 political POWs of the Drug War a major priority? How many friends and family members of those 500,000 jailed for the "crime" of claiming sovereignty over their own bodies would gladly send in their LP membership fee if they thought the party was earnest? LP membership could balloon overnight. If each POW and only one other friend or family member joined our fight for their freedom, we'd get \$25,000,000 in new membership dues. The mainstream media would certainly publicize such a "radical" announcement. We could easily defend our position at our website by exposing the many self-serving government and media lies about prohibition.

Until I looked into prohibition in some depth, I had no idea of its vast and complex moral depravity. I had no idea of the massive human misery this vicious policy causes. I also had no idea how much our government profits from this human tragedy. This very violent \$500 billion per year drug business was created with the stroke of

a government pen. Our government arbitrarily declared that a certain class of American citizens no longer had the rights unambiguously stated in our Constitution.

Disenfranchised slaves

These disenfranchised slaves called "drug users" were instantly the fodder for the biggest government scam ever. With the stroke of a pen our government essentially offered a king's ransom to anyone in the world who could deliver certain drugs to American streets. Our government then created huge government agencies to fight those who, in a capitalist world, would surely try to collect the king's ransom. With the stroke of a pen, our government created a violent artificial market for drugs on the backs of its own citizens.

With the stroke of a pen our government created an artificial need for big government agencies. If these agencies succeeded in any way it would only increase the size of the king's

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Unless the LP adopts a bold and aggressive strategy ... this effort is doomed to fail.

"Quote/Unquote"

"You did awesome!"

— Craig Benson to
John Babiarz
after the WMUR debate

Strategy and Planning

We had a strategy and planning meeting in November to discuss the future of the LPNH and what we're going to do for the coming year.

We are going to get serious about affecting change in New Hampshire.

There are still a number of details to finalize, but in short, we are going to get serious about affecting change in New Hampshire.

We are totally revamping and upgrading the party infrastructure, creating a new website, mailing lists, press releases, a speakers bureau, new memberships, and new fundraising ideas. No longer will Libertarians only show up every other November, we will be around all the time,

making news, spreading the message of liberty and growing the party.

Free of restrictions

Since we are not an officially recognized Party, we are free of the restraints of most campaign laws, therefore we will be operating like an independent organization and put all our efforts into building a first-class political operation over the next two years.

We will be having further meetings early next year to

discuss new ideas and new projects. All individuals who are serious about liberty are welcome. If you're looking for a way to get active, let us know, there are dozens of projects in the pipeline that need attention, from forming local groups to being a guest speaker, and you can help.

With these changes, we want to make it crystal clear to everyone: the LPNH is not a debate society or a coffee klatch, it is a political organization working for liberty and for electoral and legislative success. Our goal is to have an impact in this state and to start electing Libertarians.

Liberty T-Shirts & Caps Are Still Available!

In the spirit of putting their money where their mouth is, the LPNH has designed Hemp T-shirts and caps to celebrate the message of liberty. They impressed the delegates at the national convention.

The LPNH chose Hemp because it is durable, comfortable, environmentally friendly, and the Party fully supports re-legalization of Industrial Hemp.

The printed shirts have the Party's logo on the front, with Lady Liberty and a definition of "Libertarian" on the back. The embroidered shirts have Lady Liberty and LPNH on the front. The cap has the same on the front face.

Shirts are available in S, M, L and XL in the following colors: Navy w/Ivory text, Black w/Ivory text, Natural w/Blue text, Black w/Blue text.

The shirts are 55% Hemp and 45% Cotton and are available for only \$15 (printed) or \$18 (embroidered) + shipping/handling. The 100% Hemp embroidered caps (Black or Natural w/Navy brim) are \$20.00

To place an order or get more information contact:
Joe Hemp Production
28 McDonough St #2, Portsmouth, NH 03801
603-431-1618 • joseph@joehempproduction.com

When ordering, please make checks payable to LPNH and include: Shipping address, phone number, size and color. Thank you.



From the Editor

- Would you prefer an electronic version of the newsletter to a print copy? Either a PDF or HTML file or simply an email notice that a new issue is ready at lpth.org?
- You may have noticed that we're accepting advertizing. If you'd like to help sponsor the newsletter and market your business or services to fellow libertarians, ask for details. Please support our sponsors.
- If you move, please send me your new address to ensure your uninterrupted subscription. Thank you.
- Back issues of LibLines are available. New members can see what has gone before. Current members can pass them out to friends. They make great outreach materials for candidates and OPH booths.
- LibLines has gone back to a bi-monthly schedule, so if you have news or events you'd like to promote, send in the info ASAP.
- Thank you to everyone who submitted an article or comment to Libertarian Lines this year. Your contributions made it easier to put each issue together.

Send your emails to
LibLines@yahoo.com or write to us at
PO Box 5293, Manchester, NH 03108

Recap

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

We have a lot to build upon for the next election cycle. We gained a lot of experience which will be useful in upcoming local elections, and for the state races in 2004.

Everyone who placed "Enough is Enough/Vote Libertarian" signs and doesn't want to hold them, you can contact Brendan at 474-8283 or any of the party officers to arrange a pick up. If you have any John Babiarz yard signs, you can drop them off at the Concord office.

Democrats, Others Support Dan Belforti

How often does a competing political party help promote one of their opponents?

The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (DCCC) mailed 3 different pamphlets to voters around the 1st district comparing Dan Belforti's positions on certain issues with Jeb Bradley and Martha Fuller-Clark.

The first mailing had Belforti's name, campaign picture, stand on 2nd Amendment rights and phone number asking voters to call Dan and tell him to keep protecting 2nd Amendment rights. This mailing also had pictures and positions for Martha Fuller-Clark and Jeb Bradley ("Voted to increase gun license fees and voted to kill legislation that would have allowed residents to obtain a gun license for life").

A second mailing paraphrased Belforti's positions on smaller government and lower taxes compared to Bradley's votes for the statewide property tax and votes against limiting property taxes. The bottom of brochure asked voters to call Dan and tell him to keep opposing taxes. No mention

of Fuller-Clark on this one, but again paid for by the DCCC.

Belforti was on the phone for days responding to these mailings and talking with many intelligent voters and receiving excellent feedback.

"I realize that the DCCC's motives are to attract the fiscal conservative vote to my campaign in order to help their candidate. Although this race is not that close and a vote for Dan Belforti would not change the outcome. I advocate instant runoff voting so that voters can select the candidate that best reflects their values and can also vote for their favored major party candidate.

"I salute the DCCC for providing accurate and timely information on this very important race. Many voters who called in had no idea that I was even on the ballot and I credit the Democratic Party for helping to raise awareness."

Another source of support came from an unknown anti-abortion group's automated calls into the 1st district to promote Dan's campaign. The key line was "Dan Belforti is the only candidate for Congress who has never voted to allow abortions."

Belforti remarked, "Although technically there is nothing incorrect in this recording, I find it a bit misleading. I suppose I'm the preferred candidate to pro-lifers in that I don't support tax payer funding of abortion. I would have preferred they added my web site address so that voters could get all of the details on this position and others."

"I assume that this effort was funded by the Democratic Party in order to alert pro-life conservatives that Jeb Bradley doesn't reflect their values on this issue, but they realize they won't vote

for the Democrat either."

More details at www.belforti.org

Ballot Questions

The revision to 73-a failed, so we are left with the current language. Those that have a problem with it, will need to address the situation through the legislature.

The Constitutional Convention question also failed, so if you want an amendment, you'll have to go through the legislature.

Voting Results for Candidates

- John Babiarz, Governor - 13,028 - 2.96%
- Governor's race in 2000 - 6,446 - 1.14%
- Ken Blevens, US Senate - 9,835 - 2.2%
- Senate race in 1998 (Brian Christeson) - 7,603 - 2.4%
- Dan Belforti, US Congress, 1st - 7,387 - 3.33%
- 1st District in 2000 - 5,713 - 1.96%
- Rosalie Babiarz, US Congress, 2nd - 5,051 - 2.28%
- 2nd District in 2000 (Brian Christeson) - 6,188 - 2.27%

State Rep - district # - percentage

- Fred Strong - #1 - 8%
- Brad Dorsey - #34 - 25%
- Howard Wilson - #35 - 26%
- Paula Werme - #35 - 25%
- Rhonda Keiper - #47 - 25%
- Lisa Wilber - #48 - 27%
- Phil Greazzo - #50 - 21%
- Mark Edwards - #73 - 57%
- Leonard Epstein - #77 - 28%
- Bill DiScipio - #79 - 25%
- Dan Belforti - #86 - 18%
- Joseph Carringer - #86 - 17%



There's no better issue than prohibition to illustrate ... the many wrongs and excesses of big government.

Squandering

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

ransom. With the stroke of a pen our government created a problem it now charges the American taxpayers \$50 billion a year to fix. Our government did this by deceitfully getting around our Constitution. Prohibition should make any libertarian's blood boil.

Giant scam

The only way our government could pull off this giant scam is to blatantly violate the Constitutional rights of an arbitrary class of American citizens. The two parties in power know very well prohibition requires a Constitutional Amendment. Our government didn't go through that exercise for nothing the first time around with alcohol. The mischief our government used to bypass the Constitution and take away a basic right is exceedingly well documented on the Internet. The drug law reform groups have taken care of that.

There's no better issue than prohibition to illustrate with such broad detail the many wrongs and excesses of big government. There's no better issue to show the contrast between the philosophy of the parties in power and libertarian principles. When prohibition is examined carefully it becomes apparent that it encompasses every squalid mechanism of big government that libertarians understand and loathe. But it could be a veritable political goldmine for Libertarians.

When the public learns what prohibition is really about, I think it will be as astounded and disgusted as I was when I first saw the truth about it. Prohibition is unadulterated government tyranny. The LP can explain this to the public wrapped in libertarian principles by getting people

to our website. With extensive drug reform now going on in Europe and Canada, the time is ripe for the LP to use a liberty issue to show off its ideas.

I'm emphatically in favor of making prohibition the signature issue of the Libertarian Party. In its wildest dreams the LP couldn't design a more perfect issue to illustrate libertarian principles and achieve LP goals – especially its number one goal of increasing public awareness of, acceptance of, and support for libertarian ideas. If there were no Libertarian Party, this single issue, like slavery, would be enough to establish a political party here and now. The LP should take this gift from the prostitutes in power and run with it for all it's worth.

Some argue we should emphasize the extreme expense and

other "practical" aspects of prohibition and shy away from the "right of people to shoot heroin". Surely taking away our liberty is a more grievous government offense than robbing us. The LP is supposed to be the party of principle. If its goal is increasing public awareness of libertarian ideas, what better example does it need than contrasting its ideas with the ideas of a government that arbitrarily took away the liberty of 500,000 people to put billions in its pockets? It's time to openly debate a more effective strategy that makes full use of the Internet. The current timid approach squanders a golden opportunity for the LP.

C. J. Yarrusso
3 Nissitissit Road
Brookline, NH 03033
672-3706

LOCAL GROUPS

Join a group today. Don't see one near you? Start one! Organizational help and speakers are available.

Dartmouth Libertarians

Our Ivy Leaguers are doing great work. They've already hosted Gov. Gary Johnson and Doug Bandow of the Cato Institute and held an inter-party debate on foreign policy. Much more is planned soon. Contact Steven.A.Haidar@dartmouth.edu to get involved.

Greater Nashua Libertarians

A discussion/meeting group has formed to bring libertarians, constitutionalists and other freedom-lovers in the greater-Nashua area together. You can join the mailing list at <yahogroups.com/group/Nashua_LP>, or by sending an email to Nashua_LP-subscribe@yahogroups.com, or call Rich at 595-9808 between 10am and

7pm and leave a message with your contact info.

Their next meetings will be December 16th and January 20th at the Nashua Library.

Keene State Libertarians

Keene State College students Jim Maynard and Michelle Otterson have worked feverishly to promote Libertarianism in a predominantly liberal school and community.

They invite Libertarians in Keene and surrounding towns to work with them. You can e-mail them at: ksclp@yahoo.com or on the web at: <www.ksclp.org>

Seacoast Libertarians

Brendan Kelly of Seabrook has started a group for libertarians in the Seacoast area. Contact him at 474-8283 to join in.

Upcoming Events

Every Wednesday

Freedom Forum discussion group at Borders bookstore in south Nashua. 7pm to 10pm.

Saturday, Jan 4

NHORML meeting at Manchester Public Library, 4pm.

Tuesday, Jan 14

LPNH monthly meeting. 7pm to 9pm at 106 South State St in Concord.

Monday, Jan 20

Nashua area libertarians meeting, 7pm at Nashua Public Library.

January 22-31

Filing period for local elections. Check with your town clerk.

Tuesday, Jan 28

Freedom Film Festival, 7pm at Friendship Club, 35 Orchard Ave in Nashua. <fff.ijaq.net>

Saturday, Feb 1

NHORML meeting at Manchester Public Library, 4pm.

Tuesday, Feb 11

LPNH monthly meeting. 7pm to 9pm at 106 South State St in Concord.

Tuesday, Feb 25

Freedom Film Festival, 7pm at Friendship Club, 35 Orchard Ave in Nashua. <fff.ijaq.net>

**Get involved!
Come to a meeting or join a discussion group.**

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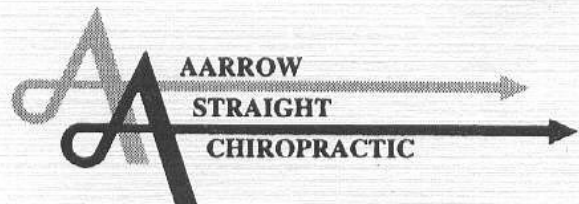


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Libertarian Party

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Election Recap

see page 1

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World Wide Web!



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www.lpnh.org

National Web Address
www.lp.org

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