



Libertarian Lines

The Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of New Hampshire

Volume 28, Issue 8 ★ Nov./Dec. 2003

2003 Convention Recap

We had an exciting day of speakers, forums, exhibitors, information and more at the Highlander Inn in Manchester on November 1st. We set a record for pre-registered attendees, and had a near-record turnout, over 85 people, including over twenty from out of state, a noted improvement over the last two years.

It was a whole weekend of fun. Many out-of-state guests spent the whole weekend, some stayed a few extra days to explore NH. A dinner was organized on Friday night, with about 20 people attending, and a sizeable group staying up past midnight building friendships in the bar.

We had reporters from the BBC, London Telegraph, AP, Concord Monitor, WMUR and more there, even Craig Benson complimented us on getting the press to the event. Several convention attendees were interviewed throughout the day.

We had a full exhibitors area, offering books, tapes, advice and information. We'd like to thank each of them: Twin Rivers Real-Estate, Coldwell Banker Realtors, Americans for Campaign Reform, Children of the Republic, Citizens for a Sound Economy, First Amendment Legal Defense Fund, Free State Project, Merrimack Valley seekers, NH Center for Constitutional Studies, Pathfinder Academy, and Second Amendment Sisters Foundation.

We couldn't include everything due to space limits, a more complete report is available at www.lpn.org

Craig Benson's Luncheon Speech

Governor Benson started off by thanking John Babiarz for all his great work on the Efficiency Commission, calling him a key member

of the team. He also said the saddest day of his political life was when he won and John lost the governor's race.

Per his usual style, he delivered a speech which got right to the point of his many initiatives since taking office, noting in particular how many of them made no use of taxpayer monies, which drew applause from the audience. Among

his primary goals are a Taxpayer Bill of Rights, fixing education funding, a private initiative to put laptop computers into schools, flexibility in learning opportunities for students (ie, self-directed learning), bringing more competition into the healthcare field, more opportunities for nurses, and his business plan competition (the largest in the nation). He said that all the problems of today can be solved by creative solutions.

After his speech, the FSP officers presented him with a gift for his support for the project, a porcupine puppet with the state flag.

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It was a whole weekend of fun.



News from the Executive Board

- Thanks to everyone who came to the convention this year. It was one of our best ever. The board thanks everyone for their show of support in re-electing them to guide this Party into the next year.
- We are looking for people to join our media team to create press releases and to be available for interviews and talk shows. As well as hold practice sessions and work with public access. Contact Rich Tomasso if you'd like to be involved.
- If you have any suggestions for government efficiency or knowledge of government operations, please contact John Babiarz.
- The current state budget process has shown some faults with the system. If you have any experience with budgeting, please contact your state rep and senator to offer your suggestions and insights.

**With
your
help,
we can
do it.**

Petitioning Plans

*Once again, we have the opportunity to
complete all our major petitioning
in one day.*

With your help, we can do it.

We have the petitions ready. The process has already begun, at outreach events and at the city elections in November. We know when and where the registered voters will be available. All we need is for you to step up and do your part. This is the most important thing you can do to help the Party right now.

The Presidential Primary will be on January 27th. So in every city and town across the state, tens of thousands of voters will be at the polls. All you have to do is stand outside with a clipboard and a smile, and ask them to sign one of your petitions.

If everyone reading this would give just two hours on that day to collecting signatures, we would be done and have Ken Blevens and Dan Belforti and our other candidates qualified for the ballot. That means they can spend the next 10 months campaigning for office and not have to worry about ballot access.

To join this effort send an email to <petitions@lpmh.org> or call 1-800-559-LPNH. You can download petitions from <www.lpmh.org> or the candidate websites.

*If we gather enough petitions that day,
the Exec Board will host a
celebration party in February to kick off
the start of the campaign season.*

Election Results

We had three candidates in Keene. James Maynard and Michelle Otterson for City Council, and Pat LaPree for School Board. They had good media coverage, produced commercials, had giveaways for supporters and volunteers, even a full-page article in the Keene Sentinel right before the election. Alas, none of them made it into office. None of our write-in candidates won their races either.

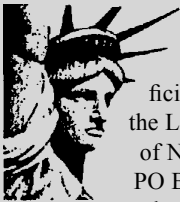
None of the candidates are discouraged and will be involved in future campaigns. Speaking of which, town elections will be here before you know it and you need to file your papers ASAP. We won three town offices earlier this year, lets add a few more next year. There are also many commissions and boards which are looking for help, you can get yourself an inside view of your local government and build credibility while promoting liberty.

Also, please consider running for state rep or higher office, the more candidates we have, the better our chances for ballot access and victory. Media, volunteer and other help is available for you.

While You Were Sleeping

Recent anti-liberty developments which affect your life:

- You are now required to provide a Social Security Number when applying for a driver's license, even though the entire program is optional.
- Organizers of non-profit organizations have to register with the Justice Department.
- The FBI is investigating peaceful protest groups.



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) 2003 by the individual authors.

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

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Medical Privacy by Sue Blevins

She compared healthcare before and after the government got involved. Government estimates of costs are totally off base, usually by a factor of 10 or more. Medical privacy is an issue that cuts across all demographic and political lines. It turns out many solutions to privacy already exist under state contract law for divulging and sharing of information. Her book, "Medicare's Midlife Crisis" is available through www.forhealthfreedom.org



Michael Badnarik

Said he won't compromise his positions for the campaign. He says it's working, he gains supporters and converts to liberty on a daily basis. He's getting media attention by saying exactly what he thinks. Running for president was not his original idea. He was running for state rep and gave an opening speech for another candidate and got a standing ovation. He was asked to run for president, you're looking at the results. He's traveled 10,000 miles on only \$5000.

He said the Constitution was created to protect your property and therefore your rights. Communism and the Constitution are mutually exclusive, most folks do not understand that. His solution is to educate people about property and therefore their rights. He's using his lifetime experience as an instructor to get the message out to voters, to share our ideas and explain liberty.

Among the first things he would do upon taking office would be to declare 20,000 gun laws unconstitutional. His homeland security plan: "everyone buy a gun, we'll

call you if we need you." He'd also declare the national state of emergency of May 9, 1933 over. His first executive order to various agencies: "start sending out your resumes." And he would prosecute BATFE agents that infringed on your right to own and carry a gun (except during a commission of a crime, of course).

His campaign goal is to make a difference, using his campaign as a soapbox to tell people about the Constitution. With a tall soapbox, he can reach more people. He says he won't fail because he will work as hard as he can. He's aiming for at least 2 million votes. He also thinks the LP has been too much of a debate society and we need to reform how the LP operates.

www.badnarik.org



Gary Nolan

Spoke well of the need to talk about real issues and real solutions. Mentioned his media experience and pledge to include local candidates whenever he can as he travels around the country as the nominee.

The campaign is about outreach, contacting as many people as possible, bringing them into the Party, getting them to come to us. Show and explain the benefits of liberty, how their lives will be better with liberty.

He wants to get rid of the income tax. The IRS took his savings after selling a business. His father could only work so much overtime or he'd take home less money. Some like to call it a progressive tax, he prefers to call it a disincentive to work. Estimates are that without FICA and other taxes, economic growth would reach 15%. Bring

manufacturing back to this country by cutting taxes. Businesses pay no taxes anyway, it all gets passed on to the consumer.

Healthcare costs are out of control. It costs \$900 million to get a drug approved through the FDA. There's no incentive to cure "orphan diseases", the obstacle to starting a new pharmaceutical company is too high. And the delays cost lives. He cited many examples.

Among his first tasks on taking office would be to pardon non-violent drug offenders, and maybe even tax evaders.

He's been doing a lot of radio and college speeches. He says college kids care very much about Social Security and know the Ds & Rs aren't doing anything about it. He says he can get media exposure via contacts and past exposure. He wants to run radio ads now to build a buzz about the LP, so we are the third party everyone talks about. He's done outreach to the Arab-American community, made good contacts and got pledges of support, and is getting environmentalists aboard as well.

www.garynolan.com



Elected Office Forum

Rosalie Babiarz, Howard Wilson, Sherry Kahn and Don Gorman talked about running for office, what it was like to hold office, and encouraged people to run for local office. Many of the offices involve a minimal amount of work, as little as one day or evening a month.

The key to local office is to build a local reputation, be a good citizen. Join community groups, help out on town projects, volunteer with youth programs, help other campaigns, volunteer to sit on a board or

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The key to local office is to build a local reputation.

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commission. Candidates have been asked to serve for office because the townspeople trust them.

Another good way to become known is to ask intelligent questions at town meetings or hearings. Odds are others will have the same concerns you do and will admire you for voicing them. Many town meetings have a small attendance, so your one voice can carry a lot of weight.

When you get elected, read all the manuals and guidebooks they give you, and just pay attention to what is happening. In 3-6 months, you will know more than anyone else in your office and can start having fun and making reforms.

You can hold town and state office at the same time, and one is often a stepping-stone to the other.

Business Meeting

John Babiarz opened the meeting with remarks on the current year and the year to come.

"We've done a lot with excellent volunteers and the Executive Board. We can't just be out there on our principles, we have to sell it. Even if it's hard, because it's the right thing to do.

"The days of the LPNH coming to the statehouse in shorts and t-shirts are over. We are out there fulfilling a mission: to make sure our republic is kept strong. D & R factions want to grow government. We are the only Party with the sanity to bring it all back. Our goal is that when people are ready to look for us, we'll have a large and well-branded Party ready for them.

"Our management strategy has changed to "can-do", there is nothing holding us back. With little money we've made significant gains in credibility and media attention. We're coming out with a positive message. We must form new alliances and strengthen existing ones, from private property to the environmental movement. It's our job to support candidates, and outreach to FSPers. We need to avoid mistakes

of the past. We can learn through the major party presidential campaigns this year. Make sure we have the right tools."

The final amendments to be ratified at the next general membership business meeting (TBA) are as follows.

Change Article IV:4 to read: "All officers shall be residents of the state of New Hampshire for at least one year and shall be members of the State Party in good standing for at least one year."

Change Article V:1 to read: "A Party member shall be any person whose state dues are current and who has signed a pledge required by this Article."

Change Article VII:2 to read: "Any party member attending a convention who is a resident of New Hampshire and been a State Party member in good standing for at least 30 days shall become a delegate and may vote at such convention."

The contest for US Senate between Dan Belforti and Ken Blevens was close. Each candidate gave a speech, answered questions from the audience and each other. In the end, Ken won the vote of the delegates. Dan did go on to accept the nomination for Congress in District 1.

No one at the convention accepted the nomination for 2nd District or for Governor. If anyone would like to run for either office, please contact the Executive Board. Governor is a

ballot-status race, and we've always run a candidate.

Also, if anyone would like to run for state rep, state senate or county office, please contact the Exec Board so we can list your campaign and get petitions ready. The more candidates we have on the ballot, the better they all do.

The current Executive Committee was re-elected. The Judicial Committee will be: Rosalie Babiarz, Don Gorman and Paula Werme. Our presidential electors are: John Babiarz, Rosalie Babiarz, John Barnes, and Don Gorman.

Next was the Libertarian of the Year award. This year it went to George Reich for all his work on the Welcome Committee, doing outreach, selling raffle tickets, answering emails and generally being a great help to our efforts. Thank you, George.

Volunteer Brendan Kelly expressed his admiration for the Exec Board and our dedicated volunteers. He also called for more involvement, urging members to come to meetings and help out, for "everyone to please become involved."

Richard Boddie's Keynote Speech

This was probably the funniest keynote speech ever given at a LP event. Boddie made great use of one-liners, anecdotes, quotes, impressions, personal recollections, history, motivation and speaking

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An exciting day of speakers, workshops, vendors, information and more.

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from the heart. We were repeating parts of his speech to each other all night.

He is working on two books, including his autobiography, *An Entourage of One*. (When this book comes out, buy two copies, it'll be that good).

He said the LP isn't growing fast because we are too nerdy, we all need to loosen up and have more music at our events. We need to stop debating constantly, stop spinning our wheels, find out what works and do it. Liberty is one thing you can't have if you don't give it to others.

If we stay in the fight, show voters they have a choice, we will win. When we get into the debate, we win. Perhaps the Party was born too soon, we didn't have a think tank or magazine backing us up. Now we have a larger base and some support. The Party is the retail operation of the movement, selling our product, which is Liberty.

Stay the course, don't change our ideals, but constantly improve the tools. We need to boil down our thoughts down to the simplest, shortest terms to get the attention of voters. And use better key phrases: not victimless crimes, but individual action; not public schools, but government schools; not anarchy, but self-government; not abolish, but replace; not activist, but volunteer or advocate.

Liberty must be seen as a personal or spiritual quest, not just an economic one. Do good dumb things. We deal with the effects of the welfare state, but in reality we deal with other people. People may lose liberty in a day and not notice it for a century. What most politicians lack is courage, hopefully when we gain power, we will have that courage.

"The powerful play goes on, and you can contribute a verse." Reframe your mind, you'll find you have more freedom than you

think. Think in terms of the 3 H's: Humor, Hope and Harmony.

Boddie wrote to us after he got home, "Extend my deep gratitude to all those folks who were part of the events and who made my stay in The Granite State one I'll always cherish, even after I'm living there." (He signed on as an FSP member.)



After Dinner Show

James Maynard announced the official formation of the NH Liberty Alliance (www.nhliberty.org), the first broad-based pro-liberty PAC in the state. Dan Belforti and Ken Blevens were the first to make donations.

The FSP presented a plaque to Alan Weiss, for his work counting and certifying the ballots. They also

presented gifts of porcupine puppets to the members of the Welcome to the Granite State Committee (John Barnes, Michelle Dumas, George Reich and Rich Tomasso). The LPNH had the drawing of the day's 50-50 raffle, won by Jim Dumas.

Bonnie Scott of New York, our Region 6 alternate LNC rep, gave a summary of news from national, including the finances, office lease, and suggested we ask the LNC to have a meeting in Manchester in 2004 to see what we were doing and so NH members could meet the national leadership. She will be stepping down as our rep and is asking for a replacement to come forward to help represent the northeast on the LNC.

The After Party

Attendees stayed long after dinner was over. Richard Boddie provided music for the ballroom's many impromptu meetings. The LPNH, NHLA and FSP leadership sat down to coordinate activities and to re-enforce the independence of each group and to establish good lines of communication between them. Many action items were generated, watch the news for some major announcements in the future. A sizeable group went to the hotel bar and stayed up talking late into the night.

Attendees stayed long after dinner was over.

Candidate CD Available

By George Phillies

George Phillies and Bonnie Scott have prepared a candidate support CD-ROM. This disk contains pre-made sets of web pages, video clips, handouts, and advice articles. No matter whether you are running for local office, trying to set up a county or town organization, raising money, or petitioning, the CD has information you can use.

The disk is available to all libertarian candidates by request to George Phillies, 508-754-1859 or phillies@4liberty.net (your papermail address is needed). The disk is free, but donations to support distribution costs will be appreciated.

Please make checks payable to the Liberty Congressional PAC, and include your name, address, occupation and employer. Donations are not tax deductible.

LPNH Candidates List

Libertarians running for office and their supporters can share info and strategy at <yahoogroups.com/group/LPNH_Candidates>

Free Staters and New Hampshire

For libertarians and free staters interested in the Granite State. Share your insights and let out-of-state friends know about it. <yahoogroups.com/group/NHLiveFreeOrDie>

NH Libertarians Mailing list

A list for NH Libertarians to discuss news, issues, politics and ideas. It's already the second largest NH political yahoo group! <yahoogroups.com/group/nhlibertarians>

Granite Staters for Medical Marijuana

Bringing the issue to the forefront during the presidential primary. Find out more at <GraniteStaters.org>

And For the Ladies...

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

Real Campaign Reform

Support your right to political free speech. Visit <RealCampaignReform.org> and see all the great work they're doing to overturn the BCRA and other regulations against political speech.

LPNH
News
Bits

Two New LPNH Membership Options

As a reminder, your LPNH and LP-US memberships are separate. We left the Unified Membership Plan (UMP) in January. This is a return to the system of separate state and national memberships. The net result is that renewing your membership with national does not renew your state membership, and vis versa.

You can update your contact information and renew online at <lpnh.org/join.htm> or by calling 431-1618.

We have created two new membership categories for you to consider. First, we have a family membership option, only \$40 per year for you and your spouse and/or children. Second, you can become a monthly pledger starting at just \$10/month and never have to worry about your membership expiring so long as you continue to pledge.

We are working on creating membership premiums. If your business or organization would like to participate in this program, please contact the executive board.

Your membership dollars will be going to affect positive change in NH. We'll be using our resources to lobby for legislation, elect our candidates, grow the Party and for other political causes.

Ride to Freedom Raffle Winner



The lucky winner is James Dalton (ticket #290).
Congratulations!

To raise funds for the LPNH, we raffled off a brand new ATV, trailer, cover and a year's membership to the NH ATV Club. We sold nearly all the tickets and held the drawing at a BBQ cookout in Grafton on October 25th.



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Form Your County Affiliate

To build a more effective organization, we want to form county affiliates within the LPNH. It will facilitate more local contact and political activity.

Organizing a county is easier than a state. It's easier to reach everyone and find a suitable meeting place and probably most people are in the local calling area. The LPNH already has provisions for recognizing Affiliates, you just need a group of 5 people in a county to form the organization.

If you want to form a county affiliate, or host a county meeting, please contact the Executive Board and we'll help you get started. To date, Cheshire County is organized. Will your county be next?

LOCAL GROUPS

Join a group today. Start one yourself! Organizational help and speakers are available.

Dartmouth Libertarians

Our Ivy Leaguers are doing great work. They've hosted Gov. Gary Johnson and Doug Bandow of Cato and held an inter-party debate on foreign policy. Contact Steven.A.Haid ar@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. Join the mailing list at <yahogroups.com/group/Nashua_LP>, or send an email to Nashua_LP-subscribe@yahogroups.com, or call Rich at 579-0724 and leave a message with your contact info.

Monadnock Libertarians

The official Cheshire County affiliate. Chair James Maynard invites libertarians in Keene and the rest of Cheshire county to work for Liberty.

For more information, please visit <www.monadnocklibs.org>, or e-mail monadnocklibs@keenenh.us

Seacoast Libertarians

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

Free Candidate Websites

To get as many Libertarian candidates as possible, and to help us win as many races as possible, James Maynard is offering free web design and advertising-free hosting for any and all LPNH candidates. For more details contact James at <jgmaynard@yahoo.com> or 358-5079.



Upcoming Events

Every Wednesday

Freedom Forum discussion group at Borders in Nashua, 7pm to 9pm. <ff.ijaq.net>

Tuesday, Dec 23

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

December

Holiday party for area Porcupines.

Jan 10-11

Choosing an Independent President conference at Wayfarer Inn in Bedford. www.cuip.org

Jan 10-11

Gun show at Center of New Hampshire.

Tuesday, Jan 13

LPNH monthly meeting, 7pm at 2 Valley Rd, Bow.

Tuesday, Jan 27

Presidential Primary. Excellent time to collect petition signatures.

February

Petitioning completion party, time and place to be announced.

Tuesday, March 9

Town Election Day. Excellent time to collect petition signatures.



From the Editor

- If you move, please send in your new address to ensure uninterrupted service. Also, be sure to check your mailing label to see if your subscription is expiring and renew right away.
- If you'd like an electronic copy of the newsletter (PDF), please send me your email address. This option will help your membership dollars go further.
- Back issues of LibLines are available. They make great outreach materials for candidates and OPH booths. [CUT]
- Please contact your local library and grocery store to find out if we can have our newsletter displayed in their community section if they provide such a service for non-profit organizations.
- If you'd like to sponsor the newsletter and market your business or service to over a thousand fellow libertarians, ask for details. Please support our sponsors.

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Libertarian Party

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Convention Recap see page 1

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