



Libertarian Lines

The Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of New Hampshire

Volume 29, Issue 1 ★ Jan/Feb 2004

Come to the LPNH Special Convention on February 29

By John Babiarz

My fellow Libertarians,

At the November 1st convention, delegates made changes to our Party's constitution. Those changes need to be ratified by the members, so we are having a special convention on Sunday, February 29th at 2:00PM at the Inn at Danbury, 67 Route 104 in Danbury (1-866-DANBURY or www.innatdanbury.com).

The event is free and open to all LPNH members and our friends.

We'll also discuss other LPNH business, nominate additional candidates, update you on projects, discuss petitioning and more. There'll also be a very special announcement. Come to the convention and be the first to hear the exciting news!

If you're not yet an LPNH member, you can join now and

be able to vote at the convention. If you're thinking about joining, stop by and you'll get to meet party officers and many volunteers and activists and have all your questions about the Party answered and you can sign up right there.

Please join us after the meeting for a social hour with other libertarians and free-staters who will be visiting for our Winter Escape to New Hampshire event being held all that week. I hope to see you all there.

There'll also be a very special announcement.

Petitioning Plans

A huge thank you to everyone who went out petitioning at the presidential primary. Cold weather and some areas of low turnout hampered our efforts to complete petitioning, but we did collect several hundred signatures, putting us on the road to finishing early.

Keep collecting!

Please keep collecting! Petitioning is important for our candidates and also serves as outreach to remind folks that they will have a Libertarian option in November.

Our goal now is to have petitioning completed on or before Town Election Day, March 9th. With your help, we can do it. We have the petitions ready. We know when and where the registered voters will be available. All we need is for you to do your part. In nearly every town across the state, tens of thousands of voters will be at the polls. All you have to do is stand at the polls 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 will be done and have Ken Blevens, Dan Belforti, Richard Kahn and our other candidates qualified for the ballot. That means they can spend the next eight months

campaigning for office and not have to worry about ballot access.

Join this effort, send an email to petitions@lphn.org or call 1-800-559-LPNH. You can download petitions at www.lphn.org or the candidate websites.

If we have gathered enough petitions by that day, the Exec Board will host a celebration party in April for everyone who collected signatures to kick off the start of the campaign season.

All we need is for you to do your part.

Fixing Elections

Party member Howard Wilson has filed suit against the State of New Hampshire to have RSA 652:11 declared unconstitutional and stricken from the books. The statute in question is our main barrier to ballot status as a Party and why we have to petition when we don't reach 4% of the statewide vote. Legislative means of reducing this burden have been tried and the Legislature keeps voting against the reform.

The case documents outline the inconsistency of ballot access by the various statutes, the special privilege being given to the two big parties and the contradictions in claims made by various government officials concerning elections expenses and "confusing" ballots (ie, those with "too many" candidates).

The case is being filed with the state Supreme Court. Documents are available from Howard. Victory in this case should put all political candidates and Parties on an equal footing with respect to ballot access.

Celebrating with GSMM

On January 29th, *Granite Staters for Medical Marijuana* held a reception for all their activists and supporters. The GSMM got the Democrat presidential candidates to take a public stand on the issue and answer if they thought doctors and patients should be put in jail for simply trying the most effective treatment. Special guests were former Governor Gary Johnson of New Mexico and the Marijuana Policy Project's national director, Rob Kampia.

Several Libertarians attended the event, including 2nd district congressional candidate Richard Kahn. Many of the attendees signed ballot access petitions, learned more about the LPNH and even expressed an interest in helping us.

There are some major efforts on this issue moving forward in other states and more will be happening in New Hampshire soon.

Learn more at www.GraniteStaters.com

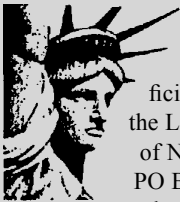
Campaign Update

Richard Kahn has agreed to run for 2nd District, so we now have a full slate of federal candidates. We're still looking for more state-level candidates. 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. And remember, local elections are this spring, there may still be time to file.

Another interesting development on the presidential campaign trail, Amazon.com has a new feature where you can contribute to a campaign. So far Michael Badnarik and Gary Nolan have taken in a few thousand dollars, at one point Gary was even in first place! We'll have more campaign news at the convention on Feb 29.

News from the Executive Board

- 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 to get involved.
- If you have any suggestions for government efficiency or knowledge of government operations, please contact John Babiarz.
- The board would like to thank everyone who helped us in 2003 with time and/or money. We've got more plans for 2004, so roll up your sleeves and get involved!



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

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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>

Candidate CD Available

By George Phillies

George Phillies and Bonnie Scott have prepared a candidate support CD-ROM. This disk contains almost 20 Megs of material, including 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.

While You Were Sleeping

Recent developments of concern:

- CAPPS II was put into place with no resistance from the airlines. You now have to supply your SSN and birth date when booking a flight to be run through the databases and get your color code.
- Fellow patriotic citizen, Richard Celata of Sanvornville, may be kicked out of his home along with his pregnant wife and one year old child for alleged zoning violations.
- No longer will politicians and bureaucrats be able to brag that the United States has never failed to live up to its investment obligations. The U.S. Treasury will default on 30-year bonds bought in May 1979 at 9.125% interest. The bonds are being recalled.

Winter Escape to New Hampshire

February 25-29, 2004

Hosted by the

Welcome to the Granite State Committee

Escape to NH was a huge success! Porcupines from all over the U.S. and Canada joined us for a week of fun. New friendships were made. Coalitions were formed. NH towns and cities were toured. Now we're doing it again! New Hampshire is a beautiful and fun place to be in the winter and we want to share it with you while you search for your new home in New Hampshire.

Please join us at *Winter Escape to New Hampshire*. Space is limited, so please make your reservations now at The Inn at Danbury, then RSVP to the Welcome to the Granite State Committee (fspnh@lpmh.org), to let us know you will be there.

The Inn at Danbury can be reached at:
67 N.H. Route 104, Danbury,
NH 03230.

Phone: (603)768-3318,
or 1-866-DANBURY,
Fax: (603)768-3773.

Email:
alex@innatdanbury.com.

Reservation requests may be made via email and fax at any time, and by phone 8 AM - 8 PM eastern. If you identify yourself as LP or FSP, the innkeepers will give you a break on the price. Please book early. Not only does it help LPNH and the innkeepers plan a better experience, it also improves the chances of monopolizing the inn and kitchen, which means *more fun!*"

The Inn was chosen because of its central location, making it easy for Free Staters to tour and explore the state. If there is enough interest, we'll arrange for some guided tours by Realtors in the various areas. You will also be very close to all the winter recreational activities you can think of:

- Downhill and cross-country skiing and snowboarding (Mt. Sunapee, Pat's Peak, Ragged Mountain)

- Snowmobiling (there are trails all over the state and many places to rent a sled for the day)
- Ice fishing (if you have never been, this can be great fun)
- Ice skating (there are ice skating rinks in many NH towns and cities, or just find an inviting lake)
- Sledding/tubing (not just for kids!)

Additional activities include a field-trip tour to the historic NH State House, where you will watch the legislature in session and learn about the NH legislative process (details TBA). You may even get to sit in on a legislative hearing.

The Inn also has comfortable public meeting places where we can get together as a group. If there is anything we learned from *Escape to NH*, it's that Free Staters like nothing better than to stay up all night, laughing and talking! We will also provide access to a small library of pro-liberty DVDs and tapes for those who want them. On Sunday, meet many LPNH members from all over the state, as we will be holding a special LPNH convention right at the Inn!

**Please
join us!**



Please join us and make your reservations today.
More details at <www.lpmh.org/winterescape.htm>

LEAPing in Manchester

As part of their nationwide speaking tour, LEAP (Law Enforcement Against Prohibition) spoke at a social event for libertarians at the Manchester Library on November 24th. Mr Christ, a former police captain, went over his organization's goals and methods and other cool stuff.

Goals and methods and other cool stuff.

His first suggestion, when someone comes to you with a "Drug Free" program, tell them to stop, and come back when they can point to *one* drug-free prison.

He pointed out that most people stop smoking cigarettes (nicotine is one of the most addictive chemicals out there) without a pill, patch, hospitalization, "rehab" or anything aside from their own willpower. We also get people to stop smoking with social pressures, banishing them outside, getting kids to come home from school to tell their parents to stop, etc. Addiction is a choice. Doesn't mean it's an easy one. Anything you can say "no" to is a choice.

It is so easy

It is so easy to show people the failures of Prohibition. Legislation doesn't solve any drug problem, it solves crime problems. The consistent comment he hears is "I never thought of it that way." And he always has people in the audience who agree with legalization, no matter what. We can sell the idea, we just have to market it.

Legalization is the elimination of Schedule 1 (banned) drugs. If we say government can't ban drugs then we move everything into a legal, regulated market. We currently move drugs up

and down the Schedule chart every year. Legalization turns drugs into a medical issue. Decriminalization keeps it a violation, often carries a fine, but no criminal charge.

All of our laws are prohibitions

There has never been a prohibition that worked, going back to the Garden of Eden. Someone will always provide something someone wants. All of our laws are prohibitions. Not to say we want to eliminate all laws (ie, Murder is still wrong). But there is a difference between actions with victims (ie, murder, robbery) and consensual acts, where all people involved agree to the activity. The latter activities are made illegal by people who don't like them.

Look at assault and battery versus a boxing match as an example of a crime with a victim versus a consensual activity that looks the same on the surface (two guys beating on each other). We don't have more crime because of laws against persons and property, but we do have more crime because of laws which are against ourselves. Such laws often empower criminal and underworld elements.

Call up a reporter on a "drug-related" shooting. Ask if he knows if either party was on drugs, since if it was an "alcohol-related" shooting that would mean the person was drunk. If they say no (likely), then suggest it would be more accurate to call it a "drug prohibition" related shooting.

Compare how we treat an alcoholic who's not hurting anyone or another's property to a heroin addict who's not hurting anyone or anything, and who can be holding the same job.

Drug prohibition affects everything: taxes, education, medicine, police, civil rights, etc, and often badly.

Learn more at www.leap.cc

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Free Town Project -- Where Politics and Marketing Meet

By Chuck Geshlider

Our chance is here. The Free State Project chose New Hampshire. The question on the minds of every dues-paying member of the LPNH should be: Now what?

From day one, folks all over America have asked promoters of the FSP: Will the migration of 20,000 "porcupines" (individuals who already believe in the libertarian ideal of self-ownership and the "non-aggression" policy), to the chosen state actually deliver enough support to bring a working majority of Representatives to that Capitol? After New Hampshire was chosen, the question became even more relevant.

Biggest challenge

The biggest challenge came from the cynical National Committee of the LPUSA. Can the LPNH take advantage of this migration and utilize the resources to catapult itself onto equal footing with the Democrats and Republicans? And if not, can the state affiliate of America's largest 3rd Party at least garner enough clout to pressure the two majors to "get in line"? Can the success of the LPNH (having drawn resources from the other 49 LP affiliates) do what the LPUSA has failed to do since it's inception? I say yes... On one condition.

30+ years of attempting to "sell" the ideals of Liberty (accepted as a package deal - embodied in the LP Platform, to be delivered via a majority of legislators),

without working prototypes has been a dismal failure. Sooner or later, enough Libertarians are going to recognize the age-old maxim utilized in the business world: no one attempts to market anything without a sample of their wares to show potential customers. We need something for relatively content Americans to "test drive" before buying!

If we're serious

If we are serious about having the rest of New Hampshire accept the value of Libertarianism in their Capitol, and see their Representatives pare down the government to our prescribed levels, it's incumbent on us to create a few Free Towns to show the rest of the state what we actually stand for... And how the whole state would be governed.

Attempting to sell these ideals solely with words and theory is impossible. But the

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It's incumbent on us to create a few Free Towns

A True Political Conservative

By Ken Blevens

What is a true political conservative? Is a true political conservative one who financially saves his constitutes money or is it one who saves himself or herself money? We would probably conclude that a conservative public official would save his or her constitutes money.

That is why I have decided to write this article. This instance, like so many in politics, the meaning seems to be reversed. This issue has been on my mind for some time. We have our Republican U.S. Senator Judd Gregg who has deferred a quarter of a million dollars or more of his property taxes to his Greenfield, NH neighbors and claims to be a political fiscal conservative. On the other hand, we have an individual, myself Libertarian Ken Blevens, who with the same opportunity in Bow, has not.

For you to come to a conclusion you should know that these acts were the free acts of each individual and no law was broken. The simple example here is if one thousand dollars is needed to operate a town or city government,

and ten taxpayers pay the cost, each pays one hundred dollars. Compare this to one taxpayer in the same instance paying only ten dollars and the other nine having to pay his or her ninety-dollar difference. In this example the nine pay an additional ten dollars each.

The numbers in Senator Gregg's case start with \$20,405 in 1990, that had to be made up by the other taxpayers of Greenfield. This information came from a 1990 article in the New Hampshire Business Review by Leslie More titled "100 Reasons Not to Vote for Judd Gregg." It being 2004, thirteen years later, simple math of 13 times \$20,000 equals over a quarter of a million dollars.

Recent checking with Greenfield verified that the Gregg property was still in current use. My point is this, when a politician tells you he or she is a fiscal conservative, check it out.

Ken Blevens is the Libertarian candidate for U.S. Senate and can be reached at 225-5547 or by e-mail at kblevens@totalnetnh.net, web site is www.blevens.org

Free Town Project

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

great thing about New Hampshire, where there are towns with populations under 100, is that creating these working "laboratories"; transformed into our shining beacons, is a very real possibility.

I arrived here January 1st with the intention to fulfill my lifetime desire of seeing "Liberty in my Lifetime" become a reality, and to participate as a citizen creating and living in such jurisdiction. On January 9th, I put up my \$25 and signed on the dotted line, officially becoming a member of the LPNH. I am not interested in being a spectator, watching another 30 years of virtual obscurity.

Inexplicable

Considering the high level of intelligence of the average LP member, the overall performance to date of this Party is absolutely inexplicable. Now, with the advent of the FSP, failure becomes inexcusable. The means to become successful at

real-world politics is certainly at our disposal. At least, if we create some prototypes, even if the rest of the state chooses to shun the idea, we can certainly say "it ain't our fault!" We will have provided the population of NH a viable choice at the polls, thus, the LPNH will have established itself as a "success". And then we may fairly claim, the People certainly have the government it deserves.

Take hold of this opportunity

I have been publicly proclaiming that without this intense competition from a strong alternative Party of Principle, the Free State Project is doomed. I welcome the chance of being proven wrong, but I do not believe either of the major Parties can be persuaded to take a principled stand and deliver the dream set forth by the Free State Project. The platforms of the D's and R's are floating non-sequiturs and any victory attained by libertarians within is sure to be temporary. If the LPNH is serious about winning elections and governing someday, they need to take hold of this

opportunity and direct whatever resources they have available towards helping those pioneering the Free Town Project. (Join the conversation by sending an e-mail to Free_Town_Project-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

This world (especially those of us who presently promote the Party to the rest of the nation), needs to see what happens when, somewhere, the LP is given the reigns of government by the People. We need some empirical confirmation that we are right about what we have been preaching and prescribing. In the words of lyricist Neal Peart of the famous rock group, RUSH: "Show me; Don't tell me."

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! yahogroups.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.

I am not interested in being a spectator, watching another 30 years of virtual obscurity.

Your LPNH Membership Options

As a reminder, your LPNH and LP-US memberships are separate. We left the Unified Membership Plan a year ago. This is a return to separate state and national memberships. Renewing your membership with national does not renew your state membership, and vis versa.

You can update your contact information, join or renew online at www.lpnh.org/join.htm, by calling 431-1618, or return the form on the back page of the newsletter.

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.

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 and Rockingham County is being organized.

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>

Every Saturday

"Porcupine Club" lunch gathering at Martha's Exchange, Main Street, Nashua at Noon.

Tuesday, February 24

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

February 25 - 29

Winter Escape to NH, sponsored by Welcome Committee. <www.lpnh.org/winterescape.htm>

Sunday, Feb 29

LPNH Convention, 2:00PM at the Inn at Danbury, 67 Route 104 in Danbury (768-3318 or www.innatdanbury.com).

Tuesday, March 9

Town Election Day in most locations. Excellent time to collect petition signatures.

Tuesday, March 9

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

Tuesday, March 23

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

April

Petitioning completion party, time and place to be announced.

June 24-27

Porcupine Freedom Fest at Rogers Campground in Lancaster. Email Tim Condon, tcondon@freestateproject.org for more info

Friday, June 25

NHLA Liberty Dinner in Plymouth, 6-9pm. See www.nhliberty.org for details.



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.
- 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 nonprofit organizations.
- If you'd like to sponsor the newsletter and market your business or service to more than a thousand fellow libertarians, ask for details. Please support our sponsors.

Send your emails to LibLines@lpnh.org or write to us at: PO Box 5293, Manchester, NH 03108



Libertarian Party

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**Special
Convention
on February 29** *see page 1*

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Libertarian Party Membership



- \$25 LPNH Membership \$40 Family LPNH Membership
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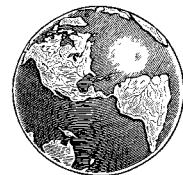
Occupation & Name of Employer* _____

*Optional - Federal Election Commission requires we ask.
I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.

Signature _____

Make Checks Payable to
**Libertarian Party
of New Hampshire**
**PO Box 5293
Manchester
NH 03108**
Phone: (800) 559-LPNH

Visit the Libertarian Party on the
World Wide Web!



New Hampshire Web Address
www.lpnh.org

National Web Address
www.lp.org

I have a friend who might be interested in the LPNH.

Please send a complimentary six month subscription of Libertarian Lines to:

