



# Libertarian Lines

The Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of New Hampshire

Volume 30, Issue 3 ★ January/February 2005

## Libertarian Candidates Running for Town Offices

We've got several very good candidates running for office this spring. Two years ago we elected three Libertarians to office, let us see if we can top that this year. All these candidates are running to win, so please do everything you can to support them.

In many towns there are still unfilled positions. You can run a write-in campaign and give your neighbors a Libertarian option.

### Philip Hodson

Is running in a two-way race for town council in Bedford. He has a real campaign planned, including a major fundraising effort from Libertarians nationwide. He's already had public speaking engagements and endorsements from local taxpayer groups.

Bedford citizens got hit with huge tax increases last year. Control of excessive spending is his primary campaign issue. Of special interest to Libertarians is that Bedford doesn't have a High School, and there will be warrant articles on the ballot regarding this issue. The school board is backing a \$50 million bond for construction of a new school, there are competing options to send Bedford children to neighboring Manchester, and another option for a private academy. Fortunately, the requirement for a supermajority for bond issues has allowed the taxpayers to prevail against building a new school, so far. If elected, he will oppose continuing attempts to unreasonably tax Bedford citizens.

## Hillsborough County Organized

### After much work, the LPNH has its first county affiliate!

A group of area Libertarians met in Bedford to finalize a party constitution and create an organizing committee. Philip Hodson hosted the gathering on January 23rd.

Despite the snow and a change in time, the meeting was a success. They had enough people to form the committee and a final constitution was agreed to and the petition for recognition from the state board was signed. They even signed up their first out-of-county member!

At the February 13 state meeting, the organizing committee presented the constitution to the state board and their petition was granted. Per our rules, all LPNH members residing in Hillsborough county are members of the county affiliate and will enjoy all benefits of membership.

The affiliate will have an official convention later this year. Until then an interim set of officers has been elected: Jim Perry is chair, Denise Penkalski is treasurer, Philip Hodson is political director and Rhonda Keiper is membership director.

A mailing list has been set up to facilitate communication among members, Hillsborough-LPNH@yahoogroups.com

Despite the snow and a change in time, the meeting was a success.

### Dawn Lincoln

One of our top activists who moved up from Connecticut last year. She's running for Budget Committee in Winchester. Early reports are the current situation and the incumbents represent a target rich

environment for her and other liberty candidates.

### Don Gorman

The most-elected Libertarian in the country is looking to extend his winning streak by running for School Board once again in Deerfield.

## 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.
- We have organized a Membership Committee, please contact Michelle Dumas to help.
- The Welcome to the Granite State Committee is looking for more members. If you'd like to welcome Libertarian free-staters to NH, join the team at fsp-nh@lpth.org.
- The LPNH has adopted a set of goals for 2005, please help us achieve them.

# Libertarians Can Speak Their Minds

By Rich Tomasso

*The legislative session has started. Already dozens of bills have been heard in Concord, ranging from a constitutional amendment to limit tax increases to a bill to repeal "hate crime" laws.*

It's all quite easy.

A few Libertarians have been there to give supporting or opposing testimony at the Legislative Office Building (LOB) in Concord on several bills. Their comments were usually well received and allowed us to promote libertarian ideas to our elected officials, and make contacts with other organizations and some of our friends in the statehouse.

## And So Can You

New Hampshire has the most representative legislature in the country, with 400 seats. Our state reps are our neighbors. NH also has one of the most accessible state governments, both the statehouse and legislative offices are open to the public. You can walk right in, no security checkpoint, no need to show an ID. It is the People's house

(after all you paid for it).

Anyone may testify at a bill hearing, to support or oppose a measure, suggest amendments or corrections, and even relate personal experience relevant to the subject matter. As a private citizen your words may carry more weight than those of a paid lobbyist.

It's all quite easy. Anyone may get a copy of the legislative calendar and the text of bills being heard, they are available online and at the LOB. If there's a bill you'd like to influence you can look up the sponsors or committee members and contact them directly, or find out when and where the hearing will take place and make your case to the whole committee at once.

## Register your opinion

For those who travel to Concord, if you merely want to register your opinion on a bill there are blue sheets at the front of the hearing room you can sign and check pro or con. It's quick and you don't even need to stay for the hearing.

If you wish to speak, fill out one of the pink cards, noting the bill, time needed and your contact info. After the presentation of the bill, the chair will recognize everyone who submitted a card to deliver their testimony.

## Prepare ahead of time

Have your remarks prepared ahead of time and bring a printed copy to submit for the record. Figure that 1 typed page is 3 minutes of speaking, the most we recommend if you're new to this or don't have some recognized expertise on the topic.

Practice speaking your testimony. Read it to a friend to make sure it's understandable. Dress at least business casual for the hearing. Be polite and remember to use titles when addressing state officials. If you respect them, they'll respect you.

After your testimony (and sometimes during), you may be asked questions. Answer them to the best of your ability. The question may be on an unrelated topic. If you don't know how to answer a question, you can ask for clarification. If you're really stumped, be up front, the reps do appreciate honesty. You can answer with "That's a good question, I hadn't considered that" or "it's beyond my expertise" or even "I'm not sure." If you are there with a group, you can ask to defer the answer to one of them who has more knowledge on the subject.

## Libertarians need to be heard

Our legislators represent our interests and we Libertarians need to have our side heard, both to influence legislation and to educate elected officials on matters of importance to us. Legislative testimony is an easy and direct way to do this.

If any member wishes to testify for a bill and would like some help, the Executive Board is available to assist you.

## 2004-2005 Executive Board

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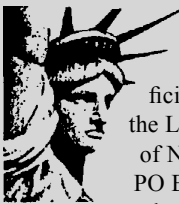
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800-559-5764 or 603-431-1618.  
Visit our Web site: <http://www.LPNH.org>

# More Election Results

*Again, a huge thank you to everyone who went out helped our candidates. Whether it was putting up or holding signs, sending in money, putting a bumper sticker on your car, or telling friends and neighbors about the Libertarian choice.*



We inadvertently missed a few results from last time. (Which is why it's so important for our membership to communicate with the board and the editor, so we can inform the party of what is happening.)

Lisa Wilber of Weare ran for state representative. It was her third attempt. She said "I was proud to make the ballot as a Libertarian and receive 3,622 votes between Weare and Goffstown. I took no money for my campaign and personally invested in professional signs and advertising. Each year I have gotten more

votes than the previous election. I'll be running again in 2006 - same district, same seat."

In conversations with politicians from that area, everyone said Lisa had the best signs and has a very good chance of being elected next time around.

In the "hey that's interesting" category, Rich Kahn, who ran for Congress in district 2, got more votes than Ralph Nader did in his



bid for the presidency. Pretty cool when you consider Nader had all that free publicity and had twice as many voters available to him.

In other political news, Rich Tomasso was elected to vice chair of the Nashua Conservation Commission, thanks to a change in the makeup of the body. "Being a Libertarian hasn't been an issue. The only real comment I've gotten so far has been 'I bet that means you're pretty independent' and they're happy I'm not a yes-man for the mayor or anyone else."

The final report from the Badnarik campaign has been released. Longer than the draft report, it contains a lot of information which should answer everyone's questions and shows just what a challenge a major campaign can be and why we need more experienced Libertarian candidates and campaign staffers if we expect to win major office.

## LEGISLATION WATCH



Several bills have been introduced this session which will be of interest to Libertarians.

We encourage each of you to contact your legislators and ask them to support passage of these bills.

Contact info for your rep is available at <[www.nh.gov](http://www.nh.gov)>

### HB 276

HB 276 would reduce the petition requirements for non-major party candidates to those of major party candidates, equalizing ballot access for all candidates. Passage of this bill would allow our candidates to spend their time campaigning rather than just trying to get on the ballot. The bill already had a hearing, so contact needs to be directed to build support within the Election Law committee and your own reps.

### HB 406

HB 406 would greatly improve the situation for homeschoolers, removing much of the regulations and control the state has over how parents choose to educate their children. The hearing is on March 16 at 1:00pm.

### HB 55-FN-A

HB 55-FN-A would essentially re-legalize industrial hemp in NH. The public hearing went well, despite doomsaying by the police lobby. It's not a perfect bill, but a big improvement over the present situation.

**We encourage each of you to contact your legislators.**

# LPNH Adopts Goals for 2005

*We've proven we can make great strides when we plan for success. The LPNH executive board has adopted a set of goals for the 2004-2005 term. They are ambitious yet achievable and cover such areas as candidate recruitment and elections, fundraising, outreach, legislation, membership and affiliate organizing.*

**The Party will not let any setbacks at the ballot box slow our momentum or diminish our ambitions for the future.**

The Party will not let any setbacks at the ballot box slow our momentum or diminish our ambitions for the future. Goal #1 is election law reform. This will cover several areas including ballot access and further measures to prevent vote fraud. Without fair access to the ballot and a sense of integrity in the system, very little else concerning government or politics matters. We will be calling on you, the members, to help with this goal, as much work will need to be done to get the legislature to pass some real reform and not simply put a band-aid on the problem.

## **Increase Membership**

The board wants to increase membership every quarter. You can all be a great help since as a party member you are a natural ambassador for liberty. If everyone recruited just one new member, we'd reach our goal and have twice the resources we do now to achieve liberty.

We will be running candidates in town elections in the spring and in city elections in the fall.

## **Good candidate needed for 2006**

We need to recruit a good candidate for the 2006 gubernatorial race and have in place a good campaign team and warchest for him or her.

We'll be making a nomination

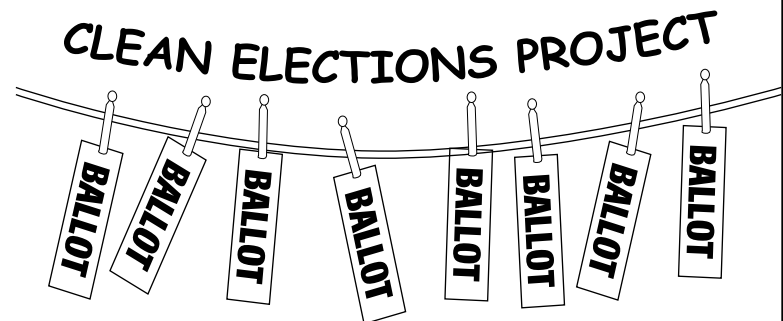
at our convention this fall so the search is on now. If you think you'd like to run for the office or know someone whom you think would make a good candidate,

please get in touch with the board.

## **One Caveat**

One caveat. While the board has adopted the goals, they will only be achieved with your help. We are a volunteer organization and you, the members, are needed for everything we do.

If everyone donated just one hour of time per week or became a monthly pledger, all our goals could be achieved. The six members of the board cannot do it alone. How will you help?



If you can't trust the ballot box, then nothing else happening with government matters. So we've established a "Clean Elections Project" under the direction of John Babiarz, Mike Lorrey and a few key volunteers.

Some progress has been made, new data comes in every week or so. We are gaining new allies, who are bringing expertise and volunteer help to the effort.

There is still plenty of opportunity for members to contribute. We are looking for help with data entry, serving requests to town clerks, contacting volunteers, raising funds, doing legal research, and more.

So far we've received a few hundred dollars for the effort, all from outside the party. If any of our members would like to donate either time or money to this project, you can do so online at [www.lpnh.org](http://www.lpnh.org) or call 1-800-595-LPNH and let us know how you will help.



# 2004 In Review

*We had a great year last year. Starting with our special convention and Winter Escape in February to our Winter Holiday party on Dec 4th. In all, 2004 was a success.*

There were social events, political events, news made, campaigns waged and more. We held a candlelight vigil in front of the Democrat headquarters after we found out about the petitioning shenanigans. The Constitution Day celebration was a wonderful event, with several Libertarians participating in the ratification re-enactment. We had a great convention in October, appointed a new volunteer coordinator, held our second successful raffle fundraiser, gained new legislative allies, had Libertarians appointed to office and much more.



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

### Elections

All our candidates would like help holding signs and generally campaigning in their towns. Be part of our victory by taking a day to help them.

### Convention Planning

The LPNH is looking for volunteers to help plan and coordinate our fall convention. We need someone to scout locations, get quotes, contact speakers, market the event, create flyers, and otherwise put the event together.

### PorcFest

The LPNH and Welcome Committee will have a presence at the 2005 PorcFest up in Lancaster again. We're looking for members to help staff the display table, welcome Libertarian Porcupines and even coordinate events.

### Outreach Booths

With the warmer weather coming, we need members to staff our political outreach booths at county fairs, public events, rallies, etc.

**Got  
some  
spare  
time?**

**LPNH  
could  
use  
your  
help.**

## GOOD REVIEWS!

Liberty Magazine went to PorcFest. The author, Logan Brandt, had this to say: "The New Hampshire LP had a table; I signed up, and have already received my first newsletter, which I daresay is a cut above the national LP News."

## "Quotables"

*Those who won our independence believed that the final end of the State was to make men free to develop their faculties; and that in its government the deliberative forces should prevail over the arbitrary. They valued liberty both as an end and as a means. They believed liberty to be the secret of happiness and courage to be the secret of liberty.*

— Justice Louis D. Brandeis

## 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.

### LPNH Candidates List

Libertarians running for office (state or local) and their supporters can share info and strategy at <LPNH\_Candidates@yahoogroups.com>

## 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! <nhl libertarians@yahoogroups.com>

### NH Liberty Alliance

The first broad-based pro-liberty PAC in NH. Join them in promoting liberty in the electoral and legislative arenas. <www.nhliberty.org>

## Campus Libertarians, Advisors & Supporters

The new (and vastly improved) www.CampusLP.org is taking shape in a big way! The site includes discussion forums, events calendar, chat rooms, a downloads area with ready-to-print posters, and more!

## Northeast LP discussion

A discussion list for LP Region 1-East (New England, NY, NJ). Voice your concerns and opinions at <LP\_1E@yahoogroups.com>

## Free State New Hampshire

Share your insights, news, events. Meet the porcupines and let out-of-state friends know about it. <freedom\_in\_new\_hampshire@yahoogroups.com>

## LPNH Membership Options

As a reminder, your LPNH and LP-US memberships are *separate*. We left the Unified Membership Plan last year. 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 and renew online at <www.lpnh.org/join.htm> or 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.

As a thank you for your support, new members who join will receive a free Libertarian theme song CD, which is registered for radio play.

We are working on creating more 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.



## From the Editor

- If you move, please send in your new address to ensure uninterrupted service.
- 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.
- 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.

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

There's  
a lot  
going on!  
Get  
involved!

# 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 members in a county to form the organization and present your bylaws to the Exec Board.

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.

## LOCAL GROUPS

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

### Hillborough Libertarians

Since we'll be formally organizing the affiliate soon, a discussion list has been set up to bring the local members together. You can join us at Hillsborough-LPNH@yahoogroups.com

### Monadnock Libertarians

James Maynard invites libertarians in Keene and the rest of Cheshire county to work for Liberty. They are presently working on organizing a county affiliate. 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.

## Upcoming Events

### Every Wednesday

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

### Tuesday, Mar 8

Town election day. Get out there and support pro-liberty candidates.

### Sunday, Mar 13

LPNH monthly meeting, 175 Ammon Drive in Manchester. 5pm to 7pm.

### Tuesday, Mar 28

Freedom Film Festival, 7:00pm at Friendship Club in Nashua. <ff.ofreedom.com>

### Tuesday, Apr 6

Town election day in Merrimack.

### Sunday, Apr 11

LPNH monthly meeting, 175 Ammon Drive in Manchester. 5pm to 7pm.

### Saturday, July 30

Liberty Dinner & Reception in Plymouth, featuring Dr. Ron Paul (R-TX). Tickets available at <www.nhliberty.org>



## WHILE YOU WERE SLEEPING

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS WHICH AFFECT YOUR LIFE:

- New U.S. Passports will have an embedded RFID chip that will contain the individual's name, address, date and place of birth, and a digital photo. Civil liberties advocates have called the new passports a "privacy horror," and point out that the unencrypted data is very easy to steal. In addition to identity thieves, commercial travel companies, including hotels, will capture the data when people check in or exchange currency.
- The Central Intelligence Agency has been unilaterally removing records from public collections in the National Archives, according to the minutes of a September 2004 meeting of the State Department Historical Advisory Committee.
- The Justice Department has gotten into the business of searching through people's medical records. The department justified its fishing expeditions by arguing in court that "individuals no longer possess a reasonable expectation their histories will remain completely confidential."
- Section 102 of the new Patriot Act II states clearly that any information gathering, regardless of whether or not those activities are illegal, can be considered to be clandestine intelligence activities for a foreign power. This makes news gathering illegal.

## DID YOU KNOW???

That a licence plate is public property. Therefore police may do "random" searches on them even when there's no indication the driver is

or has done anything wrong.