



Massachusetts Liberty

The Newsletter of the Libertarian Association of Massachusetts

February 2000

Town Committees Lead Libertarian Charge Into Future

On Wednesday, January 12, residents of the towns of Marblehead, Salem, Saugus, Beverly and Boxford gathered to form the Essex County LP Organizing Committee. The event, organized by 8th Essex State Representative candidate, Dave Rizzo, was held at Jacob Marley's restaurant in Marblehead.

Michael Cloud, considered by many to be the greatest orator of the Libertarian Party, was the first speaker of the evening. He spoke about strategy in discussing Libertarianism with others and how to get your points across in a credible non-threatening way. With his special combination of knowledge and flair, Michael gave an informative and energizing speech.

Following him was Chip Ford, Co-Director of Citizens for Limited Taxation and Government and Campaign

Manager for Rizzo's campaign. Chip spoke about grass roots activism and the impact it can have on the political process and campaigns specifically. He used his own experiences during the Prop 2 1/2, Question 3, and the recent Promise to Keep: 5% campaigns to make his points. Chip, declaring himself a small-L libertarian, encouraged Libertarians to elect as many people to office as possible, stating "having elected officials in the State House is by far the best way to influence the political process".

Elias Israel, Chairman of the Libertarian Association of Massachusetts and 1998 Lt. Governor candidate, spoke next about the role of town committees and the importance of volunteers in our efforts to get Libertarians elected to office. He gave several examples of how seemingly small commitments of time



can make a big difference to the party, and in turn, the Commonwealth. Israel declared, "with enough support from town committees in Essex County, Dean Cook and Dave Rizzo can be the first Libertarians elected to Beacon Hill".

The format then turned to an open discussion about town committees, their formation and roles, and more specifically, how the town committees in Essex County could help candidates in their
(continued on page ten)

Libertarian Office Holder Benjamin Rivard-Rapoza

This month Massachusetts Liberty interviewed local Libertarian Benjamin Rivard-Rapoza. Elected to Town Meeting in the Spring of 1999, Ben has quickly become one of the most outspoken Libertarians in Massachusetts. He has been instrumental in organizing the South Towns and his letters and editorials have been found in the New Bedford Standard-Times and other publications. Ben is currently a student at UMass Amherst helping to organize the school's first Libertarian student group.

Massachusetts Liberty: What's your history in Dartmouth?

Benjamin Rivard-Rapoza: I moved from New Bedford to Dartmouth eleven years ago and have lived here ever since. I attended the local public schools and graduated last year from Dartmouth High School. I am now a freshman at UMass Amherst.

ML: What's your history with Libertarianism?

BRR: Ever since I first became interested in politics, I have considered myself an advocate of small government. I was appalled by how our government had deviated from the model of limited government, not to mention the

Constitution. When I first discovered the Libertarian Party, I knew right away that it was the only party that consistently supported small government and individual rights. Like many people, I was introduced to the party by Harry Browne's book "Why Government Doesn't Work" as well as by researching the Party on the internet.

I became a member of LAMA after the '98 campaign and registered Libertarian the day I turned 18, a couple of months later. I got involved right away by writing letters to the editor of my local paper. These were very well received and that encouraged me to do more. In retrospect, I was lucky to become active just as the Libertarian Party began to emerge as a force here in Massachusetts.

ML: And this is when you decided to run for office in Dartmouth?

BRR: Yes, I decided to run for town meeting when I heard that only ten people were running for thirteen positions in my precinct. That meant I was assured victory if I ran a determined write-in campaign and that's what I decided to do. I distributed fliers which explained why I was running for town
(continued on page eight)



Massachusetts Liberty

February 2000

Editor

P. Christopher Schoaff

Contributors

Michael Cloud
Dennis Corrigan
Elias Israel
Marie Katzen
Doug Krick
Carol Lapin
Eve Maler
Ben Rivard-Rapoza
Dave Rizzo
Muni Savyon
Christine Schoaff
Jim Sullivan

Mailing Address

Mass. Liberty Editor
Post Office Box 2610,
Boston, MA 02208

E-Mail Address

ma-liberty@la-ma.org

Next Deadline

February 15, 2000

Massachusetts Liberty is the official newsletter of the Libertarian Association of Massachusetts, a state affiliate of the Libertarian Party of the United States.

Massachusetts Liberty is published twelve times a year. Subscriptions are \$15 per year.

Send changes of address, subscription requests, and materials for publication to *Massachusetts Liberty's* e-mail address or mailing address. All submissions are subject to editing. Deadline is the fifteenth day of every month.

letter from the chair

Libertarian Sunshine

Last month, on January 13th, we had our first snowstorm of the year. And despite the horrible mess that it was (and I can tell you, it certainly made my day interesting), the most striking thing about it was how long it had been since we had had a snowy day. Over 300 consecutive days without snow!

I mention it only because sometimes it takes a little contrast to make us look back and appreciate what we've had. During the last year, the sun certainly has been shining on the Libertarian Party and I'm proud of everything that we Libertarians have achieved here in Massachusetts.

- The Carla Howell for Senate campaign is hands-down the hottest US Senate campaign in Libertarian Party history. With more than \$100,000 raised and more to come, there's no doubt that Carla's campaign is injecting great excitement.

- Now that the new year has opened, Dave Rizzo's fight-to-win campaign for state representative is heating up. In his North Shore organizing meeting, he created the Essex County Libertarian Committee, a group that will organize the cities and towns in that area. Dean Cook, former state chair and gubernatorial candidate, is leading this new committee, and he's already working closely with his team members and tackling cities and towns one by one.

- The LAMA Board and the LPMA State Committee have approved new bylaws that will



Elias Israel

help us get better coverage across the state and make sure that there is a Libertarian presence from Boston to the Berkshires. At the upcoming convention this April 15 (have you registered yet?), we'll get to vote on merging LAMA and LPMA into a single, more powerful organization: a definite 1 + 1 = 5 type of result.

- During 1999, Massachusetts led Region 6 (New England) in new member growth. We're up over 17%, which is an astounding amount for a non-election year. For the year, we were among the top 10 states in both percentage growth and absolute growth numbers.

- And we have more Libertarian registrations than ever before: up 54% since the 1998 elections to more than 11,000.

- Don't forget our more than 30 candidates for state representative and state senate! Were picking up more all the time. Check the list in this issue for the latest campaigns.

With all this activity, there are lots of exciting town committees and campaign teams for you to join. And that's what it's all about: Becoming a part of the Libertarian mission to save the Commonwealth from big government. Sharing in an experience that you can't get from a job, a vacation, or a night out. Personally writing the history of the Libertarian Party by living it.

Come on in, were waiting for you.

Victory!

Libertarian Time Capsule

Carol Lapin

Since humanity is at a turning point in time and our efforts are reaching critical mass, I thought it would be fun to put together a Libertarian Time Capsule. It will be a collection of your visions for the future of a Libertarian society. All entries will be placed in a container, sealed and stored. The Libertarian Time Capsule will then be opened at a designated point in the future, perhaps in 2020. Here's how it will work:

Written Submissions: In 50 words or less, express your thoughts to future generations on any of the following topics and how you perceive that issue will be affected by the Libertarian movement: The workplace, war and peace, family, community, art, literature, environmental policy, U.S. politics, medical science and technology, global economies.

In fact, feel free to submit your thoughts on more than one category or simply send a free form submission. Place your name, address and the date in the upper left corner. It would be

great if you would like to include a photo of yourself with your submission... don't be shy!

Other Submissions: In order to make this both fun to do and for future Libertarians to open, include some objects that have significance to our goals or accomplishments. Your donations can take many forms: a book that has had positive impact or was signed by the author, a photograph, a recent issue of *Massachusetts Liberty*, a cassette tape, a map, a knick-knack of the Statue of Liberty, whatever you can think of (preferably something not too big!).

Please email me with your written submissions at clapin@lpma.org or mail your items to: Carol Lapin 112 Bellingham Street #3 Chelsea, MA 02150

I challenge each of you to contribute a small legacy of yourself to future Libertarians! Deadline for receiving messages or items is Sunday, February 27, 2000. I will post contributor's names and a list of items received after sealing the time capsule. Have fun!

libertarian events

Greater Boston Area Activists Meetings

Thursday, February 3, 7:00 P.M.
Bickford's, Waltham.

Traditionally held once a month at Bickford's Restaurant in Waltham. The format of these meetings comprises one half-hour of very brief reports from committee chairs about activities that have occurred during the last period and that are planned for the upcoming period. The remainder of the meeting is informal where committees can meet, people can discuss cross-committee issues, new activists can join teams, & cet.. Bickford's is on Route 117 in Waltham. Enter the door to the left of the main entrance and go upstairs to the function room.

LAMA Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 14, 7:00 P.M.
At Bickford's in Waltham.

LPMA Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 14, 7:00 P.M.
At Bickford's in Waltham.

Greater New Bedford Libertarians

Tuesday, February 1, 7:00 P.M.
At the Wamputter club in New Bedford. For more info call 508-991-8817.

Carla Howell For Senate Campaign Meeting

Wednesday, February 2, 7:00 P.M.
Bickford's, Waltham.

You're invited to two exciting campaign meetings for the Carla Howell for U.S. Senate campaign against Ted Kennedy. We have many important and fun - things to do to take this campaign to the next level. This is going to be a terrific race this year. We have high hopes for what can be accomplished.

Provincetown Town Committee Meeting

Wednesday, February 2, 7:00 P.M.
At the Provincetown Inn on the first Wednesday of each month. Coffee and pastries will be on hand and the committee will be working to make an event of each meeting. Everyone is welcome. Contact Dave Atkinson at 508-487-0759 for more information or directions.

Quincy Town Committee Meeting

Wednesday, February 2, 7:00 P.M.
At the X-O European Trattoria located in Quincy center at 1384 Hancock Street. The guest speakers will be Elias Israel and Dean Cook. For more information contact Scott Coughlin at 617-376-0106 or e-mail him at scoughlin@lpma.org..

Whitman Town Committee Meeting

Tuesday, February 8, 7:00 P.M.
In the "Glass Room" at TJ's Pub. Come early for pizza, soda, and a good seat. They go fast! The Whitman Town Committee meets the second Tuesday of each month.

Carla Howell For Senate Campaign Meeting

Wednesday, February 9, 7:00 P.M.
Bickford's, Waltham.
Come on out and lend a hand if you can! You can make a difference this year to the message of liberty being heard!

Nashoba Valley Libertarian Town Committees Meeting

Wednesday, February 9, 7 P.M.
At the McKay Library in North Chelmsford (43 Newfield Street). All area libertarians are invited to attend. For information contact Ed Hayes, Kamal Jain, or Brian DeRosa.

Pioneer Valley Libertarian Association Meeting

Wednesday, February 9, 7:00 P.M.
Bickford's, Springfield. The Pioneer Valley Libertarian Association meets the second Wednesday of every month at Bickford's on Boston Road in Springfield.



Holyoke Libertarian Town Committee Meeting

Wednesday, February 9, 7:00 P.M.
Bickford's, Springfield. In conjunction with the PVLA meeting.

MassCann Night

Wednesday, February 9, 6:30 P.M.
At Jacob Wirth Restaurant on 33-37 Stuart St. in Boston. MassCann Nights are informal monthly meetings during which people interested in the proper relationship of society to the cannabis plant can have exploratory talks about the organization.

Social Nights

Saturday, February 19, 7:00 P.M.
At the home of Eve and Elias Israel, 105 Lexington Street, Burlington. Call 888-627-2725 for directions.

If you would like to host one of these fun events and socialize with fellow libertarians at your own home please contact social night coordinator Carmen Pepicelli.

Worcester County Libertarian Association

Sunday, February 20, 6:00 P.M.
Tweed's Pub Restaurant, 231 Grove St., Worcester. Anyone is invited and welcome. Interested activists can contact Kevin Haskell at khaskell@lpma.org for more information.

Boston Libertarian City Committee Meeting

Tuesday, February 29, 7:00 P.M.
Hill House on Beacon Hill in Boston. An RSVP to Rob Chatfield at (617) 867-0373 would be greatly appreciated.

Massachusetts Libertarian State Convention

Saturday, April 15
At the Newton Marriot. Speakers will include Roy Innis and LP Chairman David Bergland. Register today at 800-JOIN-LPM.

Carla Howell Senate Campaign Goes National

Michael Cloud

On January 1, 2000 over 40,000 subscribers to *Libertarian Party News* were greeted with the first full-page advertisement for Carla Howell's U.S. Senate Campaign.

The full-page advertisement told Libertarians across America why the Carla Howell Libertarian U.S. Senate Campaign just might be the campaign they've been waiting for. It asked them to help Carla Howell run her race for Ted Kennedy's U.S. Senate seat.

On January 3, 2000, the first of over 243 out-of-state donations began flowing in to the Carla Howell Libertarian US Senate Campaign — the first responses to a 37 state direct mail fund-raising letter. Over 5,107 proven Libertarian donors from coast to coast received this first fund-raising letter.

Libertarian contributions arrived from Florida, Illinois, Hawaii, Alaska, Colorado, Georgia, Texas, California, Ohio, Tennessee, Maine, Pennsylvania, New York, and more.

Small Government News, our Libertarian U.S. Senate e-zine kicked off January with a circulation of over 841. Most in Massachusetts, but over 100 across America.

Liberty Pledge newsletter, which is sent to thousands of friends and supporters of the National Libertarian Party, featured a very favorable *Massachusetts Statehouse Bureau* article on Carla Howell.

Libertarian leaders in several states have already asked Carla Howell to address their members.

Gary Nolan, Libertarian talk show host, interviewed Carla Howell on his nationally-syndicated talk radio show in early January. Gary Nolan praised Ms. Howell for her straight talk and "small government is beautiful" U.S. Senate Campaign.

"When elected, would you support and cosponsor a constitutional amendment to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States (S) Res 14)?" Who wanted to know? The American Legion and 140 other member organizations in the Citizens Flag Alliance.

Carla Howell's persuasive and principled Libertarian response is even now being forwarded, copied, and commented on by thousands of military veterans in Massachusetts and in other states.

All in the first 2 weeks of the first month of Year 2000.

This is only the beginning. ■

If you're interested in joining an exciting campaign that is drawing the attention of Libertarians from across America, the
Carla Howell for U.S. Senate
campaign, please contact Volunteer Coordinator
Kay Pirrello at kpirrello@lpma.org
(978) 741-2581

Volunteer Opportunities: Fight For Liberty

Carol Lapin

Volunteers are needed for the following party activities. For information on these and other projects please contact the person listed or our volunteer coordinator Carol Lapin.

Volunteers needed for Libertarian Photos

1) Eighteen real people to pose as portrait models for Libertarian print advertisements. Requirements: a photogenic quality, willingness to volunteer a day of their time for 15-minutes of fame and have fun doing it! (no active candidates please) We especially need secretaries, teachers, blue collar workers in any industry, musicians, nurses and doctors, etc.

2) A good amateur or professional photographer to shoot these interesting people (a photo shoot, that is!) Requirement: a camera capable of advertisement-quality photos and an eye for creativity.

Any interested persons should contact Ilana Freedman at: igerard@lpma.org

Help at Massachusetts Convention

Donate a few hours of your time to help stuff convention kits, work the registration desk and convention floor. Contact Carol Lapin at clapin@lpma.org or 617-889-4768.

Graphic Artist Needed

Create and format a simple brochure prototype to be used by candidates in their campaigns. Please contact dcorrigan@lpma.org.

Avid Reader Wanted

We could use volunteers who read a number of newspapers to document the progress of the incumbents that our active candidates are running against by organizing news clippings and other media attention. For more information, contact Carol Lapin at clapin@lpma.org

Operation Politically Homeless

Volunteers are needed to staff a Libertarian outreach booth at a gun show in Foxboro, February 26 & 27. For more information please contact Elias Israel at 888-627-2725. ■

Help Liberty At The Bookstore

Did you know that we get a donation from Amazon.com when you purchase books using the link from our web site? You can find the information at www.lpma.org under the icon "Bookstore."

Libertarians Fight South Shore Smoking Ban Ben Rivard-Rapoza

In New Bedford, local restaurant owners are standing up to a smoking ban which has hurt their businesses and taken away their freedom. Under pressure from a City Council that is now openly against the ban, the Mayor called an emergency meeting of the Board of Health (which made the ban in the first place), asking them to rescind it.

Libertarians Laura Hirschmann and Mike Conway were responsible for successfully organizing and leading the restaurant owners and other concerned citizens. So far, this activity has been conducted under the auspices of the South Coast Citizens for Freedom. Laura and Mike also got a huge turnout at the meeting. There were about 200 opponents of the ban with fewer than a dozen in support of the ban at the event. They waved signs which read "I am outraged" and "Mind Your Own Business, Not Mine."

It was an interesting and really charged meeting. It was especially impressive because of the huge turnout of a usually politically inactive group – there isn't even a local restaurant association. Person after person testified to the Board of Health that the ban hurt their income and violated their liberty. Mike Conway spoke on behalf of the "Greater New Bedford Libertarian Association" (still in formation) and David Euchner spoke as the Libertarian candidate for New Bedford's Congressional seat. Each spoke for several minutes at the podium against the ban. Each was received to thunderous cheers and applause by the audience. In some ways they may have

had less of an impact than a Libertarian can normally expect since they basically had the same message of all the restau-



rant owners and residents who took to the podium.

Also, due to the efforts of Mike Conway, the media was there in full force. Five television cameras were counted and at least three stations showed the story at the top of the nightly news (channels 25, 64, and 6). Two of these featured part of Mike's speech. All had excellent interviews with the restaurant owners.

High points of the coverage include a Portuguese-American business owner haranguing the Board of Health in broken English when it stopped taking comments ("This is supposed to be a free Country. Where is your free Country now?"). The Board of Health President requested twice that the police remove him. The Police – who aren't wild about enforcing a smoking ban in the first place – did not comply with this

request, to the cheers and delight of the audience.

While there was meager coverage of the event in the *New Bedford Standard Times*, the radio coverage was even better than the TV coverage. All day, WBSM, New Bedford's News/Talk Radio station, used a large clip from Mike's speech in its news coverage of the meeting, introducing him as the "Chairman of the Greater New Bedford Libertarian Association." So, the LP got that mention at least once every hour today in the local radio news. Besides one restaurant owner, Mike is the only person heard on the news supporting the ban. Three City Councilmen who spoke against the ban were ignored in favor of the LP representative. Thus, the Libertarians were portrayed as the driving political force behind the opposition to the ban.

This is a good example of how local organizations can get in the news. People with titles have a good chance to be heard and reported by the press when they get involved with and speak out on hot issues.

While the Mayor is responsible for appointing Board of Health members in New Bedford, Dartmouth and Fairhaven elect their Board of Health members. We have found a Libertarian to run in each race this spring.

So, thanks are due to Mike and Laura for sticking their necks out and working really hard for liberty as well as Dave for coming down here as a Libertarian candidate to support our efforts. ■

LPMA Using Technology to Boost Campaigns Eve Maler

With Massachusetts Libertarians getting ready for the 2000 election cycle, the Party's press release output will increase dramatically. Some activists have been working on a project to make the release publication process as efficient as possible.

During the 1998 elections, we sometimes published as many as seven press releases a week, a feat made possible by a dedicated team. Christine Schoaff managed a dozen release writers, Muni Savyon converted the releases to fax form and sent out the faxes, and Moira Ashleigh converted the releases to HTML and posted them to the web site.

This time around, we can take advantage of new software technologies to let people concentrate on writing the releases and finding new media contacts, and leave the conversion to a computer. Eve Maler and Doug Maltais have created a system called MassPublicity, or MassPub for short, that formats a release automatically and professionally into all the required forms.

MassPub is based on the Extensible Markup Language (XML) and associated freeware. Release writers will be able to "tag" their text in a simple fashion similar to HTML, for example, coding the release headline between <headline> tags. Then, when the release is edited and ready to go, the editor can mail the electronic tagged file to the MassPub formatting server. The server will mail back plain text, RTF, and HTML versions of the release for review and distribution. Future versions of MassPub may do the publication and distribution along with the formatting, and it may produce additional types of output as our needs grow.

MassPub has been designed to be useful for more than just LPMA; individual campaigns and other state organizations can use it too. If you're interested in helping with the MassPub development project or using MassPub yourself, contact Eve Maler (emaler@lpma.org). If you're interested in writing press releases, contact Christine Schoaff (cschoaff@lpma.org) or one of your local candidates. ■

notes from around the state

Provincetown TC Holds First Meeting

Under the leadership of elected Libertarian David Atkinson, Provincetown formed its town committee on the first Wednesday in December. A crowd of 12 people were on hand to help and 6 changed their registration to Libertarian on the spot. Press releases to the local media helped make this a success. Jeff Evans was elected chairman. Meetings will be on the first Wednesday of each month at the Provincetown Inn, 7 P.M.. Coffee and pastries will be on hand and the committee will be working to make an event of each meeting. Everyone is welcome. Contact Dave Atkinson at 508-487-0759 for more information or directions. Meetings will be February 2nd and March 1st.

Whitman Plans Anniversary Celebration

The Whitman town committee is planning a knock out event for this spring. The Whitman town committee is the first Libertarian Town committee in the state to reach its first anniversary! Congratulations to all who made this possible. The anniversary celebration and Carla Howell fundraiser will be held on April 11th. Please contact George Coffey if you'd like to help or like to attend.

The Whitman town committee, which was organized in January of 1999, produces a monthly newsletter and is planning a monthly show on public access cable television. Also in the works is a tax day protest at the IRS Office on Main Street in Brockton. There are plans to have Libertarian taxpayers in barrels and a victim of being "taxed to death" in a coffin.

Quincy To Form Town Committee

State Rep candidate Scott Coughlin is organizing Quincy Libertarians. The First Quincy City Committee Meeting

will be held on February 2nd at 7:00 P.M., at the X-O European Trattoria located in Quincy center at 1384 Hancock Street. The guest speakers will be Elias Israel, state chairman of the Libertarian Party, and Dean Cook, current candidate for state representative in the 6th Essex district. For more information contact Scott at 617-376-0106 or e-mail him at scoughlin@lpma.org.

Cambridge Hosts Don Gorman

On January 30th, the Cambridge City Committee hosted presidential hopeful Don Gorman. Don was elected to the New Hampshire Legislature in 1993 and reelected in 1995. He was leader of the four man Libertarian caucus in the NH House and served on the Criminal Justice Committee and the Rules Committee. Don is currently chair of the Deerfield Zoning Board of Adjustment; he is a strong advocate for the rights of property owners.

Wilcox Campaign Seeks Volunteers

The Al Wilcox campaign is rolling ahead. Please contact Alan if you would like to help with his campaign in any way (508-596-8507.)

Worcester Libertarians Organizing Ward Committees

Kevin Haskell sent out mailings to 170 Worcester city residents covering 5 of 10 wards, inviting them to the meeting. He hopes to cover the remaining wards next month. The *Worcester Telegram & Gazette* will shortly be publishing our meeting place, date, and time in their Bulletin Board, located in the Local section of the paper.

Freedman To Host Practice Debates

Richard Freedman and his wife Ilana will be hosting practice debates at which prospective candidates can hone their

ability to logically present their positions on issues of the day. For full details, see <http://people.ne.mediaone.net/rnf/practicedebates.htm>

Nashoba Valley Committees Plan Caucuses

Westford and Chelmsford Town Committees are preparing to hold town caucuses in order to prepare delegates for the state convention. According to the charter for each committee, the caucus must occur no more than 30 days before the state convention and all voters registered Libertarian 45 days prior to the caucus must be invited to participate. Invitations will be sent in early February and the caucus dates have been set for March 8.

Gene Burns Returns to Boston Radio

On January 24th, the new WMEX-AM (1060) went on the air at 7:15 a.m. with a lineup that included Gene Burns from 2-4 P.M.. A legend of Boston radio and a friend of Libertarians everywhere, Gene Burns was the featured speaker at last year's state convention.

Mike Conway Leaving Dartmouth

Dartmouth activist Mike Conway will be moving to Maine on Feb 11. Mike has actively supported Libertarian campaigns and town committees over the past two years and organized last year's fundraiser at Fenway Park. His presence will be missed in the area.

Holiday Card Outreach

Each year the Massachusetts LP sends out holiday cards to our contacts in the media. Thank you to Dennis Corrigan, Elaine Berchin, and Walter Ziobro who helped make the holiday card outreach a success. ■



Liberty Cat asks...

Do you have news to share about a Libertarian event in Massachusetts? Photographs of a freedom rally? Are you looking for volunteers for an outreach booth or a campaign? Why not write a quick article for *Massachusetts Liberty* and submit it by sending e-mail to ma-liberty@la-ma.org, or by USPS to Mass. Liberty Editor, Post Office Box 2610, Boston, MA 02208.

Submissions Welcomed



crit·i·cal mass, *n.* a sufficient threshold to catalyze change.

Massachusetts Libertarian Convention April 15, 2000



Harry Browne

The Biggest Massachusetts Convention Ever!
More than 350 people are expected to attend!
Speakers include 2000 Libertarian presidential candidate **Harry Browne** and civil rights leader, CORE Chairman/CEO, and possible NY Libertarian candidate for governor **Roy Innis**.



Roy Innis

This event will fill up quickly,
so register today!

	National LP Chair David Bergland delivers the morning keynote address: Critical Mass.	Barbara Goushaw, top-flight Libertarian campaign manager, talks about (what else?) winning!		Reserve now! Full convention package (all speakers, luncheon, snack breaks, evening cocktail reception, dinner): Just \$79 before March 1
Don't miss the annual business session and 1999 status reports!	Elections of officers and national delegates!	Location: Newton Marriot, 2345 Comm. Ave., Newton, MA (1-95/128 & I-90)	Senate candidate Carla Howell , office holder Craig Mathias , and much more!	

- Yes! Sign me up for the 2000 Convention!**
 I can't be there, but here's my donation of _____ to support the Libertarian Party.

Name(s): _____ Payment Method
Address: _____ Visa
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Mastercard
 Check
Credit Card #: _____ Expiration Date: _____
Cardholder Signature: _____
Email: _____ Phone: _____

Convention registration:
\$79 if reserved before March 1
\$89 thereafter
Walk-ins \$99 (limited availability)
Make checks payable to: **LAMA**

Event	Price	Attendees	Total
Convention	x	=	

Cancellation policy:
Full refund before March 15
50% refund before April 1
No refunds possible after April 1

Mail To: LAMA, P.O. Box 346, N. Billerica, MA 01862 or Fax To: (781) 634-7786 or Call Toll-Free: (800) JOIN-LPM

An Interview With Benjamin Rivard-Rapoza

(continued from page 1)

meeting and described my political involvement as a Libertarian. I also listed some positions I supported such as low taxes, small and efficient government, and a safe community. On the back I included a very short essay about my position on environmental preservation which illustrated the Libertarian approach to government. I distributed a few hundred fliers and easily won the position. Actually, I did not have to make the effort I did to win, but I wanted people to know that they have a young Libertarian neighbor who is interested in improving town government.

ML: *What town issues interested you at the time?*

BRR: I was particularly upset by the town's use of tax dollars to buy forestland and farmland for preservation. The Town Meeting had voted in favor of this proposal with around ten percent voting in opposition. However, when the issue came up for a Proposition 2 1/2 override vote to fund the project, the voters approved it by only a 55% majority. This told me that Dartmouth's Town Meeting was not fully representative of the voters. The body was significantly less libertarian than the voters because everyone with a special interest in the government ran for Town Meeting. The problem was not that small government advocates didn't exist in large numbers, but that they just didn't get involved.

So, I explained the Libertarian approach to the issue of environmental preservation on my campaign fliers. I explained that there was already a private non-profit organization which was preserving land in Dartmouth and had raised millions of dollars in voluntary contributions in order to do this. I simply said that individuals and families should be allowed to decide how to spend their money for themselves. They, not the government, know best what their priorities should be. I hoped that some of the over 40% who voted against the tax would identify themselves with what I said and therefore identify themselves with Libertarianism.

ML: *Describe your position in Town Meeting.*

BRR: Town Meeting is basically the law-making branch of town government. There are 369 members elected by precinct who serve three year terms. But

only a much smaller number actually show up for the bi-yearly meetings. In fact, it is often difficult to even obtain a quorum, which is half of the total membership. Obviously, what the position involves is determined by what the individual town meeting member wants to make of it. The vast majority of members will never do anything more than show up and vote.

ML: *What do you consider your finest achievement in office?*

BRR: I planned to just see what it was like the first year, maybe speak on something that particularly interested me, but that's it. But when I heard that there was an article on the warrant to regulate the use of paintball guns by minors, I knew that this was an issue I should do something about, even though I was not a paintball player. I began by collecting signatures at Dartmouth High School in opposition to the measure. I also contacted a couple of parents who did not like the measure and convinced them to join me in speaking out against it at town meeting.

On the day of town meeting, two of my friends passed out fliers, which I had prepared, to the members as they entered the auditorium. The fliers attacked the proposed law from a variety of positions. The law would have basically established a license for the use and possession of paintball guns by minors which is very similar to a gun license. It would have also made it illegal for someone to loan his equipment to a friend if that friend happens to be a minor. So I pointed out how the law would make the sport difficult for kids to play. I also said it would violate parental authority and would not stop kids from using the guns illegally anyway.

At town meeting the Chief of Police spoke first in favor of the proposed ordinance, after which I spoke. I wasn't sure how the members would go on the issue. Immediately after I finished a member presented a compromise and was shouted down by the crowd. At this point I was sure that the town meeting would go against me. Several town meeting members had wished me good

luck but they all had said that I didn't have a chance at opposing the Chief of Police and defeating the law. I was told that everyone was scared by these paintball guns. And they were probably right with regard to town meeting since so many members are elderly people who are very concerned about safety. But when it finally came to a vote, the town meeting was overwhelmingly in my favor. It turned out that they were clamoring to vote against the law! No count was taken, but I'd estimate that 80% to 90% voted against it. Afterwards, I was told by a Selectman that it was my speech alone which defeated the paintball regulation. This, of course, made me feel great. I was actually able to stop a law backed by the police, which is probably the most powerful political group in town. This showed me that just one elected Libertarian really can make a big difference.

ML: *To what do you attribute your success?*

I was actually able to stop a law backed by the police, which is the most powerful political group in town

BRR: It all comes down to doing your homework. Especially on laws that are usually passed without comment: if you put in some extra effort you

can win. Since Town Meeting members are basically average citizens, they can be moved by powerful arguments which would not sway the legislators and congressmen who are more attentive to lobbying groups. It is also very helpful to get the support of other people in town. They won't all be libertarians, but all you have to agree with them on is the one issue at hand. If Libertarians only associate with their own kind we will never make a political impact. But by becoming active participants in town government we gain credibility for ourselves.

Anyone can get active in their town right now and make a positive difference for liberty. For example, I have never used a paintball gun in my life. But I successfully defended the right of others to do so. To me, this is what being a Libertarian is all about. We are ruthless watchdogs when it comes to protecting the liberty of all Americans. And if you

(continued on next page)

Campaign 2000 Update

Muni Savyon & R. Dennis Corrigan

Preparation time is over. We had several training sessions, explaining the process of getting on the ballot, and now we are ready to get the signatures: 150 valid signatures for State Representative and 300 for State Senator.

We shift our focus now from recruitment to giving all the help we can to the candidates, but the doors are still open - you can still be a candidate. Call Dennis at (978)352-4435 or Muni at (781)642-6864.

Over the next two months we will try to collect the signatures as early as possible, so we can submit them to the Secretary of the Commonwealth and recognize those candidates at our April 15th convention.

In the June issue of *Massachusetts Liberty* we will know (unofficially) the number of Libertarians on the ballot, and the official number (and the final Candidate Recruitment Report) will be published in the July issue.

And a personal note: I would like to thank **all** the people who supported this effort from the early days of having an idea until today. A special thank you goes to Irwin Jungreis for his generous financial support to all our candidates, and, of course, to our candidates, who put their name on the ballot for Freedom. Thank you .

Candidates for U. S. Senate
Carla Howell

District
Massachusetts

Candidates for U. S. Congress
David Euchner

District
4th Massachusetts

Candidates for State Senate:

Kamal Jain
Marie Katzen
P. Christopher Schoaff
John Sullivan

Senate District

Middlesex & Worcester
1st Essex
1st Middlesex
5th Middlesex

Candidates for State Representative:

Heather Ashcraft
Ron Bargoot
Paul Bello
Jim Condit
Dean Cook
Scott Coughlin
Scott Cousland
Charles Christopher Cox
Eric Davis
Steven R. Drury
Patrick El-Azem
Carl Garfield
James Gill
Michael Haag
Dale Hogeland
Doug Krick
Frank Mackay-Smith
Daniel MacKenzie
John Madfis
Vera Meyer
Jim Mollison
Celeste Parent
Dave Rizzo
Frank Ross
Alan Wilcox
Rich Yampell

District County

9th Suffolk
30th Middlesex
8th Plymouth
27th Middlesex
6th Essex
2nd Norfolk
9th Norfolk
28th Middlesex
12th Middlesex
1st Worcester
16th Middlesex
7th Middlesex
12th Plymouth
36th Middlesex
5th Plymouth
14th Suffolk
4th Essex
9th Middlesex
11th Norfolk
38th Middlesex
24th Middlesex
6th Middlesex
8th Essex
15th Norfolk
2nd Hampden
6th Norfolk

libertarians in office

An Interview With Benjamin Rivard-Rapoza

(continued from previous page)

want to run for a higher office, such as state representative, you can do no better than to build a reputation as a fighter for individual liberty and small government in your town.

ML: How else have you been active in your town and at college?

BRR: I received some publicity in Dartmouth after being elected as the town's youngest Town Meeting member. Both the *Fall River Herald* and the *New Bedford Standard Times* interviewed me and printed nice articles with photos. I've also had several letters to the editor published in the *Standard Times* for which I signed my name as the Secretary of the Dartmouth Libertarian Town Committee. This caught the attention of the an editor who has asked me to write

op-ed pieces portraying the Libertarian view on several issues. I also have been a guest on a local radio political talk show as well as a local cable TV program. This was a great opportunity for us because the prime-time show is the most listened to radio program on the south coast. I was a little nervous about being thrust into the spotlight as a representative of the Libertarian Party, but it was a lot of fun and I think that I did a decent job.

At UMass I've met some Libertarian students who were in the process of starting a Libertarian club. We are still in the formative stages so far, but we are currently planning a speaking event for Carla Howell in the coming months. Above all, we hope to provide a Libertarian presence on campus to increase involvement and awareness for of the Party.

ML: Do you have any other comments for our readers?

BRR: I'm just excited about what's going on with the LP right now. I think our Chairman is right when he says we are on the verge of something big. We just began counting our statewide registration in the tens of thousands. We're growing slowly right now, but I think that's partly due to the fact that most libertarians are not by their nature political animals. This is why it's really terrific to see so many Libertarians running for office. By conducting active campaigns we will grow faster than ever and I'm sure that in the next decade or two we will be measuring our registration in the hundreds of thousands. When that point is reached we won't have to read *Massachusetts Liberty* to see what elected Libertarians are up to. All we'll have to do is open the *Boston Globe*. ■

Town Committees Make Plans for '2000

(continued from page 1)

campaigns. Calling upon a proven leader within the Libertarian party, the crowd unanimously elected Dean Cook, 1998 Gubernatorial candidate and current State Representative candidate from Beverly, as the chairman of the Essex County LP Organizing Committee. The group's goal is to form ten town committees by the state convention in April. Town committees currently being formed are Beverly, Danvers, Salem, Peabody, Marblehead, Swampscott, Boxford, Topsfield, Ipswich, and Rowley. If you are interested in joining one of these or starting one in another town in Essex County, please contact Dean Cook at dcook@lpma.org.



Throughout Massachusetts, recently formed Libertarian town committees have been taking an active role in their communities. In the Nashoba Valley region, the Westford, Chelmsford, and nascent Littleton town committees are planning a scholarship program for local high school students. They are also looking forward to the November elections with three members running for the statehouse including Patrick El-Azem who will be running for State Rep.. To introduce the party and its candidates to the community Joe Fischetti has been instrumental in setting up speaking opportunities with the local sportsmen's club. Members expect to collect signatures for the party's local and statewide candidates.

Like the Nashoba Valley Libertarians, the Waltham town committee is turning its focus on the November elections. Chairman Daniel MacKenzie will be running for State Rep. following their initial write-in campaign in last November's election. Dan hasn't shied from controversy, inviting a local union leader to their February meeting.

Following Jeff Chase's ground breaking run for Cambridge City Council, the Cambridge Libertarian City Committee has turned its sights to national politics. At their January 30th meeting they hosted LP Presidential contender Don Gorman. While not on the primary ballot in Massachusetts, Dan's supporters are expected to run a write-in campaign to drum up support for him prior to the national convention in July.

The Worcester area and points west are also very active. Paul Norton ran a campaign for the special election last summer. Steve Drury and Al Wilcox are currently running campaigns. Kevin Haskell



is in the process of organizing a Worcester City Committee.

Provincetown is one of the newest town committees. David Atkinson, Libertarian Selectman, has been instrumental in organizing his neighbors. As with other town and city committees, there are plans for monthly meetings and events.

Folks in Whitman have been very busy this past year. They've had numerous events and speakers and are looking forward to supporting local candidates in the spring and fall elections.

Dartmouth has been active as well. Libertarians from Dartmouth have regularly been published in local papers as activists are making a difference. Last summer, they were a big hit at the local Whaling Festival and are currently a driving force behind the organization of local opposition to a smoking ban in private restaurants.

With spring right around the corner, now is a good time to become active in your town. Town Committees can help coordinate candidates for local offices as well as regional and statewide offices. In addition, many spring parades and fairs are a good opportunity for local activists to introduce themselves to neighbors and friends.

Throughout the state there are many towns waiting to form their own town committees. All that is required is for three registered Libertarians to step forward and sign their name as founding members. If you

haven't found two other friends and Libertarians in your town, you can always join the efforts of a committee in a nearby town. Most town committees are meeting once a month, so for a very small time commitment you can directly influence the direction of the party and help the LP grow into a political force in Massachusetts. ■

LPMA Proposes Solution To Marriage Ruling

In December, the Vermont Supreme Court ruled that the Legislature must make marriage or an equivalent form of domestic partnership available to everyone. This ruling opens legal doors that some people have been trying to pry open for years and others have been attempting to weld shut.

In Massachusetts, the Libertarian Party has a different solution: Get government out of marriage completely. State party chairman Elias Israel says, "We in the Libertarian party believe that it's not the state's job to determine what is and what is not a sincere and committed union between consenting adults."

To achieve this end, last spring Massachusetts Libertarians worked to file a bill written by Doug Krick, a candidate for State Representative for the 14th Suffolk district. House Bill 3886 will remove almost all restrictions on who may be married within the state. HB-3886 is currently in study.

Shortly after the ruling in Vermont, Krick commented, "Massachusetts Libertarians remain committed to the fight of providing equal rights under the law. Everyone is entitled to equality under the law regardless of race, creed, color, sexual orientation, or any of a thousand other dividing lines. We are not a country of fragmented groups—first and foremost we are all citizens of the United States."

Libertarian Association of Massachusetts Contact List

web www.la-ma.org

email info@la-ma.org

phone 800-JOIN-LPM

Chair
Elias Israel
105 Lexington St.
Burlington, MA 01803
eisrael@la-ma.org
888-627-2725

Executive Director
Christine Schoaff
1 Sweetwood Circle
Westford, MA 01886
christine.schoaff@lpma.org
978-692-7422

Marketing Director
Elaine Berchin
P.O. Box 439
Mendon, MA 01756
eberchin@la-ma.org
508-634-9684 (media)
508-634-0654 (fax)

Treasurer
Walter J. Ziobro, Jr.
32 Whitman Rd. Unit B1
Waltham, MA 02154
wziobro@la-ma.org
617-451-1978(day)
781-647-5743(eve)

Secretary
Laura El-Azem
4 Donna Road
Chelmsford, MA 01824
lelazem@la-ma.org
978-455-1155 eve
978-455-1156 fax

Board Member
Dave Rizzo
77 Green Street
Marblehead, MA 01794
drizzo@lpma.org
781-990-1300

Board Member
Mark Tuniewicz
652 S. Main St.
Sharon, MA 02067
nhliberty@aol.com
781-784-6001 eve
781-784-6005 fax
508-222-3400 x247 day

Membership/Corresponding Secretary
David W. Roscoe
30 Worthen St., Apt. A9
Chelmsford, MA 01824
droscoe@la-ma.org
978-256-3159(day)
978-256-3159(eve)

Electronic Outreach & LNC Region 6 Representative
Muni Savyon
31 Crafts St.
Waltham, MA 02154
muni@la-ma.org
781-642-6864

Communications Coordinator
Ronald Bargoot
16 Wallace St.
Somerville, MA 02144
RBargoot@infonet.tufts.edu
617-666-5535

Membership Growth Chairman
Doug Krick
79 Chittick Road #2
Hyde Park, MA 02136
doug.krick@lpma.org
617-678-LPMA(day)
617-364-9331(eve)

Social Night Coordinator
Carmen Pepicelli
978-937-1562 (eve)
cpepicelli@lpma.org
617-876-0086 x303 (day)

Massachusetts Liberty Editor
P. Christopher Schoaff
1 Sweetwood Circle
Westford, MA 01886
ma-liberty@la-ma.org
978-692-7422

Candidate Coordinator
Dennis Corrigan
145 Lake Shore Road
Boxford, MA 01921-1005
dcorrigan@lpma.org
978-352-4435
978-352-4415 (fax)

Volunteer Coordinator
Carol Lapin
112 Bellingham Street #3
Chelsea, MA 02150
clapin@lpma.org
617-889-4768

Regional Contacts

The Cape Cod Liberty Supper Club (LSC)
Mark Moniz
capescapec@capecod.net
508-375-9946

**Pioneer Valley Libertarian Association
Central Massachusetts Liberty Coalition**
George Phillies
phillies@wpi.edu
508-831-5334

Worcester County Libertarian Association
Kevin Haskell
80 Stanton Street, Apt 36
Worcester, MA 01605
khaskell@lpma.org

Student Groups

UMass Libertarian Society
Michael Froimowitz
mfroimow@lpma.umass.edu
413-546-0940

Brandeis Libertarians
<http://www.lp-brandeis.org>
Michael Strum
liberty@lp-brandeis.org
508-375-9946

Town Committees

BillERICA Libertarian Town Committee
Jim Mollison
jmollison@lpma.org
978-670-8187

Boston Libertarian City Committee
Rob Chatfield
117 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02116
rchatfield@lpma.org
617-867-0373 (h)
781-386-6219 (w)

Cambridge Libertarian City Committee
Jeff Chase
jeff@cambridgelp.org
617-441-0909 x206

Chelmsford Libertarian Town Committee
Edward Hayes
ehayes@lpma.org
978-250-8947
chelmsford-committee@lpma.org

Dartmouth Libertarian Town Committee
Mike Conway
595 Elm Street
Dartmouth, MA 02748
mconway@lpma.org
508-993-0341

Framingham Libertarian Town Committee
Raymond Hoyland
403 Pleasant Street
Framingham, MA 01701
rhoyland@lpma.org

Provincetown Libertarian Town Committee
David Atkinson
4 Priscilla Alden Road
Provincetown, MA 02657
508-487-0759

Waltham Libertarian City Committee
Dan MacKenzie
215 Hardy Pond Rd.
Waltham, MA
dmackenzie@lpma.org
781-891-1104

Watertown Libertarian City Committee
Donna Purin
29 Dartmouth Street
Watertown, MA 02472
dpurin@lpma.org
617-926-4640

Westford Libertarian Town Committee
J. Brian DeRosa
bderosa@lpma.org
978-392-1464
westford-committee@lpma.org

Whitman Libertarian Town Committee
George Coffey
gcoffey@lpma.org
781-447-2889

Town Committees In Development

Amherst
Brian Holt Hawthorne
PO Box 706
Amherst, MA 01004
bhawthorne@lpma.org

Arlington
W. Scott Meeks
54 Bates Road
Arlington, MA 02474
smeeks@lpma.org

Beverly
Dean Cook
14 Summit Avenue
Beverly, MA 01915
dcook@lpma.org

Burlington
Elias Israel
105 Lexington Street
Burlington, MA 01803
eisrael@lpma.org

Dedham
Bob O'Keefe
149 Curve Street
Dedham, MA 02026
bokeefe@lpma.org

Holyoke
Sally Howes
72 Knollwood Street
Holyoke, MA 01040
showe@lpma.org

Lexington
Warren Roberts
11 Myrna Road
Lexington, MA 02420
wroberts@lpma.org

Littleton
Kamal Jain
26 Cedar Road
Littleton, MA 01460
kjain@lpma.org
littleton-committee@lpma.org

Marblehead
Dave Rizzo
77 Green Street
Marblehead, MA 01945
drizzo@lpma.org

Middlefield
Alvin See
PO Box 444
Southwick, MA 01077
asee@lpma.org

Norwood
Jim Carrol
51 Wilson Street
Norwood, MA 02062
jcarrol@lpma.org

Quincy
Scott Coughlin
scoughlin@lpma.org
617-376-0106

Revere
F. Lee Nason
515 Revere Beach Blvd, Apt 808
Revere, MA 02151
lnason@lpma.org

Scituate
Bill Wyatt
ewyatt794@aol.com

Woburn
Jim and Sue Poulin
11 Independence Drive
Woburn, MA 01801
jpoulin@lpma.org
spoulin@lpma.org



Massachusetts Liberty

Post Office Box 2610, Boston, MA 02208

Return Service Requested

FIRST CLASS
U.S. Postage
PAID
Worcester, MA
Permit #46



Libertarian Party

Libertarian Association of Massachusetts

Post Office Box 2610
Boston, MA 02208

Become a member!

Sign me up for the national Libertarian Party and the Libertarian Association of Massachusetts! Send me LP NEWS and Massachusetts Liberty every month.

No person, or group of people, or government has the right to initiate force against any other person, group of people or government. (The word "force" is interpreted broadly to cover such acts as fraud, stealing, and threats against life and property, as well as physical aggression.)

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: (day) _____ (evening) _____

E-Mail: _____

Occupation and Employer* _____

(*Federal Election Commission requires us to ask)

Annual Membership, including both newsletters:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 | Benefactor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 | Patron |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 | Sponsor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 | Sustaining |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 | Subscribing |

Additional contribution to LAMA for state activities:

- \$_____ each month (billed to credit card)
 \$_____ one-time contribution

Payment (make checks payable to LAMA)

- Check Visa MasterCard

Credit Card #: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Name on Card: _____

Cardholder's Signature: _____

Contact us for additional membership, subscription and contribution options.