



Massachusetts Liberty

The Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Massachusetts

April 2002

We Need You!

Statewide Campaigns Need Volunteers!

Petition Drives. Speaking Events. Office Help. There are a million ways you can help!

Our four biggest Libertarian campaigns: Carla Howell for Governor, Rich Aucoin for Lt. Governor, Michael Cloud for U.S. Senate, and the Small Government Act to End the Income Tax, need your help.

Petition Drives

We're finishing our ballot drive to put our Governor, Lt. Governor and U.S. Senate candidates on the ballot.

To get this done, we need volunteers to help sort and count in our campaign headquarters, and to drop off and pick up petitions from towns all over the state.

And once this ballot drive is done ... on to the next one! In May, we begin petitioning for the second half of the Small Government Act to End the Income Tax ballot drive. We'll need to collect another over 9,000 certified signatures for that drive as well.

During the next ballot drive we'll need more volunteers to help collect petitions, and then we'll need even more volunteers for sorting, counting and driving!



Only one-third of our signatures, and they're already taller than Carla Howell!

Campaign Aides

Campaign Aides assist the candidates at each event by passing out fliers, collecting names, and taking pictures at campaign events. Three to five campaign aides are needed at each event.

We have campaign events scheduled throughout April and the upcoming months in the following areas: Hopedale, Lowell, North Easton, Cape Cod, Boston. Join us and help on the front lines of our campaigns!

Office Volunteers

Do you prefer behind-the-scenes work?

Kay Pirrello

Then join us in The Freedom Store, our Campaign Headquarters in Wayland!

We have petitions to sort, file, count and validate.

We have phone calls to make, phones to answer, and incoming and returned mail to process.

We need volunteers here in the office every day and evening. We're here 7 days a week, from about 10 am until 9 pm, and there's more than enough work to go around.

Some volunteers write us into their schedules and volunteer for us at the same time every week.

We have a great time in our campaign office, with lots of good music and great conversation. It's also a terrific chance to meet other Libertarians!

Whether you can volunteer once in awhile, or every week, we can use your help!

Lots of Choices

There are so many ways you can help! Please email or call Kay Pirrello at kpirrello@carlahowell.org or (508) 276-1400, and let her know how you will help.

With your help, small government is possible!

Don't forget to visit the campaign websites at: www.carlahowell.org and www.SmallGovernmentAct.org.

Convention Packet-Stuffing Party

Preparing for a convention as large as "Liberty in Motion" required the efforts of many volunteers. The week before the event, 18 volunteers gathered at the home of Eve Maler, convention volun-

teer coordinator, to assemble hundreds of information packets — most of them personalized for individual attendees who pre-registered for the event.

These people and others will also be on

hand on April 6, helping to check in attendees, assist with media inquiries, and offer you resources that will let you make the most of your activism. Hats off to these dedicated helpers!

Eve Maler



Volunteers

Pat Boehm	Alex Knapp
Mel Bennett	Gretchen Lewis
Eryk Boston	Kathy Lewis
Jessica Bowen	Julio Machado
Jim Carroll	Aiko Nagahashi
Chris DiLoreto	Alex Patz
Laura El-Azem	Jim Perry
Stephanie Farrell (and her baby RJ)	Jim Poulin
Eli Israel	Jim Sullivan



Massachusetts Liberty

April 2002

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Next Deadline

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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.

Submission deadline for articles and information is the seventh of each month.

Letter from the chair

Creating the Future

"The best way to predict the future is to invent it."

-- Alan Kay

When I talk about how the Libertarian Party will grow, or comment on the successes that we've enjoyed over the last few years, there is a question that I often hear. But it isn't a question about strategy, about tactics, about philosophy or about politics.

When I said that the Libertarian Party would become a major party in Massachusetts, when I said that it would gain more recognition than ever before, run more candidates than ever before, raise more money than ever before, and have more impact than ever before, people would ask me this question. And not always in a kind manner, either.

The question they ask is simple: "How do you know that?"

"How can you possibly predict these grand achievements", they'd say, "when you know the Libertarian Party has never done any such thing before?"

How did we know it?

How did we know that the Libertarian Party would grow, gaining more than 15,000 new registered voters in the last five years?

How did we know that the annual budget of the party would grow from around \$6,000 per year to more than \$100,000 per year in that time?

How did we know that we would increase from a handful of Libertarian officeholders to around 30?



Elias Israel

How did we know that we would smash the expectations of every pundit by having the highest vote total for a new party candidate in 2000?

How did we know that we would do all of these things and more?

How do we know now that our future achievements will make these seem trivial and minor?

We know because we not only predicted the future, we invented it. Because we are inventing it right now with our actions, with our contributions, with our unflinching demand that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts must return to the limited, constitutional government that was handed down to it by our country's founders.

Libertarians built the United States. Libertarians crafted its contours and limned its elements. Libertarians created its wealth and Libertarians made it possible for all to share in and enjoy that wealth, no matter what station or circumstance in life they have inherited.

Libertarians long ago invented their future, our present. They did it by proposing a vision of a free country, and then they set about building it.

And so shall we.

This year, we gather at our state convention, our largest ever, and we will invent the future.

Libertarians created this country and its government. And Libertarians will determine what the limits of that government shall be.

Victory!

Submissions Welcomed!

Liberty Bunny 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@lpma.org, or by USPS to Mass. Liberty Editor, Post Office Box 2610, Boston, Massachusetts 02208.

Submission deadline for articles and information is the seventh of each month.

All submissions are subject to editing.

Harvard Libertarian Society

Julio Machado

In October of 2001, my roommate Pat Boehm and I began planning what would eventually become the Harvard Libertarian Society. Both of us were libertarians, of course, but we had never considered personally involving ourselves in the fate of the party. We had always been spectators, color commentators to the spectacular histrionics of American political culture. Like many libertarians, we were profound individualists without much use for clubs, meetings, or political parties.

In time, however, we grew tired of simply watching things happen. We began to realize that the private decisions of questionably moral individuals could-and often did-affect our own lives. We understood that we could not fight the entire U.S. political system alone, that our reason and intelligence were no match for the mechanisms of bureaucracy. We entered politics, then, as a means of defending ourselves.

By November, we had gathered and filed the necessary paperwork and made HLS an official entity. We knew that the Harvard community was profoundly liberal, and we set modest goals for ourselves. Over the next few weeks, we tried to find and gather all the libertarians on campus. We published ads

in weekly newsletters, posted messages on campus mailing lists, and left flyers on residential bulletin boards. We offered our new members something they had never had before: an enclosed environment where their philosophical ideas were supreme.

We charged no dues, of course.

We began to see results almost immediately. Membership in the club grew steadily, from just two members at the outset to nearly thirty today. We have obtained over eight hundred dollars in grants and are in the process of creating the first-ever Harvard Libertarian Society Newsletter. We're still a rather small organization compared to the giants of mainstream campus politics, but our best members are intelligent and dedicated, and we're not afraid of a good fight.

If you're interested in joining or collaborating with HLS, please visit our website at www.harvardlibertarians.org. Though membership is technically restricted to Harvard University students, anyone interested in our cause may join unofficially on equal terms with our student members.

libertarian events

Matt Dailey for Selectman Election Day Standout

Saturday April 6, 2002 8:00 A.M.

Volunteers needed for election day standout. Polls are open from 8am to 8pm. Matt will be visiting each polling location throughout the day. If you can help, please email info@mattdailey.org or call (978) 851-6456 to sign up for a polling location.

LPMA 2002 State Convention

Saturday April 6, 2002

This is the biggest, best Massachusetts Libertarian Convention ever! The Keynote speech, "Liberty in Motion," will be delivered by Sharon Harris, President of the Advocates for Self-Government. Dr. John Lott, senior research scholar at the Yale University School of Law, and author of "More Guns, Less Crime," will speak on the damaging effects of gun control and the volatile issue of guns in Massachusetts. Come hear our flagship candidates promote their ideas for the advancement of the Libertarian vision.

Nashoba Valley Libertarians Meeting

Sunday, May TBA

Nashoba Valley Libertarians meet at Ken's American Cafe on Route 110 in Littleton. There will be no meeting in April, but come join us in May for dinner and help us plan Libertarian activism in the Nashoba and Merrimack valleys. For more information see www.nashobavalley.org, or contact Kamal Jain at (978) 952-2472 or send email to kjain@lpma.org.

Pioneer Valley Libertarians Meeting

Wednesday, April 10, 7:00 P.M.

Pioneer Valley Libertarians meet the second Wednesday of each month at Bickford's Restaurant on Boston Road in Springfield. For more information contact Alvin See at (413) 568-7597 or send email to asee@lpma.org.

Worcester County Libertarian Association

Sunday, April 21, 6:00 P.M.

The Worcester County Libertarian Association meets on the third Sunday of each month at Tweed's Pub Restaurant at 231 Grove Street in Worcester. For more information, contact Dean Cook at (508) 765-5011, send email to dcook@lpma.org, or visit their website at wcla.tripod.com.

volunteer opportunities

Candidates Needed

The LPMA is looking for more candidates to carry the Libertarian banner in this election cycle. Petitions to get on the primary ballot are now available.

If you are interested in being a candidate, please call Dennis Corrigan at (978) 352-4435 or email dcorrigan@lpma.org. Time is running out to get on the ballot!

Campaign Volunteers Needed

Every Libertarian candidate running will need some help. There are many ways to volunteer for a campaign: Writing, making phone calls, driving the candidate to events, being part of the campaign staff, and so many other ways. Petitioning for our candidates is well under way. As the campaigns move into full swing more volunteers will be needed.

If you are interested in assisting with a campaign, call Dennis Corrigan at (978) 352-4435 or send email to

dcorrigan@lpma.org or call Muni Savyon at (781) 642-6864 or send email to muni@lpma.org.

Be an Ambassador

The LPMA is seeking volunteers to attend campaign events as representatives of the party. The "LPMA ambassador" at each event will be available to answer questions about the party, register people to vote, and sign up new members, while allowing the candidates and their staff and volunteers to focus on campaigning. Want to help but still new to all of this? The LPMA will help train you.

Massachusetts Liberty Needs Writers

Do you enjoy writing? Want to help make this newsletter even better? *Massachusetts Liberty* is looking for a few good people to write some of our regular articles and cover interesting Libertarian events. We'd be happy to suggest topics! For more information, contact us at ma-liberty@lpma.org.

Fewer Taxes, Less Government, More Freedom

Gregory Doherty

Boxes

It has been said that Americans have three boxes available to them that they can use to defend their freedoms; the soapbox, the ballot box, and the ammo box. I frequently practice using all of them. Many soapboxes have been worn out due to my use. I use the ballot box every time I have the opportunity. I frequently have to get the reloading press working so that I can refill the ammo box.

I would have to add a fourth box to the list: the mailbox. I send approximately 100-200 letters a year to my representatives each year. Every single letter falls on deaf ears.

Most of my letters concern gun control and its infringement on the Constitution. My interest in firearms sparked my interest in politics, but it was just the beginning. This year I have decided to upgrade from simply using the ballot box to having my name printed on the ballot. I am Gregory Doherty, Libertarian Candidate for Massachusetts State Rep. in the 7th Middlesex District.

Where there is liberty

Our representatives in the government are supposed to be there to protect our

freedoms. Sadly, they are only interested in protecting their power. The history of the world has taught us the same painful lesson over and over again — don't trust politicians. When the people control the government, there is liberty. When the government controls the people, there is tyranny. I want to end the tyranny. I want to return power to the individuals so that we can decide what is best for our selves.

The "middle class"

As usual, members of both parties talk about helping the "middle-class." I have a middle-class income, but I do not belong to this mythical "middle-class" that they are talking about. I do have concerns about health care, retirements, primary and secondary education, and the environment. I have gotten laid off twice in the past two and a half years and have seen my savings dwindle down to nothing. But, contrary to the views of the Democrats and Republicans, I do not believe that a larger government will solve my problems. Big government with its outrageous taxes, its trampling of my civil rights, and its intrusion is the problem, not the solution.

If you want to help the middle-class, cut the size of the government in half. One idea is to abolish all present taxes and have a federal sales tax that is in the single digits. The government would consider my suggestion to be unrealistic. I call it a good start.

Greg Doherty for Freedom

I am Gregory Doherty, Libertarian Candidate for Massachusetts State Rep. in the 7th Middlesex District. I will work to free people from the income tax so that they can keep the money they earned. I will work to free people from paying the property tax. I will work to secure a person's freedom from unjust confiscation of private property. I am the only candidate in the 7th Middlesex District (Framingham and Ashland) that will work diligently to restore our civil rights — all of our civil rights.

I am running against a Democrat that has held the seat for less than a year. She can be defeated. I can defeat her — with your help.

To learn more about me and to help my campaign please visit us on the web at www.gregdoherty.org. I can also be reached, any time, at my Campaign Headquarters at (508) 353-4490.

Ilana Freedman Plans Fact Finding Trip to Israel

April Mission will focus on security and solidarity

Ilana Freedman, Libertarian candidate for Congress in the 5th District, will lead a fact-finding trip to Israel in mid-April. "The purpose of this trip is two-fold," she said. "Its primary mission is to acquire practical, no-nonsense information that will give us a clearer understanding how to deal with the on-going terrorist threat on our home front."

"Since September 11, we Americans have become aware that the nature of security in this country has changed. Yet we are still largely ignoring the experience and expertise of the Israelis, who have unfortunately been subject to these realities for many years, and who have developed highly successful methods of dealing with them. Despite the current wave of terrorism and suicide bombings there, Israel knows more about how to deal effectively with terrorism than any country in the world and we have much to learn from them."

A second purpose of this trip, says Freedman, "is to show solidarity for Israel, our strongest and most loyal ally in the Middle East."



Ilana Freedman

"Throughout its history, Israel has been steadfast in supporting and maintaining the democratic principles that make it unique in the region. Their contribution to our own security through shared intelligence has been outstanding and constant for over fifty years. Now that Israel is besieged by an epidemic of terrorism, I feel that it is important to show our support for our strongest ally in the region."

During the ten-day visit, Freedman will be briefed by high-ranking officials in government, security, and intelligence. Her purpose is to bring back concrete ideas on how best to combat the threat of terrorism in this country. Freedman will issue a report of her findings that will be released in May.

When asked about the apparent danger that accompanies her trip, Freedman responded, "What is happening in Israel today, could well be happening here in the near future. We need to be proactive and learn everything we can about how to prevent such a development in America. I am willing to go along way to make a contribution that will keep our country safe in the future. I think this is a risk worth taking. I invite any public figure who is concerned about our national security and safety to join me on this trip," she said.

Freedman is challenging incumbent Marty Meehan for the Congressional seat in Massachusetts' 5th District which he currently holds.

campaign 2002

Collecting Signatures

After putting off running for several years, I decided to start small (ha!) and run for State Representative. This is my first run for office. My current goal is to simply collect enough signatures to get listed on the ballot. Here is what I've learned so far.

Gathering signatures can be a difficult process. When standing in front of a store, some people will ignore you or say something rude. When getting rejected a few times in a row, I simply think to myself, "The Republicrats want people like me to be frustrated and go home." One deep breath later, and I'm back in business (serenity now!).

Smiling and believing in yourself is probably the most important thing that I've learned. I had a much better success rate when I greeted each person with a big smile and pretended that I had known them for years.

Keeping it short and to the point is key. I usually started with, "Excuse me sir / ma'am, are you a registered voter?" If they say yes, I respond with, "Could you help me get my name on the ballot? I'm running for State Representative?" If they say no, I thank them anyway. If they say something else (or nothing at all), I take a step back. These are the people that I refer to as "Not Interested and Potentially Dangerous."

By not giving my name in my initial pitch, it allows the wittier voter to respond "Well who are you?" Others jokesters will say "I'll sign but it doesn't mean that I'll vote for you." After the first 20 times, I didn't find these jokes particularly funny anymore, but I laughed anyway. People like it when you laugh at them (or is it with them?).

During the whole process, I show them the clipboard that I have of other people's signatures. People are drawn to the clipboard. "What's that guy doing with a clipboard? Other people have signed; should I? Do I get anything by signing?" You might get to keep more of your own money (End the Mass. Income Tax!).

I was surprised by how many people have heard of the party. Unfortunately, some hate us and walked away after I said the L word. So, my advice is to not mention the party until after they've signed (unless they specifically ask). Dirty pool? Perhaps, but if they don't ask, why make them angry? Aren't we a peaceful party?

Some people ask what the party and I stand for. I usually mention the party's initiative to end the state income tax and Carla Howell's run for Governor. Some people have other specific questions. Some people just like to talk politics (some



Mark Testagrossa

will talk for 10-20 minutes). When I get a talker, I let them go. I use some techniques from Michael Cloud's Freedom Store and tell them a little about how the party suits their concerns. I stay away from debate and argument (since the point is to gather signatures).

Some people who were ready to sign may walk away when they learn what the party stands for. Others may like the incumbent. It's not too late! My last pitch: "Signing simply gives the voters a greater choice on election day." One woman was so impressed with that statement that she went and got her friend to come over and sign. I decided that I would use that line again. It's much better than "Come here often?" (especially outside the grocery store where the answer is usually "yes!").

One supporter of the incumbent signed and said "Well, we don't know if LeDuc is going to move on to another office." Wouldn't that be something? The incumbent Democrat leaves and there's no Republican challenger? Say hello to Congressman Testagrossa! (I'll keep my day job just in case.)

Some people asked if I had a chance. I said that no one gave the Patriots a chance this year (the timing of their victory worked out pretty well!).

When I come across a couple, I end my pitch looking at the man. The reason is because he usually needs to check with his wife (I didn't make the rules). This slows both of them down. If they slow down, there is a higher chance that they'll listen instead of run off. I've found that people can't sign if they've run off.

People have given me some interesting comments. One guy said he wouldn't sign because I was probably a Democrat. I told him that I was a Libertarian. He threw up his hands, walked off and scowled, "That's even worse."

Another woman asked if I was married. When I said no, she told me that I needed to find a nice girl and get married. I asked if she had been talking to my mother.

It's been a lot of work so far, but it's been a fun and interesting learning experience. I would encourage everyone to try running for something or collecting signatures. Never a dull moment!

(Mark Testagrossa is running for State Representative in the 4th Middlesex District. If you would like to join the fun and help collect signatures, please contact him at mpt@attbi.com.)

Gary Johnson for President Petition Started

From Libertarians to Republicans, Democrats to Greens, and a whole bunch of Independents, it seems the country wants Gary Johnson to run for President. As of March 6, 2002, the Petition to Draft Gov. Gary Johnson for President started by Jim C. Perry has gathered 100 signatures...IN ONE WEEK.

These signatures come from New Mexico to Oregon, from Florida to Massachusetts. Amazingly enough, there is even a GREEN party member who has signed! The petition to draft Gary Johnson for Presidential Candidate can be found at www.petitiononline.com/gar4prez.

Special Session of Engage! Training

Libertarian activist David Rostcheck is pleased to offer a special session of the Engage! political activism training classes on Sunday, April 7th. Scheduled to coincide with the Massachusetts State Libertarian Convention, this special session offers Engage Level I (Effective Communication for Activists) in the morning, followed directly by Level II (Political and Media Activism) in the afternoon.

David is a civil rights activist with the gay-friendly shooting rights group Pink Pistols and an experienced GLBT political activist. In recent months he has worked on ballot initiatives for Carla Howell, Michael Cloud, and Rich Aucoin. He developed Engage! to give Libertarian activists effective, structured techniques for grassroots organizing, political action, and media activism. "I drew on the training and experience that had proven best over years of working for political change," David explained. "For example, our media activism with the Pink Pistols proved highly effective at drawing positive press coverage to the discriminatory and dangerous effects of gun control laws by giving the media an angle it found hard to resist." The highly successful Engage! program has drawn praise from Libertarian activists throughout New England.

Classes will be held at the offices of the Gun Owner's Action League in Northboro. Each session costs \$70, or \$60 for attendees of the April 6th Massachusetts State Libertarian Convention. Students can take both sessions consecutively for \$130, or \$110 for convention attendees.

The fee includes lunch for the first session and dinner for the second, plus all class materials, and is payable in cash at the start of class. Attendees can register on the web at www.northbridgetraining.com or by calling (617) 510-2275.

Engage! Training
April 7, 2002
at the
Gun Owner's Action League in Northboro
for more information see
www.northbridgetraining.com
or call
(617) 510-2275

New E-mail Discussion Forums Started

Aaron Biterman

In an effort to "reach the world with a coherent and consistent message," five new e-mail discussion lists have been set up for "constituencies which have natural sympathies" for the libertarian philosophy — black Libertarians, hispanic Libertarians, Jewish Libertarians, female Libertarians, and homosexual Libertarians.

The new discussion forums are for "reaching people who understand government oppression," said LP member Aaron Biterman, who created the e-mail lists. "It is important for individuals in these groups to communicate with each other, for mutual support and edification."

"These communities have all been oppressed — at one time or another — by the government," said Biterman. "It is our

job as activists to provide alternatives and answers for those seeking them, and support for those who are not," he said.

Biterman's website, Advancing Principles of Life & Liberty, is geared towards reaching people who are often not found in LP circles.

"I don't see enough African-Americans or Hispanics in this party, when it is they who have been oppressed the most by the drug laws. Obviously we are not reaching these people who naturally agree with us," said Biterman. "We must reach them."

The lists can be subscribed to by clicking links on the main Advancing Principles of Life & Liberty website, which can be found at apll.freeyellow.com.

College Libertarian Social

Aaron Biterman

On Saturday, February 23, a group of Massachusetts college libertarians gathered at a Harvard University dorm to celebrate liberty, discuss issues, and socialize.

The event, sponsored by the newly created Harvard Libertarian Society, was organized by Harvard University juniors Julio Machado and Patrick Boehm.

Machado and Boehm organized a Harvard Libertarian presence just a few months ago. In late February, the Har-



Attendees of the college Libertarian social

vard Libertarian Society became an officially recognized organization on campus.

Turnout for the event included approximately twenty college libertarians, several non-libertarians and several adult libertarians.

In attendance were students from Harvard Undergraduate, Harvard Law, MIT, Boston University, Worcester State College, Northeastern University, and Endicott College.

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LPMA Email Groups

List Name *Subscribe/Unsubscribe Address*
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*Low volume of messages, perhaps one or two per day.
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Campus campus-request@lpma.org
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