



Massachusetts Liberty

The Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Massachusetts

March 2003

Have You Done Enough?

Jessica Bowen

Like all freedom loving people of New England, you've registered for the convention at www.lpma.org/convention. You know that in order to pay the regular \$95 rate, you had to do it before April 5th or else you'd have to pay \$115 for the walk-in rate. You know that the convention is on April 12, at the Sheraton in Framingham. You know all about the great speakers, like Sheriff Bill Masters, health freedom advocate Sue Blevins, activist trainer David Rostcheck, former LP communications director Bill Winter and our own star activists and candidates Carla Howell and Michael Cloud. You know about the great breakout sessions on home schooling, running a small business, public speaking, campus activism and starting activist groups. You of course, are a model Massachusetts Libertarian.

But have you done enough?

Have you volunteered to work at the convention? Have you offered your time in planning for the convention, stuffing registration packets and making phone calls? We need people like you, so if you're interested, contact Jess Bowen at

About the Speakers



Bill Masters

Bill Masters has served as sheriff of San Miguel County (Telluride), Colorado, since 1979. He is the nation's first Libertarian sheriff, and in 2002 he won reelection in an uncontested race. In 2001, Masters authored his first book, *Drug War Addiction: Notes from the Front Lines of America's #1 Policy Disaster*. Through his real-world experiences as a law officer, Masters discovered the drug war is itself an addiction, more damaging to the fabric of society than drugs could ever be. He argues police should spend their time getting violent criminals off the streets. He also seeks cultural renewal in our nation by returning to the principles of personal responsibility, simple laws, and limited government.

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Putting the Pieces Together

2003 Massachusetts Libertarian State Convention

Libertarian Questions, Answers. Ideas, Solutions
April 12, 2003 — Sheraton Framingham

Find out more at www.lpma.org/convention

jbowen@lpma.org, and tell her you're ready to help!

Have you gotten at least two friends, family members or co-workers to sign up for the convention? This is a great way to do a small bit of low-commitment activism. Who should you ask? Is there someone who nods his head when you make a comment about your high tax bill? How about that person who doesn't roll her eyes when you mention how frightened you are at the loss of civil liberties in post 9-11 America? How about that family member who asks interested questions about your views on gun control? All of

these are good people to invite to the convention. The state convention is the perfect place to introduce people to the idea of liberty and how it can make their lives more prosperous and fulfilling. Don't be afraid to ask them!

You can have friends and family go to the website for more information and to register at www.lpma.org or they can call **1-800-JOIN-LPM**. We can't wait to meet you and your friends!



Bill Winter

Bill Winter served as the national Libertarian Party's director of communications from 1993 to 2002. During that time, he increased the number of monthly LP radio and TV interviews; scheduled LP spokespeople on shows like CNN's Crossfire and ABC's 20/20; and implemented an op-ed program that generated 140+ placements annually in major newspapers. From 1997 to early 2003,

Winter was the editor of LP News, where he doubled the size of the newspaper, increased the variety and scope of news coverage, and modernized its design. Previously, Winter was the Chairman of the New Hampshire LP (1987-1992) during a period of unprecedented growth and success.



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Next Deadline

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Letter from the chair Spring Surprise

You know how sometimes when you're waiting for something it seems to take forever and then suddenly it's upon you? You wait and wait, wondering if it will ever come, and then...surprise!

Well, by the time you read this, there will be a couple of things about to do just that. Spring, of course, will officially be just around the corner.

(I don't know about you, but I was beginning to wonder if it would ever come again.) More importantly, however, by the time you read this, you will only have a few weeks left to register for the 2003 state convention. Trust me, you do not want to miss this event, so put down this newsletter, go to your computer, and register now at www.lpma.org/convention or call **1-800-JOIN-LPM (1-800-564-6576)**.

The coming of spring brings a plethora of activities for Libertarians to choose from. I've already mentioned the convention, but there are many more things. Here are just a few:

Run or apply for a local office

This being an odd-numbered year, most towns will be having elections for town meeting members, selectmen, and dozens of other positions. You could do no greater service to your party and the movement than to run for one of the literally thousands of elective offices across the state. As you read last month, Arthur Torrey is running for Town Meeting Member in his home town of Billerica.

Not interested in running for elective office? No problem, there are literally thousands of appointed positions that will be available around Massachusetts this year as well. In many cases these positions are available for the asking.

By serving in town, regional, or county government, you will earn credibility and recognition for yourself and the party. These experiences will provide a critical base on which to build future successful campaigns for higher-level positions such as State Representative or Senator. To use a sports analogy, you will be part of



Kamal Jain

our farm team and could go on to the big league.

Party building and outreach

Just days after the convention (you're registered now, right?) will be the income tax filing deadline, and a popular Libertarian activity: Tax Day Protests and outreach. Yes, it's time to break out the million-dollar bills

and cardboard signs to hold outside of post offices and other places where people will come in droves, and each with a particularly bad taste for government in their mouths when they get there.

The warmer weather also brings fairs, flea markets, and other public events that are perfect for running an Operation Politically Homeless ("OPH") booth. Want to know more about OPH? Contact newly appointed Executive Director, Kay Pirrello via email at kpirrello@lpma.org.

Host or attend a social

While all the activities I've mentioned so far are fun, one of the long-standing traditions within the state party is the monthly social. These are informal gatherings at someone's home where people eat, drink, and, well...socialize. Sure there are political and philosophical discussions, and sometimes debates, but you'll also find people exchanging recipes, talking about hobbies, and all sorts of things. The very first Libertarian activity I attended was a social at Lance Vaughan's home.

If you are interested in hosting a social at your home, send email to socials@lpma.org.

There are lots of things to do, but remember that the clock is ticking away, and the time for these things will be upon you before you know it. Remember to register for the state convention before it's too late by going to www.lpma.org/convention, or by calling **1-800-JOIN-LPM (1-800-564-6576)**.

I look forward to seeing you there!

Libertarian Events

Marlborough Libertarian Association

Sunday, March 9, 7:00 P.M.

Marlborough-area Libertarians gather the second Sunday of each month at the Joy Asia buffet on Route 20 in Marlborough. For more information, contact Jess Bowen at jbowen@lpma.org or Stephanie Farrell at sfarrell@lpma.org or (508) 485-3341.

Pioneer Valley Libertarians Meeting

Wednesday, March 12, 7:00 P.M.

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

State Convention 2003 Planning

Tuesdays, 7:00 P.M.

State Convention 2003 Planning is ongoing. For more information (or to volunteer) contact Jessica Bowen at jbowen@lpma.org.

Worcester County Libertarian Association

Sunday, March 16, 6:00 P.M.

The Worcester County Libertarian Association meets on the third

Volunteer Opportunities

The end of the state and federal election season does not mean the end of volunteer opportunities — or the end of campaigns! Cities and towns are gearing up for local elections and now is the time to lay the foundation for the next state and federal elections.

Candidates Needed

Cities and towns tend to hold their elections in "off" years. Why don't you consider running for local office? It's a great way to start your political career, build grass root support, and show the Libertarian platform in action. If you're interested in running, contact Kamal Jain at kjain@lpma.org.

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.

If you are interested in assisting with a campaign, contact Dennis Corrigan at (978) 352-4435 or dcorrigan@lpma.org or Muni Savyon at (603) 883-0441 or muni@lpma.org.

Operation Politically Homeless

Operation Politically Homeless is a booth set up at events that draw crowds. Volunteers ask event attendees to take the World's Smallest Political Quiz, hand out Libertarian literature, answer questions, and encourage people to register to vote as Libertarians and join the party.

Many fairs and festivals are candidates for OPH booths. Find out if there's one in your area. Running an OPH booth is easy and fun. We can help you plan the event, recruit help, and supply you with an OPH kit. For more information about OPH

March 2003

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, or dcook@lpma.org, or visit wcla.tripod.com.

Patrick Henry Libertarian Toastmasters International Meeting

March 8, 13, and 22

The club is oriented to Libertarians to help gain confidence and skills in delivering prepared speeches, as well as impromptu remarks. The club is open to the public. Come on out and see what it's all about! The ninety-minute meeting will take place upstairs at Bickford's on Main Street in Waltham. We will order a meal from the menu. For more information, contact Dennis Corrigan at dcorrigan@lpma.org.

Organizing a Libertarian Event?

Get the word out by submitting event information to *Massachusetts Liberty* via e-mail to ma-liberty@lpma.org and using our on-line calendar at www.lpma.org/calendar.

booths, see www.discoverliberty.org.

Massachusetts Liberty Needs Reporters

Do you enjoy writing? Want to help make this newsletter even better? *Massachusetts Liberty* is looking for a few good people to cover Libertarian events around the state. Whether you're willing to travel across the state or prefer to stay near home, your help is needed. We will provide you with the when and where of the event and you provide us with an article and photo (digital if possible!) For more information, contact us at ma-liberty@lpma.org.

Host a Social!

The LPMA socials are parties held in Massachusetts on a monthly basis for the purpose of getting together with other Libertarians and having fun.

Although there is rarely an "activism agenda" at a social, we often have new Libertarians showing up to find out what we're all about, and it's a good way to meet candidates and activists.

The traditional date is the third Saturday of the month, and the traditional time is 7pm. Traditionally, there is no social during the month in which the annual state convention is held (which, in 2003, will be April).

To volunteer to host a social, contact the social coordinator at socials@lpma.org.

Get Local

Groups around Massachusetts are organizing to bring Libertarian philosophy to their city or town government. If you are interested in getting involved with local tax cuts, contact Stephanie Farrell by e-mail at sfarrell@lpma.org or by phone at (617) 957-9096.

Massachusetts Libertarians Form "Patrick Henry Libertarian Toastmasters Club"

R. Dennis Corrigan

"Why stand we here idle? What is it that gentlemen wish? What would they have? Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!"

Patrick Henry, March 23, 1775

Meeting on January 25 and February 8, Libertarians from throughout the Commonwealth (and even from beyond the Mass. border — Shawn Levasseur made it to both meetings, traveling from Maine) organized a chapter of Toastmasters International in order to enhance participants' public speaking, leadership and listening skills.

In an organizational meeting at Bickford's in Waltham, those present resolved to charter a club, and chose to name it the "Patrick Henry Libertarian Toastmasters Club." Now, at last, we have in place the resource for future Libertarian candidates that is best suited to hone their speaking skills. By joining the club, you and your fellow candidates will acquire the skills and self-confidence to perform well at any podium.

We also made substantial progress in scheduling future meetings, deciding to hold four meetings per month, alternating between weekend luncheon meetings on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month, and weeknight 7:30 p.m. dinner meetings in intervening weeks of the month. By meeting this often, we can provide more speaking opportunities to the membership, but it is not expected that the typical member will attend all meetings. Weekends work best for some, weeknights for others; we want to accommodate everybody. Keep track of specific meeting times by checking the LPMA Web site events calendar at www.lpma.org/calendar/ or subscribing to the activists e-mail list. To subscribe to the list, send an e-mail to activists-request@lpma.org with the word 'subscribe' in the body of the message.

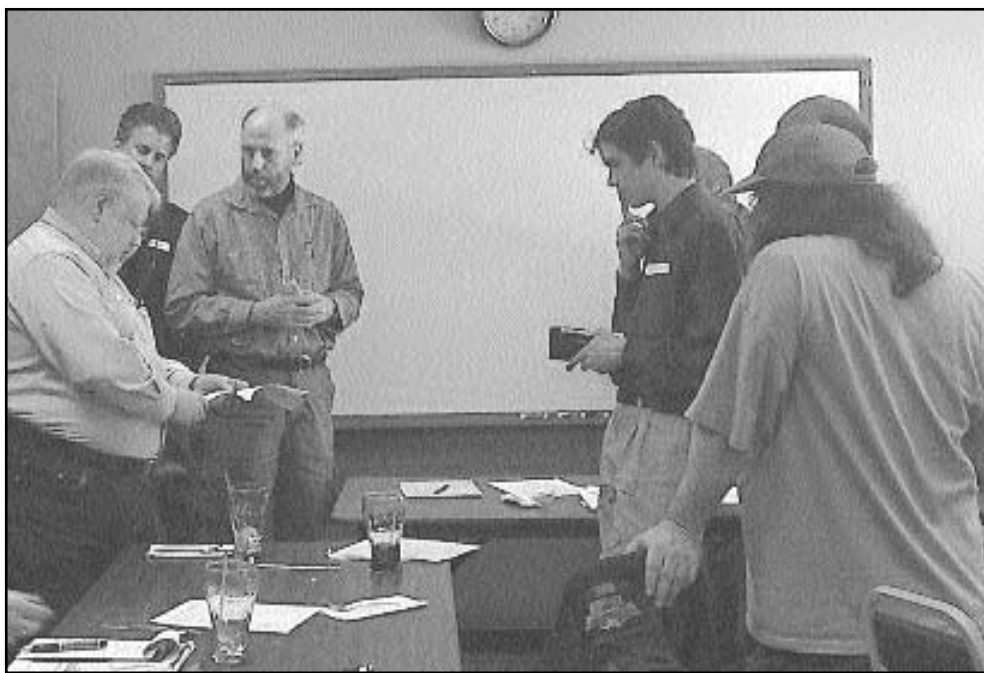
At the organization meeting we decided on a dues structure: dues for the first six months will be \$42, and subsequent six-month dues will be around \$20. Eleven people paid their dues and became charter members, and I hope I can report next month that we have exceeded the twenty-member minimum needed to charter the club.

The slate of officers elected is:

President	R. Dennis Corrigan
Vice President of Education	"Skip" Pacheco
Vice President Membership	Matthew Dailey
Vice President Public Relations	Shawn Levasseur
Secretary	Shannon Vale
Treasurer	Rich Aucoin

The club chose to name itself for Patrick Henry after considering several alternatives, including Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Samuel Adams, and Ludwig von Mises. The choice seems propitious. Patrick Henry was not only the greatest

orator produced by the American revolution, best known for his "give me liberty, or give me death" speech, he was substantially a critically important leader in forcing the adoption of the Bill of Rights. Henry has been called America's best known symbol of free speech. With "Patrick



Toastmaster members schedule future meetings

Henry" as part of our club name, we will have his inspirational example always in front of us.

Libertarians, we have given you a club, if you can keep it. This is the best opportunity we can offer to develop leadership and public speaking skills. Please come out and join us at a meeting soon! You will get a warm welcome and emerge a better speaker.

Executive Committee Minutes: February 2003

The meeting began at 2:00 p.m. Present were the Vice Chairman and acting Chairman, Kamal Jain, the Treasurer, Walter Ziobro, the Secretary, Peter Kuntz, the Chairman of the Candidate Committee, Dennis Corrigan and other committee members Richard Aucoin, Robert French, Thomas LaRoche, Carol McMahon, Kay Pirrello and Alvin See.

The acting Chairman distributed a written agenda, which the Committee approved, with the addition of one item.

The Treasurer gave a written report, which the acting Chairman accepted.

The Secretary reported resignations of Eli Israel and Eve Maler from the State Committee and the resignation of Eli Israel as Chairman. The acting Chairman accepted this report.

In the absence of the Chairman of the Convention Committee, Kay Pirrello delivered an oral report of that Committee's activities. In response to questions about registrations for the convention, she noted that the Convention Committee had not yet begun mailing promotional material for it yet, and expressed confidence that registrations would be at a comfortable number after mail promotions. The acting Chairman accepted this report.

The acting Chairman informed the Committee that Eryk Boston was unable to fill his role as Executive Director, and that Kay Pirrello had agreed to serve in that capacity with the

Committee's approval. Alvin See moved, and Richard Aucoin seconded, that Kay Pirrello is named the Executive Director; and this motion passed unanimously.

Peter Kuntz moved, and Kay Pirrello seconded, that Robert French would serve as Chairman of the Budget Committee; and this motion passed unanimously. Kay Pirrello, Carolyn McMahon and Alvin See volunteered to serve on the Budget Committee with Robert French, the Treasurer and the acting Chairman. Kay Pirrello moved, and Robert French seconded, that the Budget Committee shall consist of these members and that discussion of the Budget Committee would close. This motion passed unanimously.

Dennis Corrigan, Thomas LaRoche, Alvin See and Walter Ziobro volunteered to serve on the Rules Committee with the acting Chairman and counsel Edward McCormick. At the acting Chairman's request, Walter Ziobro agreed to serve as Chair of the Rules Committee if Mr. McCormick was unable or unwilling.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be at 2:00 p.m. on March 8, 2003 at Bickford's Restaurant in Waltham.

Alvin See moved, and Kay Pirrello seconded, that the meeting adjourn; and the motion passed.

Libertarianism 101: George Mason and the Roots of Our Liberty

Brian Chapman

I've heard our government referred to as a "democracy" even by our esteemed U.S. Senators, but this is not exactly true. Our nation is first and foremost a republic. These terms have nothing to do with the Democratic and Republican parties. A republic is a sovereign nation that holds sacred the rights of the individual. A republic means self-government, which is achieved through democracy. Thinking of our nation as a democracy rather than a republic is a subtle corruption of our founding principles.

Our founding fathers were well aware that a mere democracy without the values and ideals of a republic could quickly lead to tyranny. They referred to democracy run amuck as "mob rule". And they held that there was something of a higher nature than the opinion of the masses. They described it as "certain inalienable rights... among these, the right to life, liberty, property, and pursuit of happiness". That all men (and women) were created equal meant that all were equally entitled to these basic inalienable rights.

After they won their independence and their liberty from British tyranny, they crafted the United States Constitution. This document laid out the rules for fair representation of the entire populace and a balance of the powers, such that no one could become too powerful and all would be accountable to the people. As Lincoln would later say, "a government by the people, for the people, and of the people".

The U.S. Constitution was ratified and signed, yet there was something missing. It provided a foundation for democracy, but where was the foundation for the republic? The Constitution spelled out the rights (i.e. powers) of elected and appointed officials, but said little of the rights of its citizens, except of course, the right to vote. Very few people know who was responsible for the absolutely critical Bill of Rights, the first 10 amendments to the Constitution. Many high school history texts say it was James Madison, because he became the spokesman for the cause. But George Mason was the man who raised the concern in the first place.

George Mason had been solely responsible for including a strong Bill of Rights into Virginia's state constitution and he was the first to see the need for enumerating these rights into the U.S. Constitution. The other founders had mistakenly assumed that since the people ultimately held the reins of power, they would not tolerate losing their inalienable rights. This may have been true of their time, but George Mason had the vision to see that this may not always be the case. He convinced James Madison to support his cause and we soon became the only nation blessed with the foundation for a true republic. Had these rights not been spelled out, many of them would have soon become no more than illusive platitudes. George Mason is therefore a name that all Americans, and especially all Libertarian Americans, should know and respect.

Be Heard, Be Represented

Even though a TIME/CNN poll determined that 80% of Americans approve of medical marijuana, Federal prosecutors won't permit court testimony concerning why marijuana was used, even though marijuana is permitted as medicine under the laws of nine states. As a result, cancer patients and victims of chronic pain from accidents have been sent to prison for using marijuana to ease their suffering. Juries never hear the medical reason for the drug use, and Federal prosecutors have been known to accuse patients of being "Drug King Pins."

Contact Attorney General Ashcroft and urge him to permit the presentation of all evidence in cases involving marijuana.

Also contact your congressman and senators to ask them to pass a law preventing future concealment of such evidence in

court cases.

Other Events of Libertarian Interest



A new book by John Merrifield has been published about School Choice. Merrifield urges that a freely competitive market for education must remain the ultimate goal for the United States, and the momentum the School Choice movement has gained in recent years must not be brushed aside. The book, entitled *School Choices: True and False* is available in most bookstores as well as through the Independent Institute's website, www.independent.org.

This Month in Libertarian History

Melanie Mork

March

F.A. Hayek is probably the most well known Austrian economist of the 20th century. Hayek, protégé and colleague of Ludwig von Mises, is credited as being more successful than anyone else in spreading Austrian economic ideas and philosophy through the English-speaking world. Born Friedrich August von Hayek in 1899 to a distinguished family of Viennese intellectuals, Hayek attended the University of Vienna. In the early 1920s, Hayek began attending the private seminars of Ludwig von Mises, which offered no academic credit or official University recognition. These private seminars, known as Privatseminars, became the



F.A. Hayek

center of the economics community in Vienna. Hayek moved to England to teach the Austrian economic "business cycle theory" at the London School of Economics. When in 1936, Keynes published his "General Theory," Hayek became a lone voice speaking out against Keynesian theory, which was quickly being adopted by the U.S. and Britain. In 1950, Hayek joined the Committee on Social Thought at the University of Chicago, where he was once again surrounded by a group of laissez-faire economists such as Milton Friedman and George Stigler. Hayek died in 1992 in Freiburg, Germany, where he had lived since leaving Chicago in 1961.

Submissions Welcomed!

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.

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LPMA Email Groups

List Name *Subscribe/Unsubscribe Address*
Announce **announce-request@lpma.org**
Very low volume of messages, perhaps one or two per month. Intended to convey important information and good news.

Activists **activists-request@lpma.org**
Low volume of messages, perhaps one or two per day. Intended to make people aware of the latest activism opportunities.

Campus **campus-request@lpma.org**
Intended for sharing information of interest to students, faculty, staff, and others interested in Libertarian campus happenings.

To subscribe to any of these groups, send email to the address shown, with the word "subscribe" in the body of the message. To unsubscribe, send email to the address shown, with the word "unsubscribe" in the body of the message.

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Sign me up for the national Libertarian Party and the Libertarian Party 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 _____

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 LPMA for state activities:

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

Payment (make checks payable to LPMA)

- Check Visa MasterCard Amex Discover

Credit Card #: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Name on Card: _____

Cardholder's Signature: _____

Credit card donations will be deposited in the LPMA federal account. Donations by check will be deposited into the LPMA state account unless the check memo field directs otherwise. Both accounts support party-building activities, but federal and state candidate support is restricted to the respective account.