



Massachusetts Liberty

The Newsletter of the Libertarian Association of Massachusetts

April/May 1998

Springtime Petitioning

Jim "SULDOG" Sullivan

It is now crunch time.

Candidates have come forward. Committees have been formed. Accounts are set up. Strategies are being formulated (some are being implemented, even as you read this). However, it will all end up being useless noise and busywork without completion of the task at hand, which is... Petitioning.

10,000 valid signatures are needed to gain ballot access for our slate of statewide candidates. This means that approximately 14,000 raw signatures must be collected to assure the valid count of 10,000. This must be completed before any other work is seriously begun.

I'll give you a nice bit of math that, if it were this easy, life would be a whole lot easier for everybody. There are about

14,000 registered Libertarians in Massachusetts. If every one of them collected 1 signature, their own, the job would be done. Here's another bit of math: 14,000 divided by 850 is approximately 16.5

If every subscriber to *Massachusetts Liberty* collected just 16 or 17 signatures, we would have enough. Think of that! 25 minutes work from each person, and we wouldn't have to spend precious dollars on paid petitioners; money that could be going towards advertising, bumper stickers, buttons, steak dinners for candidate recruitment coordinators... (Only kidding. I just wanted to make sure you were still paying attention.)

Anyway, it's not that simple, is it? You and I both know that a certain number of folks, your fellow readers, won't get off of their asses and help. It's a shame, but that's the way it is. However, you aren't one of those slugs who expects someone else to carry his or her load, right? No—I knew you weren't, and that's why you're going to write to Dave Rizzo, who is in charge of the

petitioning effort, and volunteer to collect your fair share, right?

Dave may be reached at (978) 952-6773 or e-mail: Dave_Rizzo@bigfoot.com

If you think you can collect 1,000 or more signatures (May Your Tribe Increase!) call Carla Howell, our state chair, at (508) 358-4247. You may be interested in being remunerated for your outstanding effort, and Carla is willing to do so (on behalf of her, and other, campaigns). It may not be enough to retire on, but you'll deserve a nice little bit for your extra effort.

If you collect less than 1,000 - but more than 200 - I'll reward you myself. Maybe a nice steak dinner (I'm sorry - I gave up red meat for Lent, and it's predominating my thought lately).

Anyway, your help is needed, NOW. Nobody will do this for us - we have to get out and do it ourselves. This means YOU. And, I know you'll do your part—you subscribe to *Massachusetts Liberty*, so you're alright! ■

Libertarians running for office - get the vote out!

Governor
Lieutenant Governor
Secretary of State
State Treasurer
State Auditor
Governor's Council

Dean Cook
Eli Israel
David Atkinson
Merton B. Baker
Carla Howell
Galit P.G. Dukach

US Representative
3rd Congressional District
5th Congressional District

George Phillies
Rene Nadeau

State Senator

Alfred "Pit" Warren

I N S I D E

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- *Liberty on the Farm*
- *Meet the Candidates*
- *Delegate Listings & More...*

State Representative
Cambridge
Somerville
Brookline
Templeton
Concord

Christopher O'Malley
Ron Bargoot
Frank Ross
Scott Drury
Michael J. Hackmer

Planning Board, Holbrook
Selectman, Ashland

Jerome Erickson
Craig J. Mathias



Massachusetts Liberty

April/May 1998

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Next Deadline

June 15, 1998

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

Hello fellow Libertarians,

Perhaps the greatest curse of being a Libertarian is having more insight than most into how wastefully and destructively our tax dollars are spent. It's one thing to give to charity voluntarily to a good cause. It's another thing to be required, under penalty of fines and imprisonment, to shell over 25-55% of one's earnings to governments that regularly waste and abuse those funds.

On April 15th, we took the opportunity to let the taxpayers of Massachusetts know THERE IS AN ALTERNATIVE!

What might that be? The ELIMINATION of the state income tax! This plan is articulated in the platform of our gubernatorial candidate Dean Cook who was on hand to wow the crowd at the Boston Post Office on April 15th from noon until 8:00pm.

Thank to all who joined us for a fun-filled event of outreach, peaceful protest, and support of our Libertarian candidates who will CUT TAXES!!

We let those last-minute filers know that the Libertarian Party is here to expose the absurdi-



State Chair Carla Howell

ty of the tax system and to provide a real alternative and they liked what they heard.

Our next step is to make sure we have enough signatures on the petitions to get our state-wide candidates on the ballot. Look elsewhere in this issue for information on how you can help!

Dean Cook for Governor! Eli Israel for Lieutenant Governor!

Yours in liberty,

Carla Howell

Liberty in Film and Television

A free weekly film and TV review newsletter for libertarians is now available, featuring news on upcoming films, videos and TV programs of interest. To subscribe to "Miss Liberty's Film News & Reviews," just send an e-mail message to requests@missliberty.com with the word 'subscribe update' in the body or header. So far the response has been very favorable, and the newsletter is of course entirely free. It's a great way to stay on top of the latest in libertarian film and TV! ■

Phillies For Congress Website

The Phillies Campaign has announced their website at <http://www.excell.net/phillies> ■

An Apology

The editor of *Massachusetts Liberty* would like to apologize for the delays in publication and mailing of several issues of the newsletter. Steps are being taken to resolve the problems. Look for more details in the June issue of *Massachusetts Liberty*! ■

**For regular updates, newsletter archives, book reviews and more,
visit the Web Site of LAMA, the Libertarian Party in Massachusetts!**

<http://www.la-ma.org>

Libertarian Rebecca Shipman-Hurst addresses political activists at Wellesley conference

Former gubernatorial candidate Rebecca Shipman-Hurst addressed an audience of female students aspiring to become political activists at the first annual Women in Political Activism Conference held at Wellesley College on Friday, February 20th. Wellesley students along with women from other New England colleges were in attendance.

Representing the Libertarian party on a panel entitled Women in Political Parties, Ms. Shipman-Hurst made known some historical points such as the fact that Libertarian Vice Presidential candidate Tony Nathan was the first woman in American history running for the seat to receive an electoral vote. That honor was not won by Geraldine Ferraro as is commonly misunderstood.

As the panelists were prompted to discuss their personal experiences in politics, Ms. Shipman-Hurst described her 1982 bid for Governor. She was frank about disclosing the frustration of running for public office as a third party candidate. For instance, despite the fact that the League of Women Voters vowed to include in the debates any gubernatorial candidate who was on the ballot, they later reneged on the promise and kept her out.

Despite this and other setbacks, she described her experience as a very fulfilling one that gave her the opportunity to own her idealism by espousing real objectives of Libertarianism.

Her greatest accomplishment was to put Libertarians on the map by virtue of a very flattering statement that was published about her campaign in the Boston Globe. She was described as an "oratorical champion" and applauded for her excellent state budget analysis.

Ms. Shipman-Hurst also had the opportunity to express what Libertarianism is all about. "We're pro-choice on every issue," she said. "Libertarians are against the initiation of force."

She also pointed out that in addition to running candidates, Libertarians have been involved in various initiatives. Sensing a predominantly liberal audience, she mentioned Libertarian efforts to promote individual liberty such as the legalization of tattooing and support of Mass Cann, the marijuana legalization group.

The students in attendance were interested and asked a lot of questions. "They were particularly interested in knowing how to access the Internet for political organizing", said Ms. Shipman-Hurst.

Congratulations are in order for Ms. Shipman-Hurst for presenting Libertarianism favorably at this event as well as for Carol Cummings who set up an Operation Politically Homeless (OPH) booth at the conference to provide information to participants about Libertarianism. ■

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Executive Board Minutes

March 20, 1998

by **Brian Holt Hawthorne**

Board members present: Carla Howell, Chair; Mark Tuniewicz, Laura El-Azem, Brian Hawthorne, Elias Israel, Jim Sullivan, Rebecca Stewart

The board meeting convened at 5:15 pm on 3/20/1998 at the home of Elias Israel.

The following agenda was adopted:

1. Officers Reports
2. Approval of minutes
3. Issues regarding petitioning process
4. Discussion and adoption of 1998 Budget
5. Confirmation and appointment of officers
6. Proposed Bylaw changes
7. Announcements

1. Reports were presented by David Roscoe, membership and corresponding secretary; Laura El-Azem, volunteer coordinator; and Jim Sullivan, candidate recruitment coordinator. Eli presented his proposed FY1998 budget, to be discussed later.

2. The minutes of the previous board meeting as published in the Feb/Mar Massachusetts Liberty were approved without objection.

3. Dave Rizzo volunteered to manage the petitioning process among the Libertarian candidates in Massachusetts and the board agreed that there was no LAMA discussion or action required.

4. The board unanimously approved the FY1998 budget as proposed with the following amendments:

- a. Line item 1050 is deleted
 - b. Line item 1100 is reduced to \$100 each month
 - c. Line item 2050 is reduced to zero for the first quarter
5. The board unanimously approved the following officers and positions:

Financial Reporting Officer	Walter Ziobro
Recording Secretary	Brian Holt Hawthorne
Membership and Corresponding Secretary	David Roscoe
Communications Director	Ron Bargoote
Electronic Communications Director	Muni Savyon
Chair, Committee for Membership Growth	Chris O'Malley
Organizational Project Coordinator	Dan Catchpole
Candidate Recruitment Coordinator	Jim Sullivan
Volunteer Coordinator	Laura El-Azem
Accountant	Sam Robbins

6. The board unanimously approved a change to the bylaws of the Association, to add the following to Article II: Duties of Officers of the Executive Board as section 4:

*"4. It shall be the duty of the Executive Director:
A. To prepare annually an Executive Budget for the Association and to present said budget for approval by the Executive Board,*

- B. To direct the Financial Reporting Officer to issue payments in accordance with the budget adopted above,*
- C. To organize the annual State Caucus, or to delegate the task to another suitable person,*
- D. To find and place suitable persons in high-level volunteer or paid staff positions within the Association, subject to the final approval of the Executive Board."*

The board unanimously adopted the following resolution regarding the adoption and management of the annual budget.

"1. Not later than 30 days after a State Caucus, but not more than once per calendar year, the Executive Director shall prepare and present an Executive Budget to the Executive Board specifying projected revenues and expenses for the Association in the following 12 months.

2. The Executive Budget shall separate revenues and expenses by type in a manner sufficient to facilitate the accounting of the actual income and expenditures of the Association throughout the period covered by the budget.

3. The Executive Budget must be approved at a meeting of the Executive Board. Only when the Executive Budget has been approved does it become the Appropriated Budget for the Association.

4. The Executive Director must present any changes or extensions to the Appropriated Budget to the Executive Board for approval. Approved changes or extensions become a part of the Appropriated Budget.

5. The Executive Director shall have the authority to direct the Financial Reporting Officer to issue payments for expenses specified in the Appropriated Budget, but the total amount of any such payments shall not exceed the amount appropriated for that expense in the month the expense was specified.

6. The Executive Director shall have the authority to direct the Financial Reporting Officer to issue reimbursement payments to individuals other than the Executive Director for expenses incurred performing Association business, providing that the following conditions are true:

A. The individual has incurred the expense performing Association business at the request of the Executive Director or of any other Officer of the Executive Board.

B. The expense is specified in the Appropriated Budget.

C. The total amount of any such payments does not exceed the amount appropriated for the expense in the month the expense was incurred.

D. The individual has provided sufficient documentation of the expense.

7. The Executive Director shall not have the authority to direct the Financial Reporting Officer to issue payments to reimburse expenses incurred by the Executive Director personally. The Presiding Officer or the Executive Board shall have the authority to direct the Financial Reporting Officer to issue payments to reimburse said expenses, providing that the following conditions are true:

A. The expense is specified in the Appropriated Budget.

B. The total amount of any such payments does not exceed the amount appropriated for the expense in the month the expense was incurred.

C. The Executive Director has provided sufficient documentation of the expense.

8. Any and all authority not delegated to the Executive Director by this Article is reserved solely to the Executive Board or to the Officers thereof as specified in the bylaws of the Association."

7. Various announcements were made by board members and visitors to the board meeting.

The board agreed to meet next on June 4, 1998 from 7-9pm at Bickford's Restaurant in Waltham. The meeting adjourned at 8pm. ■

Liberty on the Farm

by John C. Brickner

This month I opened a copy of *The Natural Farmer* that I receive as a member of the Northeast Organic Farmers Association (NOFA). I often look forward to this publication as a nice diversion from politics and fiscal problems of my town. I usually just relax by browsing through the various articles.

Imagine my surprise when the front page article put forth the following argument: Simply put, the government does not get it; the proposed standards are so seriously and thoroughly flawed that they must be withdrawn and completely rewritten if they are not to destroy a \$3.5 billion industry.

Then an editorial followed: The government means well, they're just locked into a small world view that doesn't go much beyond Washington's beltway; those refusing to accept the government standards can be squashed; [the] standards will be considered disguised protective trade barriers; and "If we cannot protect our own system of food production, how much longer can we control our health care, our children's education, our choice of transportation, energy, or housing."

Wait a second, did my brain slip? Was I actually reading *Massachusetts Liberty* by mistake? I checked the front page. No, I was reading *The Natural Farmer* put out by NOFA. What was making these normally passive farmers feel so put out by our beloved Uncle Sam? I read on.

The next article by Elizabeth Henderson (whom I called a socialist in my last article in *Massachusetts Liberty*) claimed:

*"The farther we go towards a consistent, national definition of organic and towards a functioning system of reciprocity among programs, the **less need we will have of the government**... If they give us a good set of regs, that will be alright. If not, we will be able to run our own show without them, and muster the political muscle to **close down the USDA program**" (emphasis mine).*

I was experiencing a cognitive glitch. Could this be the same woman who last summer said, "The government should own all the land in order to protect it?"

The reason for their anger and focus of activism is the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) proposed organic food standards. The main issues are:

- 1) The USDA will own the definition of organic and no one without USDA "organic" accreditation and the appropriate sticker will be able to call their farm or their label product "organic" under penalty of federal law;
- 2) genetically altered organisms will be allowed;
- 3) irradiation of food will be allowed;
- 4) food grown on sewage sludge will be allowed; and
- 5) the proposed regulations represent **a power grab by big government** (again, emphasis mine).

All of this is to replace the current certifying standards of organizations that were born out of voluntary association. Why? "To protect the consumer from the inconsistent meaning of organic and lack of integrity in the organic industry."

I know I'll sleep better knowing that the USDA certified "organic" stamp will be on the irradiated, genetically altered, grown on sewage sludge food I'm going to eat! The time could never be better for the Libertarian Party to target the organic community. ■

[Note: John Brickner has made a generous contribution to LAMA to pay half the cost of a full page in the next issue of *The Natural Farmer*. The contribution has been matched by individuals on LAMA's Executive Board. Mr. Brickner is also considering running and helping to fund an OPH booth at NOFA's next summer conference at Hampshire College, on August 7. -ed]

Lawsuit Challenges State Education Monopoly

by Con Chapman

If you have children, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts requires that you send them to school or obtain approval for home schooling. The Commonwealth also require that you pay for education through state income taxes and local property taxes regardless of whether you have children. What the state's laws don't give you is a choice as to where your children go to school or how your tax dollars are spent. If you disagree with the educational philosophy of your neighborhood school, your only options are to move, put your child in private or parochial school, or teach your children yourself, with the additional costs you incur coming on top of your state and local tax bills.

A lawsuit filed in early March in federal court in Boston could change all that. Three families with children in both government and parochial schools have sued to strike down a 19th century amendment to the Massachusetts constitution that prohibits the expenditure of public money in aid of any institution "not publicly owned and under the exclusive control, order and supervision of public officers." This prohibition, commonly known as the "antiaid" amendment, is the principal obstacle to the exercise of choice by Massachusetts parents in the use of their tax dollars for their children's education.

The plaintiffs offer several arguments in support of their claim. First, the Commonwealth itself violates the anti-aid amendment every day by giving funds to private entities, both forprofit corporations that receive loans from the state's various business development agencies, and nonprofit institutions other than primary and secondary schools. Second, the anti-aid amendment was passed at a time when the Congregational Church was the established religion of

Meet the Candidates *by Jim Sullivan*

Dean Cook Libertarian for Governor

Dean Cook, a Beverly resident, is running for governor as the candidate of The Libertarian Party. He received the party's nomination at convention in February of this year. His running mate is Elias Israel of Burlington.

Dean was born on August 1st, 1960, in Cambridge. He grew up in Saugus, where his parents still reside. He has two older sisters, and one younger brother.

Dean is married to Michelle Cook (nee Piva) and they have no children.

Mr. Cook attended the following schools:

Saugus High

Sylvania Technical School

(certificate in computer electronics)

Salem State College (BS in chemistry)

Dean served in the United States Marine Corps from 1979 until 1983. Following his honorable discharge, he served 4 years in the National Guard, 1984-87.

He has been a member of The Libertarian Party since 1990, serving during that time as State Chair for two years. He previously was on the ballot as a candidate for governor in 1994. Dean ran for state representative, in Beverly, in 1996.

"As governor, I plan to cut the size of the state government, and return more control to local town and city governments. The way to return control to local government (and individuals) is to return control of the money that presently flows out of the towns and cities to the state. The best way to return the money to the towns is to not take it from them in the first place. To accomplish this, I am proposing the elimination of the state personal income tax."

Mr. Cook points out that eliminating the income tax would still leave the state with a working budget comparable in size to the 1990 state budget, even allowing for inflation.

Mr. Cook is always available for any questions you may have.

Contact:

Jim Sullivan, campaign manager

(617) 926-4640 (home number)

jsullivan@la-ma.org or dcook@shore.net

Parties interested in receiving a written reply from Mr. Cook (questionnaires from lobbying groups, PACs, etc.) may send them to Mr. Sullivan's home address:

Dean Cook For Governor
c/o Jim Sullivan
29 Dartmouth Street
Watertown, MA 02172-4221

Merton B. Baker Libertarian for State Treasure

Mert Baker was born in 1928. His family moved to Barre, MA, in 1931, where Mert was locally schooled, graduating from Barre High with the Class of '46. Mr. Baker then attended Worcester Academy, and Tufts University (Class of 1954). He did graduate work at U. Conn., M.S.U., Redlands (CA), and U. Mass.

Mr. Baker is a retired teacher, having taught Science & Math at Sandwich High School from 1954-57; his alma mater, Barre High, 1957-67 (Principal from 1966-67); then Science at Quabbin Regional from 1967 to 1982.

Mert also taught Physics, Chemistry, Algebra, Wood Shop, Metal Shop, and Driver's Education, as needed.

He has been a professional gunsmith since 1967 (although he says that he has been an amateur gunsmith from age 11 on).

Discussing his hobbies, and other activities outside of the classroom, Mert says, "I do people's income taxes on the side; build & fly autogyros; and water ski. I ski on snow from time to time as well. I belong to the Mt. Zion Lodge of Masons, the National Rifle Association, the DAV, The American Legion, and The Popular Rotorcraft Association. I also do work with Big Brothers/Big Sisters."

Mert was drafted in December of 1950, and served two years in the armed forces.

Mert has been married to his wife, Ruth, for 20 years. He has two children - a daughter, and a stepson.

Contact Info:

1167 Lower Road

Hardwick, MA 01031

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Massachusetts, and Protestant dogma was a matter of compulsory instruction in the "public" schools. Historical evidence indicates that the anti-aid amendment was passed out of fears that Catholic immigrants would seek support for parochial schools from the legislature; under Supreme Court precedents, laws rooted in prejudice against a particular group are invalid under the Constitution's equal protection clause.

Finally, the anti-aid clause was insulated from popular opinion by a 1917 amendment to the state's constitution that prohibited the use of the initiative petition procedure to change or repeal it. The anti-aid amendment is the only part of the

Massachusetts constitution that is singled out for this treatment, and parents who would seek to change it are thus prohibited from taking their case directly to the people of Massachusetts and must instead depend on the indulgence of the state legislature to change this law. With the teachers unions constituting two of the five largest unions in the state, the balance of political influence weighs heavily against the interests of parents in the state house.

More parents have come forward to join the initial plaintiffs as word of the case has spread. If you are interested in the case, or if you have schoolage children and would consider being a plaintiff, contact me at cchapman@mwe.com. ■

Massachusetts Delegates to the 1998 Libertarian National Convention

Delegates

David Atkinson
Merton B. Baker
Dan Belforti
Michael Burke
Jeff Chase
Dean Cook
Laura El-Azem
Patrick El-Azem
Jerome Erickson
Danny Fain
Craig Franklin
Craig Gould
Carla Howell

Ray Hoyland
Elias Israel
Ron Jepson
Jeff Katz
John Madfis
Eve Maler
Craig Mathias
Chris O'Malley
Rebecca Stewart
David Stewart
Jim Sullivan
Brian Thomas
Arthur Torrey
Adam Waitkunas
Rich Yampell
Walter Ziobro, Jr.

Alternates:

Pit Warren
Dave Rizzo
Mark Tunievicz
George Phillies
Myron Pauli
David Steeves
Irwin Jungreis
May Jungreis

...and others as may be appointed by the Executive Board. If you are interested in serving, please contact a board member.

1998 Libertarian Party Candidates in Massachusetts

Governor		Representative, 5th Congressional District		State Representative	
Dean Cook 14 Summit Avenue Beverly MA 01915-4855	508-921-7939 dcook@shore.net	Rene Nadeau 3 Denise Drive Ashland MA 01721	508-634-8642 (eve) 617-575-7205 (day) QMSS85A@prodigy.com	Scott Drury PO Box 539 Drury Lane Templeton MA 01468	508-939-8601
Lieutenant Governor		Governor's Council		State Representative	
Eli Israel 105 Lexington Street Burlington, MA 01803	781-273-3760 eisrael@la-ma.org	Galit P.G. Dukach 110 Shawsheen Rd Bedford MA 01730	617-271-0049 617-647-2267 galit@name.net	Michael J. Hackmer 30 Shagbark Rd. Concord, MA 01742 203 Engelhard House The Catholic University of America Washington, D.C. 20064	978-369-4334 202-238-1764 76hackmer@cua.edu
Secretary of State		State Senator		Planning Board, Holbrook	
David Atkinson 4 Priscilla Alden Road Provincetown, MA 02657	508-487-0759 atkinson@capecod.net	Alfred "Pit" Warren P.O. Box 494 Chicopee, MA 01021-0494	413-594-2348 pit.warren@excell.net	Jerome Erickson 3 Revere St. Holbrook, MA 02343	617-767-2616 jerick7602@aol.com
State Treasurer		State Representative		Selectman	
Merton B. Baker 1167 Lower Road Gilbertville, MA 01031	413-477-6359 VSNT14A@prodigy.com	Christopher O'Malley 848 Massachusetts Avenue. #10 Cambridge, MA 02139	617-661-2480 comalley@i-kinetics.com	Craig J. Mathias Farpoint Group 7 Whippoorwill Lane Ashland MA 01721 USA	508-881-6467 508-881-8058 (fax) farpoint@ultranet.com
State Auditor		State Representative			
Carla Howell 6 Goodman Lane Wayland, MA 01778	508-358-4247 chowell@la-ma.org	Ron Bargoot 16 Wallace St. Somerville, MA 02144	61-666-5535 RBargoot@la-ma.org		
Representative, 3rd Congressional District		State Representative			
George Phillies 87-6 Park Avenue. Worcester, MA 01605	508-754-1859 Press Inquiries Only: 508-831-5334 phillies@wpi.edu	Frank Ross 15 East Milton Rd Brookline MA 02146-6738	frank_ross@baverstam.com		

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