



Massachusetts Liberty

The Newsletter of the Libertarian Association of Massachusetts

June 1998

Strategy Session: Three Unspeakable Words

by *George Phillis, Libertarian Candidate for United States Congress, 3rd District, MA*

[*Strategy Session* guest editorials appear occasionally in *Massachusetts Liberty* to present strategic insights and approaches. -ed.]

Libertarians around the United States face the challenge of organizing a serious, fully-competitive, major political party. That organizational effort requires satisfying a variety of needs. A major political party needs activists, ballot access, candidates, local, state, and national organization, fund-raising, supportive voters, and VICTORIES. Progress on all of these needs must be made simultaneously.

The Libertarian Party cannot hope to match the Republican, Democratic, and Reform Parties in toe-to-toe electoral contests until it has the prerequisites for being a major political party.

These are:

- tens of thousands of activists and hundreds of professional campaign advisers,
- full ballot access in every state in the union,
- a full slate of candidates for every office: Federal, state, and local
- a complete set of special-interest groups, PACs, supportive investigative foundations, and think tanks,
- millions of registered Libertarian voters,
- hundreds of millions of dollars in campaign funds,
- and tens of thousands of Libertarians in elective and appointive political office.

It is impossible to develop one of these without making progress on the others. The only path to achieving a Libertarian society is to make progress on every one of these fronts at the same time. Steps that advance progress in the long-term are favorable; steps that retard progress are unfavorable.

What can we do to convince the American public that the Libertarian Party deserves to be recognized as a

major political party? With the current number of activists and current financial resources, there are two ways in which Libertarian Party can compete on even terms with larger parties: we can win local elections; we can run large numbers of Libertarians for office. Local victories require the right candidates for the right offices. Running large numbers of candidates, so that people become accustomed to seeing Libertarians on the ballot, and so that people become accustomed to seeing Libertarians being quoted in the news media, requires having activists who are willing to sacrifice their time and money to get on the ballot and stand for office.

It is quite challenging to persuade party activists, even those who have given years of their time and thousands of dollars of their money, to sacrifice their spare time for the best part of the year and run for office. Candidates for office sacrifice their privacy. They may have reporters on their doorstep. They are usually required to file detailed descriptions of their

Continued on page 4

Another Elected Libertarian!

by *Jim Sullivan*

Late news: Russ Hamilton, of Colrain, was elected to the Mohawk Trail Regional School Board. Mr. Hamilton becomes the 9th Libertarian serving in public office in Massachusetts.

The complete list is as follows:

- David Atkinson, Selectman, Provincetown
- Craig Mathias, Selectman, Ashland
- Richard Avery, Town Meeting Member, Arlington
- Jerome Erickson, Town Meeting Member, Holbrook
- Brian Thomas, Town Meeting Member, Holbrook

I N S I D E

- *Letter from the Chair*
- *Charter Schools and Vouchers*
- *Candidate Listings*
- *Libertarian Events & More...*

- Ron "Rocky" Jepson, Town Meeting Member, Saugus
- Russ Hamilton, Mohawk Trail Regional School Board, Colrain
- Ryan Chavez, School Board, Chicopee (elected, non-voting member)
- John Brickner, Finance Committee, Wales (appointed position)





Massachusetts Liberty

June 1998

Editor

Brian Holt Hawthorne

Contributors

Carla Howell
Elias Israel
Jim Sullivan
John Brickner
Con Chapman

Mailing Address

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

E-Mail Address

ma-liberty@la-ma.org

Next Deadline

June 30, 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.

For previous
issues, see:

www.la-ma.org

Letter from the Chair

Dear fellow Libertarians,

First let me offer hearty congratulations to our two Libertarian Selectman who got elected this spring: David Atkinson of Provincetown and Craig Mathias of Ashland. These are the highest offices to which a Libertarian has been elected thus far in Massachusetts. In addition, David Atkinson got the highest number of votes in his race making the front page of the Cape Cod Times. As the TV character George Jefferson used to say, "Movin' on up—to the big time."

While these were non-partisan races, both men rolled up their sleeves and got involved in local issues while carrying the banner of the Libertarian Party and working to reduce government excess.

Congratulations to them both!

Next, we have three more Libertarians who made it on the ballot this spring: George Phillies for U.S. Representative in the 3rd Congressional district, Ron Bargoot for State Rep in Somerville, and Pit Warren for State Senate in the Hampden district. A superb effort by all, particularly George Phillies who had to get 2,000 certified signatures and did so with smart planning and diligent execution.

As for the statewide slate, which includes yours truly for State Auditor and Dean Cook for Governor, we're in the thick of getting over that first hurdle: getting our statewide candidates on the ballot with 10,000 certified signatures. We have until July 28th to turn in all nomination papers. While this gives us a lot more time than the rep and senate candidates had, time is short due to the magnitude of the task. At the time of this writing, we're tight, but likely to make it. Many generous donors have come forth to support our candidates.

Volunteers have been working hard on these campaigns, most notably Dave Rizzo, who has been managing our petition drive. Mr. Rizzo, a seasoned project manager, has done an outstanding job of organizing petitioners and all those hundreds of pieces of paper that come with petitioning—particularly here in Massachusetts where statewide petitions must be collected on separate forms for each town. (In other states, petitions are collected on one form for the entire state or one per county.) Hats off to Dave for a super job!

By the time you receive this, we will either be over the top with sufficient signatures collected or down to the wire and in need of a little extra



David Rizzo,
Petitioning Manager for the
Libertarian statewide slate

help. Your donation to my campaign and others on the statewide slate help pay petitioners and could make the difference. If we're there by the time you read this, your donation will go directly to the fun parts of Libertarian campaigning—getting the word out via advertisements, bumper stickers, signs, etc. Please see page 5 for information on how you can help.

Assuming we have the signatures we need by the end of June, we then need all of July to get those petitions delivered to each and every of the 340 towns in Massachusetts, then picked up and delivered to the Secretary of State's office during August. Dave Rizzo is managing this effort as well.

Wan to help get the petitions delivered and/or picked up in your town? Then please call Dave and let him know what you can do. Contact him at (978) 952-6773 or Dave_Rizzo@bigfoot.com. Or come to our campaign meetings being held every Thursday at 7pm in Waltham at the Bickford's Restaurant (see directions on page 5).

It's exciting to see this party grow. It's exciting to see how well-received the word "Libertarian" is becoming when collecting petition signatures. And it's a great pleasure to see competent and committed Libertarians like Dave Rizzo step forth and bring this petition drive to completion. My deepest thanks and appreciate to David Rizzo, the generous donors to our campaigns, all the campaign workers, and particularly the candidates, who are making 1998 an important year for the Libertarian party.

Yours in liberty,

Carla Howell

1998 Libertarian Party Candidates in Massachusetts

Contributions to candidates should be by check made payable and mailed to the candidate's election committee. For example, "Committee to Elect Eli Israel", 105 Lexington St., Burlington, MA 01803.

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	Frank Ross 15 East Milton Rd Brookline MA 02146-6738	frank_ross@baverstam.com
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	Scott Drury PO Box 539 Drury Lane Templeton MA 01468	508-939-8601
Secretary of State		State Senator		State Representative	
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 http://www.wmlp.org/warren	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
State Treasurer		State Representative		Planning Board, Holbrook	
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	Jerome Erickson 3 Revere St. Holbrook, MA 02343	617-767-2616 jerick7602@aol.com
State Auditor		State Representative		Selectman	
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 http://www.tufts.edu/~rbargoot	Craig J. Mathias Farpoint Group 7 Whippoorwill Lane Ashland MA 01721 USA	508-881-6467 508-881-8058 (fax) farpoint@ultranet.com
Representative, 3rd Congressional District		State Representative		State Representative	
George Phillies 87-6 Park Avenue. Worcester, MA 01605	508-754-1859 Press Inquiries Only: 508-831-5334 phillies@wpi.edu http://www.excell.net/phillies	Christopher O'Malley 848 Massachusetts Avenue. #10 Cambridge, MA 02139	617-661-2480 comalley@i-kinetics.com	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

Libertarian Association of Massachusetts Contact List

For more information, contact one of the individuals below, <http://www.la-ma.org>, e-mail info@la-ma.org or call 800-JOIN-LPM.

Chair		Legislative Liaison		Party Organizational Project Director	
Carla Howell 6 Goodman Ln. Wayland, MA 01778	chowell@la-ma.org 508-358-4247	Walter J. Ziobro, Jr. 32Whitman Rd. Unit B1 Waltham MA 02154	wziobro@la-ma.org 617-451-1978(day) 781-647-5743(eve)	Dan Catchpole 75 Alba Rd. Wellesley, Mass. 02181-4824	dan@catchpole.com 781-237-2025
Executive Director		Accountant		Petitioning Manager	
Eli Israel 105 Lexington St. Burlington, MA 01803	eisrael@la-ma.org 781-273-3760	Sam Robbins 126 County St. Attleboro MA 02703	LVEW40A@prodigy.com 508-222-0842(day) 508-222-0842(eve)	Dave Rizzo 145 Tahattawan Road Littleton, MA 01460	Dave_Rizzo@bigfoot.com 978-952-6773
Candidate Recruitment Coordinator		Membership/Corresponding Secretary		Regional Contacts	
Jim Sullivan 29 Dartmouth St. Watertown, MA 02172	jsullivan@la-ma.org 617-926-4640(day)	David W. Roscoe 30 Worthen St., Apt. A9 Chelmsford MA 01824	droscoe@la-ma.org 508-256-3159(day) 508-256-3159(eve)	The Cape Cod Liberty Supper Club (LSC) Rebecca Stewart 508-274-2876	
Massachusetts Liberty Editor, Recording Secretary		Electronic Outreach Coordinator		Pioneer Valley Libertarian Association	
Brian Holt Hawthorne 25 Myrtle Street Watertown, MA 02172	bhawthorne@la-ma.org 781-768-5500 (day)	Muni Savyon 31 Crafts St. Waltham, MA 02154	muni@la-ma.org 781-642-6864	Pit Warren P.O. Box 494 Chicopee, MA 01021-0494 pit.warren@excell.net	
Volunteer Coordinator		Communications Coordinator		Central Massachusetts Liberty Coalition	
Laura El-Azem Rebecca Stewart	781-721-2709	Ronald Bargoot 16 Wallace St. Somerville MA 02144	RBargoot@infonet.tufts.edu 617-666-5535	George Phillies 508-831-5334 phillies@wpi.edu	
Board Member		Social Night Coordinator			
Mark Tuniewicz	nhliberty@aol.com	Bill Hurst 651 State St. Hanson MA 02341	617-826-1538(eve)		

Opinion: Charter Schools and Vouchers—the Great Deception!

by Donna Petronelli

As charter schools, vouchers, and school choice are being touted as the solution to the crumbling and dysfunctional public school system, it's time to take a closer look. The financing of these new options should strike fear in the hearts of libertarians.

These options are allowed and encouraged through the Massachusetts Education Reform Act of 1993 which mirrors Clinton's Goals 2000 Education America Act. With vouchers and choice the tax dollars would follow the student to the school where he/she chooses to attend.

Tax dollars would leave local districts and be redistributed to either public or private schools in the region/village/community. As public schools continue to fail economically from the oppressive financial mandates and the drying up of the federal grant money, they will be taken over by the state under academic bankruptcy laws. This will be accompanied by dissolving local school boards and replacing them with appointed site based management teams and an influx of

state dollars. Local dollars will be replaced by centrally-collected tax dollars that are distributed to other public schools.

Since charter schools are attracting kids from private schools, the private school market is shrinking and public schools are expanding. School choice is turning private schools, now financed with private dollars, into public schools where there is no real choice. Teachers are trained by the state, curriculum is being rewritten according to state guidelines or frameworks, and certification requires fulfillment of education reform requirements.

The Mass. Dept. of Education only charters schools that meet the necessary requirements of the Massachusetts Education Reform law. They are regional (serve a "community" of approximately 8-10 towns), have no elected school boards, and drain tax dollars out of local districts.

There is nothing private about charter schools except the management teams! They mysteriously resemble hired government design team models and are international in scope (schools chartered to date in Massachusetts include a Chinese school, a Russian school, and an international school).

Let the buyer beware! Already in Worcester where the county government has been dismantled, the idea of dissolving local town governments is being discussed.

If you want to find the rat, just follow the money! ■

Three Unspeakable Words financial circumstances. Libertarians, most of who are not interested in seeking political power, find this sacrifice to be especially painful.

Continued from page 1

Under these conditions, there are few worse things that can happen to a Libertarian organization than to have members or visitors pronounce that there are conditions under which Libertarians should not run for office. The last thing a local or state organization needs is for someone to speak to their potential candidates, note that the potential candidates have one weakness or another, and tell the potential candidates that because of their weaknesses they should not run. It would be nice if every candidate had a campaign manager, a political committee and staff of volunteers, success at fundraising, astonishingly-attractive physical appearance, and a long record of success in the civic arena by holding local or other office.

There are tens of thousands of Libertarians in the United States. It is possible that a few such paragons of every virtue exist among our numbers. However, most of our potential candidates are not surrounded by thousands of supporters, do not have vast reserves of funds, look like most of their fellow Americans, and have not been politically active for very long. Our candidates can only offer the electorate principles, wisdom, and a willingness to serve the Republic.

Under these conditions, absolutely the last thing that the Libertarian Party needs is for someone to wander around Libertarian Party conventions telling prospective candidates “

Just don't run!”, or at least Just Don't Run unless you have a long list of attributes that most Libertarian candidates lack. The advice not to run is undoubtedly well-intended. In some cases, it is based on long experience in running Republicans for Democrats for elective office, often under adverse circumstances. Nonetheless, for a Libertarian group the advice “Just Don't Run!” is Just Plain Wrong.

Someday the Libertarian Party will regularly run a candidate for every office. Until then, if we chase away the candidates that we do have, we act primarily to weaken the Party and every one of its candidates. As was clearly demonstrated by the Pennsylvania Libertarian Party activist group, in a newly-emerging political party, higher level candidates ride on the up-draft generated by lower-level political candidates. To strengthen our presidential and Federal and state-wide candidates, nothing is more useful than to be running above slates of state-legislative, County, City, Town, and Ward candidates.

Someday, the Libertarian Party will have regular primaries for every elective office. To bring that day closer, the Libertarian Party needs more members, more money and political campaigns, more activists, more media-spinning think tanks, more candidates, and above all More Victories! Under these conditions, the three word policy we should never hear advanced at a Libertarian Party convention is the blanket advice to erstwhile candidates “You Shouldn't Run!” The advice our potential candidates should be getting, in a uniform way, is “Go For It! If no one runs, we will surely not have a Libertarian elected to that office.” ■

Libertarian Events

Every Thursday at 7pm until election day! Statewide Slate Campaign Meetings

Campaign meetings are held at Bickford's Restaurant in Waltham at 1006 Main Street which is on Route 117 one block east of the Route 20 junction where Main Street and Route 20 split. Come and join the fun—help plan, scheme, give status updates, and get into action to make our statewide campaigns successful! Directions from Route 128: Take Route 20 East. At your second traffic (not including the flashing light) which is about one mile east of Route 128, go left on Eddy Street. Take it to the end (one block). Turn right onto Main Street. Bickford's is one block down on your right. Directions from downtown Waltham: take Route 20 / Main Street west to Route 117. Bear right onto 117. Bickford's is one block down on your left. Once at Bickford's: Enter the door to the left of the main entrance and go upstairs to the function room.

Saturday, June 20th, 1998, Libertarian Social Night

at the home of Lee Nason, 515 Revere Beach Boulevard, Revere, MA, (781) 286-1719

Saturday, July 18th, July Libertarian Social

Noon to midnight on Cape Cod hosted by Carla Howell—fifteen minutes from the Bourne bridge. For information and directions, call (508) 358-4247 x 4.

July 2nd-5th, Libertarian National Convention, Washington, DC

It's not too late to sign up! This is the most inspiring, fun-packed libertarian event in the world—chock full of fantastic speakers including Charles Murray, Gene Burns, Harry Browne, Roy Innis, comedian Tim Slagle, Dan Gifford (producer of Waco: The Rules of Engagement), Tanya Metaksa of the NRA, Michael Cloud, David Boaz and Michael Tanner of CATO, Shelley Davis author of Unbridled Power (about blowing the whistle on the IRS), Sharon Harris of the Advocates for Self Government, Jacob Hornburger, Barbara Goushaw, and more. It runs July 2-5 in Washington D.C. at Washington Convention Center. For more information, call (800) 722-5141.

Tuesday, July 28th, 7-8pm, On-line chat with Dean Cook, Libertarian candidate for Governor

Stop by <http://www.townonline.com>, sponsored by the Community Newspaper Corporation.

Thursday, September 3rd, 8:30pm, Meeting of the Executive Board

All are welcome. The meeting will be held immediately following the campaign meeting at Bickford's in Waltham (see directions above).

June Meeting of the Executive Board

by Brian Holt Hawthorne

The meeting began at 9pm at Bickford's Restaurant in Waltham. All board members were present. Executive Director Eli Israel presided over the meeting at the request of Chair Carla Howell, and presented a very brief agenda. The following actions were taken.

1. Brian Holt Hawthorne reviewed the minutes of the 3/20/1998 meeting of the Executive Board as distributed by e-mail and published in the April/May issue of Massachusetts Liberty. The minutes were unanimously approved.

2. Eli reviewed the facts surrounding our delegation to the Libertarian Party National Convention:

- We are allotted 30 delegate slots, plus an *ex officio* slot for Mark Tuniewicz.
- The state caucus selected 29 delegates, of which only 26 are expected to be available, and 6 alternates

Eli then read the rules adopted at the state caucus providing for the selection of additional alternates by the board.

After discussion, the following final list of delegates and alternates was approved:

Delegates selected by the State Caucus, all with an equal

number of votes (those in parentheses are expected not to be available), to be seated before any alternates:

David Atkinson, Mert 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)

Alternates selected by State Caucus, in order of precedence, to be seated before any alternates selected by Executive Board:

1. George Phillies
2. Dave Rizzo
3. Irwin Jungreis
4. David Steeves, May Chin, Myron Pauli

Alternates selected by Executive Board, order of precedence to be set by delegation:

Pit Warren, Pamela Warren, Karen Tuniewicz, Celeste Parent, Muni Savyon

Ex Officio Delegate: Mark Tuniewicz

3. The Executive Board set the next meeting for Thursday, 9/3/1998 at 8:30 PM at Bickford's Restaurant in Waltham.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM. ■

Massachusetts Liberty

Post Office Box 2610, Boston, MA 02208

Return Service Requested

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

Three more elected
Libertarians!



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:

- \$1,000 Benefactor
- \$500 Patron
- \$250 Sponsor
- \$100 Sustaining
- \$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.