



# Massachusetts

## Liberty

The Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Massachusetts  
[www.lpmass.org](http://www.lpmass.org)

May 2008

### New Nominating Papers

With apologies to all concerned, we found a technical flaw in the Presidential nominating papers that we sent out last month, and are redistributing them with the flaw fixed. The flaw, which does not arise with nominating papers for regular candidates, would have created technical issues at the far end. Please sign again and return.

Our nominating papers list stand-ins for the Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates. When our national convention chooses its nominees this month, those people will become our candidates.

Truly, we are sorry about this. Fortunately the question came up at the front end in terms of petitioning.

In other news, the National Party made a new ballot access proposal to our state party, namely that we and they will each pay 75 cents per signature, up to 15,000 signatures, for signatures collected professionally. National no longer demands matching funds from us.

The Libertarian Party of Massachusetts has secured adequate financial backing to ensure that the needed signatures will be secured, even if national party support fluctuates again.

In other campaign notes, U.S. Senate candidate Robert J Underwood appeared at the Amherst Extravaganja to speak on behalf of our party and its stands in favor of Liberty. He was well received by the audience. The Amherst Extravaganja is a long-time yearly event held on the Amherst Common, featuring speakers, rock bands, performance poets, and other entertainment.

### Bill DiSciprio Runs Again!

Congratulations to Bill DiSciprio of Wakefield, who stood up for liberty by running for Board of Selectmen. Bill, a fine Libertarian activist, has run for office before. This is a highly competitive post. For two openings, there were no fewer than five candidates, with Bill finishing fourth.

### National Convention Is This Month!

A full list of Presidential nominees is at [politics1.com/p2008](http://politics1.com/p2008). They identify current candidates as

Jim Burns (Nevada) - Ex-State LP Chair.  
Mike Gravel (Virginia) - Former US Senator from Alaska & former Alaska House Speaker.  
Dave Hollist (California) - Bus driver and frequent LP Presidential hopeful.  
Dan Imperato (Florida) - Businessman.  
Mike "Jingo" Jingoian (Oregon) - Software company founder & '00 city council candidate.  
Steve Kubby (California) - Businessman, '98 Governor nominee & marijuana legalization activist.  
Alden Link (New York) - Manufacturing executive & Army veteran.  
Robert Milnes (New Jersey) - Progressive activist.  
George Phillies (Massachusetts) - College professor, writer, LP "Reform" activist.  
Wayne Allyn Root (Nevada) - Sports handicapper, author & TV show host.  
Mary Ruwart (Texas) - Research scientist, medical professor, author, Libertarian activist.  
Christine Smith (Colorado) - Progressive activist & writer.

The Meeting came to order at 7 PM. Present were David Blau, Carol McMahon, George Phillies, David Roscoe, Art Torrey, and Mary-Anne Wolf.

Officer and Committee reports:

Membership Secretary: We have 101 members, the same as last month. The State Committee again voted its thanks to Dave Roscoe for his long a faithful service in support of the state party.

Political Facilitator: Andrew Boysen has been elected to the Wellesley Housing Authority. Mary-Anne Wolf is highly likely to be elected to Town Meeting in Billerica. Jim Perry is moving to Billerica and will run for town meeting. Val Diviaci may run for State Senate. Bill DiSciprio will be a candidate again

Webmaster: The link to Bob Underwood's web site has been fixed. The Donation link to Donortownsquare is about to come up. We will add an I-Volunteer form that will automatically transmit the collected data to people.

At the Committee's request the chair recounted the current financial situation on ballot access, including his interactions with National. We raised \$8000 in matching funds to pay for a ballot access drive. We have \$1500 cash on hand and have perhaps another \$2000 coming in. If we finish raising money, we will have \$16,000 for ballot access, which at \$1/ signature will generate the required raw signatures.

The national party has raised \$7500 in matching funds. If we get them \$7500, they will pay up to \$15,000 to petitioners to collect signatures. Unfortunately, they are paying \$1.50 per signature, which means that the national plan would collect 10,000 raw signatures, meaning 7500 or so valid signatures, a guaranteed failure.

Phillies described his negotiations with several members of the National Committee and its staff. The LNC is unwilling to send us their \$7500 to spend on petitioning, because they fear the money might be misappropriated, and sending our money to them not only has the same problem but also means that the petition drive would fail. Phillies and LNC Chair Redpath had a long conversation. They agreed that they would each propose to their Committees that each committee would pay the petitioner directly up to 75 cents a signature for the same signatures, meaning that their petitioner would be paid at their rates, we would pay less than budgeted for signatures, and funds would be matched.

Phillies was then phoned by LNC Treasurer Starr, who stated that the Redpath-Phillies proposal would not be acceptable, and insisted that we should send our money to them. An exchange of emails between Starr and members of the LPMass state committee followed, which did not get anywhere.

Phillies said that he views his objective as raising another

\$4500 in matching funds (plus money for the State Account) for LPMass and around \$7000 for the LNC ballot access drive. Phillies noted that he had had 1000 copies of the nominating paper printed for circulation, including mailing one with the next newsletter to all state party members. He asked that the printing costs be covered. His request was unanimously accepted.

Phillies was directed by the Committee to send an email to the entire LNC describing the current state of affairs with respect to the ballot access drive.

Carol McMahon reported that she had procured nominating papers for President etc. from the Secretary of the Commonwealth . The Committee voted our thanks to Carol .

The Committee turned to a discussion of a Bylaw fixing membership and subscription requirements and dues. The Committee finds that the records show that we have a number of life members, including one Committee member who has no idea why, but no records indicating a basis or what was promised these members.

## BYLAW ADDITION

Memberships and subscriptions

1. a. The State Committee may by majority vote set the dues for any category of membership or subscription.
- b. To join as a member, a person must be an American citizen or a person lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States, must reside in Massachusetts, and must provide the state committee with their valid mailing address in Massachusetts.
- c. Persons who reside outside Massachusetts may not be members, but may subscribe to the newsletter.
- d. All memberships expire on the last day of a calendar month.
2. The categories of membership, their annual dues, and the services provided to members in that category are defined below. All members, regardless of category, are equally members in the sense of the Party Constitution, Article I.
  - a. Dues for a Paper Mail member are \$25 per year. A Paper Mail member is sent a printed copy of each issue of the newsletter by US Mail.
  - b. Dues for an Electronic Mail member are \$15 per year. An Electronic Member is sent a copy of each issue of the newsletter via electronic mail in PDF (Portable Document Format) To qualify for electronic mail membership, the member must supply an email address that is capable of receiving the newsletter.
  - c. Dues for each Additional Household Members are \$5 per year. An Additional Household Member must at the time of joining live at the same address as a current Paper or Electronic Mail member. Additional Household Members are not sent the newsletter in paper or electronic form. The expiration date for the Additional Household Member is the same as it is for the associated Paper or Electronic Mail member.

d. There shall be no category of non-dues-paying membership.

3. The State Party may from time to time send additional notices or items to some or all members. In doing so, it may use any transmission medium appropriate to the notice or item. In cases of exigency, the State Committee may by majority vote authorize alternative delivery methods to deliver the newsletter.

4. All members shall be sent a timely individual notice of each State Convention.

5. Non-member subscriptions to the state newsletter may be purchased for \$25 per year for paper-mailed subscriptions or \$15 per year for electronic subscriptions. Non-member subscribers are not members.

6. Members may at their request be transferred between categories of membership.

a. Paper membership to Electronic membership - The member's Expiration Date shall be extended by 1/2 the number of months remaining in the current membership, rounding down.

b. Electronic membership to Paper membership - The member's Expiration Date shall be reduced by 1/2 the number of months remaining in the current membership, rounding up, but in every case the member will be sent at least one paper issue of the newsletter.

c. Additional Household membership to paper membership: The Member receives a full year membership, but pays only \$20 for the first year's dues.

d. Additional Household membership to electronic membership: The Member receives a full year membership, but pays only \$10 for the first year's dues.

e. Combining individual memberships to Individual plus additional household: 1. If needed, convert each membership to the one type desired (Electronic or paper mail) as specified above. 2. Add the remaining lengths of the two memberships together to determine the new expiration date of the combined membership.

7. Members are responsible for informing the Membership Secretary of address changes in a timely way.

8. The State Party interprets the phrase "member of the National Libertarian Party, as defined by the Libertarian National Committee charter and bylaws," to mean that the person has signed the membership pledge of the National Party, in the form extant on the date of adoption of the State Party Constitution.

9. Donation extensions to membership: Each person donating \$100 or more shall be given a one year extension of their membership, with an additional one year extension for every \$100 donated, with the upper limit that a membership shall not extend more than 5 years into the future. Persons making a monthly pledge contribution to the state party of \$10 or more shall be given a one month extension of membership for each month of contributions.

## Your State Committee

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**Treasurer** — Walter Ziobro [WalterZiobro@cs.com](mailto:WalterZiobro@cs.com)

Newsletter Working Group: David Blau, Mary-Anne Wolf. Outreach Working Group: Carol McMahon, George Phillies. Web Page Working Group: Mary-Anne Wolf, Arthur Torrey. Rules Committee: Walter Ziobro, Mary-Anne Wolf, Arthur Torrey, George Phillies

### Contact the Party itself:

LPMA, 30 East Chestnut Street, Sharon MA 02067

## Partying Events

Pioneer Valley Libertarian Association meets the second Wednesday of every month at the Hu Ke Lau Restaurant in Chicopee. RSVP for directions to Carolyn McMahon <[cjcmahon@verizon.net](mailto:cjcmahon@verizon.net)>

Libertarian Meetup groups for Greater Boston, Shoreline, and Western Massachusetts will soon be forming. Email Arthur Torrey [arthur\\_torrey@comcast.net](mailto:arthur_torrey@comcast.net) for information.

Art is also the contact for the Lowell Area Liberty Association, which meets the fourth Tuesday of almost every month in Lowell.

# Join the Libertarians and Party!

## Join and Party!

To join the Libertarian Party of Massachusetts, go to [HTTP://LPMASS.ORG](http://LPMASS.ORG) , click on "Donate", contribute at least \$15, and provide your

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

If you contribute over \$200, we are required by law to ask your

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to pay by credit card, please circle  
Visa Mastercard Discover and Credit or Debit

Card number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Or send the above information, and your check, to  
to LPMA, 30 East Chestnut Street, Sharon MA  
02067. Contributions are not tax deductible.

## Give Now If You Want Ballot Access

### Please Read Page One!

Your donation to the Ballot Access Matching Fund will help pay the costs of putting our Presidential and Senate candidates on the ballot for next fall. Without the success of the Ballot Access Fund, fellow Libertarians across Massachusetts will have no Libertarian to vote for. They might feel obliged to vote for a Democrat. Or a Republican. Please help save our fellow Libertarians from a dire fate! Give now for ballot access.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Donations are not tax deductible. FEC Regulations require us to ask your occupation and employer if you give more than \$200.

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Employer \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to pay by credit card, please circle

Visa Mastercard Discover and Credit or Debit

Card number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Clip and mail in a sealed envelope with your check or credit card data to LPMA, 30 East Chestnut Street, Sharon MA 02067.

Massachusetts Liberty  
c/o Libertarian Party  
30 East Chestnut Street  
Sharon MA 02067