



NEW MEXICO LIBERTY

"Let Freedom Ring"

Editor / Publisher
Print Distribution

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Ron Bjornstad / Bill Koehler

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The Official Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of New Mexico
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www.lpnm.org

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If the date on your mailing label is before 09/01/06, it's time to renew your LPNM membership.

by Mike Blessing [gunssavelives@comcast.net]

As we go to press with this issue of New Mexico Liberty, the LP's National Convention in Portland, Oregon will be in progress. The conventional wisdom was that there will be some interesting events in various committee meetings there, namely the Platform and Bylaws Committees. I'll include any reports about those events from attending LPNM members in the August issue.

Many of you might be wondering why I've been including so many articles by the Rio Grande Foundation's Paul Gessing. It's simple – Paul is writing articles that are about as close to ideal for *New Mexico Liberty* as can be obtained. They're concise, topical and relevant to New Mexico. The only others in the LPNM that get published on a regular basis would be the San Juan County LP, with their regularly-published letters to the editor, op-ed pieces, radio spots, etc. If any other LPNMs care to vie for the same sort of kudos, feel free to go for it.

A big "thank you" goes to John Pfersich, the LPNM's webmaster, for setting up subdomains for New Mexico Liberty [www.lpnm.org/newsletter] and for the LPNM's business stuff [www.lpnm.org/business] – minutes from Central and Executive Committee meetings, Convention Business Sessions, that sort of thing.

LP OF SAN JUAN COUNTY ACTIVITIES

by Joseph Knight [nm_libertarian@yahoo.com]

The Libertarian Party of San Juan County has been running radio spots in Farmington in an attempt to defend the right of businesses to determine their own policies regarding smoking by patrons. We invite Libertarians and others from around the state to help out by participating in our firearms raffles.

We have added a pistol raffle to the rifle raffle. The pistol is a Taurus stainless steel snub-nose .357 Magnum revolver. Chances are Ø5 each, or 5 for Ø20. If you do the 5 for 20, you can get some for the pistol and some for the rifle. See this link for more information about the rifle – www.tinyurl.com/qhc8n.



What else can I say? For 5 chances, send Ø20 to:

Libertarian Party of San Juan County
P.O. Box 1493
Farmington, NM 87499-1493

Please include a SASE so we can mail the stubs back to you, and don't forget to specify pistol, rifle, or both. Need not be present to win, but must be at least 21 for the pistol, 18 for the rifle, and pass the gov't mandated background check.

FIELD REPORTS

From County / Campus Chairs

Bernalillo – The BCLP is hosting two meetings per month, as well as a weekly hour-long TV show (*The Weekly Sedition*) on Albuquerque Comcast Ch.27. Show times are Wednesdays at 8PM. For more information, see the BCLP website – www.lpnm.org/bernalillo.

The Weekly Sedition and *New Mexico's Consumer Advocate* are now available in webcast format. See the sites for Channel 27 [www.quote-unquote.org] or KCUF Media [groups.myspace.com/kcufmedia] for the viewing links.

Paul Gessing of the Rio Grande Foundation and State Chair Jay Vandersloot were interviewed on Monday, 26 June by local NPR radio station KUNM (89.9-FM) [www.kunm.com]. KUNM staff used the interviews to create sound bites which they aired at 5:45 PM. KUNM staff said the broadcast will also be available on Tuesday, 27 June at the station's website.

The gist of the interview was concerning their views on the proposed tax increases for the arts and for medical support for the poor and the homeless.

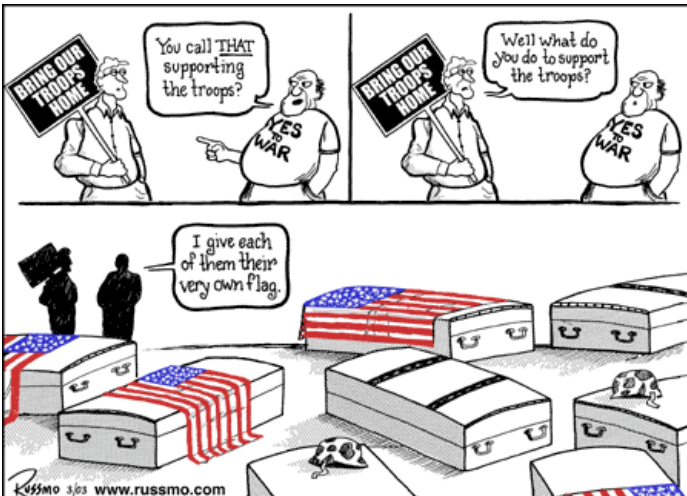
Dona Ana – The LPDAC Central Committee has been having monthly meetings, as well as an information table at the Las Cruces Farmer's Market. See the LPDAC website – www.lpnm.org/dona-ana – for details.

Sandoval – The LPSC is having its monthly meetings at the J.B.'s on 528, north of Intel.

Valencia – Paul Trujillo was recently seated as the new county chair at the 11 June Central Committee meeting after Amy Frederick moved to Rio Rancho.

LPNM'S 2006 CANDIDATES

- Siebert Ickler for U.S. Senate.
- John Pfersich for Commissioner of Public Lands.
- Stan Raczyński for State Treasurer.
- Paul Trujillo for Valencia County Commission, District 3
- Mike Blessing for Bernalillo County Sheriff.
- Jay Vandersloot for Bernalillo County Commission, District 5



Supporting the Troops?

By Russmo [www.russmo.com]

CALENDAR

See groups.myspace.com/lpnm for details, updates, etc.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Special Convention

Saturday, 8 July at Roper's Family Restaurant in Albuquerque (Wyoming & Central SE), 12:00 PM Lunch, 1:00 PM Meeting. Contact Mike Blessing (505-710-5197) or Jay Vandersloot (505-362-1733) for details.

County Special Conventions

The Bernalillo and San Juan County LPs will be holding special conventions concurrent with the State Special Convention.

Saturday, 8 July at Roper's Family Restaurant in Albuquerque (Wyoming & Central SE), 12:00 PM Lunch, 2:00 PM Meeting. Contact Mike Blessing (505-710-5197), Jay Vandersloot (505-362-1733) or your county chair for details.

We The People Event in Santa Fe

Friday, 4 August, 7:00 – 9:00 PM, Location TBA
Contact Frank Martin for details – 505-989-3670
See Page 5 for more.

REGULAR EVENTS

Thursday, 6 July – Bernalillo County Liberty Forum meets in Albuquerque, 6:00 to 7:00 PM at Fiesta's Restaurant & Lounge (Carlisle & Montgomery NE). Contact Mike Blessing, 505-710-5197, for details.

Saturday, 8 July – San Juan County LP meets at 6PM – contact Bob Ziesmer, 505-327-6681, for details. The San Juan County LP's Central Committee will meet at 5PM.

Wednesday, 12 July – Interested Dona Ana County Libertarians are invited to attend and to contact Siebert Ickler, 505-541-9079, for information on location and time.

Thursday, 20 July – Bernalillo County Liberty Forum meets in Albuquerque, 6:00 to 7:00 PM at Fiesta's Restaurant & Lounge (Carlisle & Montgomery NE). Contact Mike Blessing, 505-710-5197, for details.

Saturday, 22 July 2006 – LPDAC will host an information table at the Farmer's Market in downtown Las Cruces from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Contact Siebert Ickler, 505-541-9079, for details.

Wednesday, 26 July – Sandoval County meets at JB's restaurant on 528 near Intel. Contact Ron Bjornstad, 505-288-4228, for details.

TV Shows – Channel 27 in ABQ (not necessarily endorsed by LPNM)

The Weekly Sedition
Wednesdays at 8PM
groups.myspace.com/kcufmedia

Hemp TV – Tuesdays at 7PM
www.myspace.com/nmhemptv

Voice of the Chair

Jay Vandersloot

jayvandersloot@yahoo.com

“The test we must set for ourselves is not to march alone, but to march in such a way that others will wish to join us.”

– Hubert Humphrey, US Vice President, Senator

It “ain’t” about you!

It “ain’t” about me!

It “ain’t” even about the Libertarian Party!

It’s about liberty; it’s about freedom; it’s about individual privacy; and it’s about getting back to the US Constitution. The R’s and D’s have proven repeatedly that they are determined to control our lives, take away our liberty and freedom, and invade our privacy.

Look at the laws passed at all levels of the government. It’s apparent that most politicians either don’t know the US Constitution exists, or they know it exists, but don’t know what it says, or they don’t care what our Supreme Law of the Land, the Constitution, says. Whatever the case, they continue to pass unconstitutional laws.

But, you ask, what can we do about it?

We can stop depending on our LPNM Executive Committee and Central Committee members to do all the work. We can stop depending on them to get the word out. It’s up to each and every one of us to get the word out!

One of our problems is that most people don’t understand what Libertarianism is. They don’t know our candidates are on the ballot, what they will do if elected, and how it will benefit voters and taxpayers. It’s up to each of us to educate them about what we and our candidates stand for, so we can ensure they not only understand it, but hear it from us, before they hear a misconception from someone else.

The Preamble of the National Platform of the LP is a good place to start. It takes only about one minute to read, and is a very concise statement of what the LP stands for. It reads,

“As Libertarians, we seek a world of liberty; a world in which all individuals are sovereign over their own lives, and no one is forced to sacrifice his or her values for the benefit of others.

“We believe that respect for individual rights is the essential precondition for a free and prosperous world, that force and fraud must be banished from human relationships, and that only through freedom can peace and prosperity be realized.

“Consequently, we defend each person’s right to engage in any activity that is peaceful and honest, and welcome the diversity that freedom brings. The world we seek to build is one where individuals are free to follow their own dreams in their own ways, without interference from government or any authoritarian power.

“In the following pages we have set forth our basic principles and enumerated various policy stands derived from those principles.”

“These specific policies are not our goal, however. Our goal is nothing more nor less than a world set free in our lifetime, and it is to this end that we take these stands.”

But, don’t try to be pushy, abrasive, and arrogant, as that will just turn them off and drive them away, and we will have lost the battle. You might try a method I learned from Michael Cloud. It’s very effective and goes something like this.

Ask the other person what is the one thing that the government is involved in that this person feels it has no business in and should get out of. Then keep quiet, and let the other person explain his or her stand on that issue. If you can keep quiet long enough, you will let that person talk him or herself into the Libertarian position on the issue.

I’ve rambled on long enough, so let me just “Bottom Line” it.

We ALL are ambassadors for liberty, freedom, personal privacy, the US Constitution, and other principles we in the Libertarian Party stand for. As an ambassador, it is up to you and me to represent the LP and our principles.

Now let’s get out there and tell others!

Now, let’s educate ourselves on the next of the planks from our LP National Platform, so we will be better able to present the principles to others.

I. Individual Rights and Civil Order

10. Freedom of Religion

Issue – Government routinely invades personal privacy rights based solely on individuals’ religious beliefs. Arbitrary tax structures are designed to give aid to certain religions, and deny it to others.

Principle – We defend the rights of individuals to engage in (or abstain from) any religious activities that do not violate the rights of others.

Solution – In order to defend freedom, we advocate a strict separation of church and State. We oppose government actions that either aid or attack any religion. We oppose taxation of church property for the same reason that we oppose all taxation. We condemn the attempts by parents or any others – via kidnappings or conservatorships – to force children to conform to any religious views. Government harassment or obstruction of religious groups for their beliefs or non-violent activities must end.

Transitional Action – We call for an end to the harassment of churches by the Internal Revenue Service through threats to deny tax-exempt status to churches that refuse to disclose massive amounts of information about themselves.

Shift Burden of Financing Schools to Private Sector

22 May 2006 – www.tinyurl.com/k96ah

by Paul Gessing [pgessing@riograndefoundation.org]

The recent agreement between the Albuquerque Public Schools and the Home Builders Association of Central New Mexico was a real head-scratcher for several reasons.

After all, who gave the home builders and the school district the power to tax? Even if this action is found to be legal, a questionable proposition at best, \$2,000 per new home seems rather arbitrary (the number will rise to \$3,000 in the third year). What exactly are the home-buyers who will ultimately pay this new tax getting out of the deal?

Some would argue that forcing new homeowners to pay for new schools is similar to a "user fee" because new homeowners demand additional services. But, this is not the case because buyers of new homes pay the same taxes as everyone else. It is simply not fair to charge retirees (or anyone else without kids in public schools) yet another tax, simply for the "privilege" of purchasing a newly-constructed home.

Nearly as important as the fairness question is whether the schools really need the money they say they do. APS claims it needs an astounding \$1.7 billion for two new high schools on the West Side and renovations to existing school buildings. Rather than simply raising taxes though, with a little creativity, APS could avoid this tax increase and transform schools into thriving community centers that can be used on weekends and during summers.

The key is to put an incentive structure in place that creates maximum benefits at a minimal cost. This can most effectively be done by shifting the burden of financing new schools to the private sector. It works like this:

- School districts ask private developers to bid on a contract to construct (or renovate) a school from start to finish.
- The district converts the cost of the project into a 20-year lease with annual rent payments equal to 85 percent of the cost of the project (based on the winning bid).
- The developer completes the school with furnishings (such as desks and chalkboards), computers, administrative offices, landscaping, and athletic facilities.
- The district effectively gains use of a school building for 15 percent less than it would cost to construct on the district's own accord.

Private developers receive an additional bonus: They get control of the buildings and classrooms when they are not in use by the school. During evenings, weekends, and (possibly) summers, the developer may lease classrooms to for-profit trade schools and approved civic, political, or religious groups.

Projects like this have been undertaken in Florida, Nova Scotia, and Britain. APS should consider similar financing efforts both for constructing new schools and renovating existing schools.

An additional way to cut school construction costs is to exempt public school construction projects from New Mexico's Davis-Bacon "prevailing wage" law. If the Legislature were to approve such a measure, taxpayers and school districts would likely save an additional 15 percent on school construction.

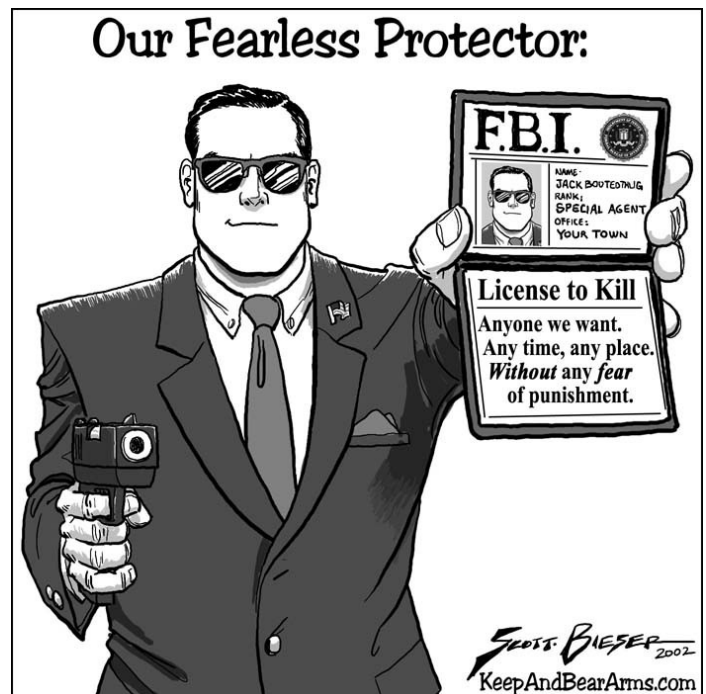
A 1995 study by the National School Boards Association demonstrated that over 60 percent of school boards found that federal or state Davis-Bacon laws had increased the cost of a recent construction project, and over half had increased as much as 20 percent.

Lastly, Albuquerque must work in concert with the governor and Legislature to better rationalize its school funding system. If East Side taxpayers refuse to pay for new schools on the West Side, perhaps the district should be split in two. And, rather than pouring taxpayer money into the construction of additional schools, perhaps money should be given to parents themselves so they can decide whether charter, private or traditional public schools are best for their child.

Throwing more money at Albuquerque's troubled school system is not a recipe for success. Instead of abdicating their taxing authority to APS, our elected officials need to come up with innovative ways to save money.

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Paul Gessing is president of the Rio Grande Foundation is an independent, nonpartisan, tax-exempt research and educational organization dedicated to promoting prosperity for New Mexico based on principles of limited government, economic freedom and individual responsibility.



Fearless Protector
by Scott Bieser [www.scottbieser.com]

THE TORCH OF LIBERTY . . . TAKE IT!

By David A. McElroy [davidmcelroy@tularosa.net]

July 4th is upon us. Oh say, can you see our national sovereignty being threatened as President Bush collaborates with Mexico and Canada to form a North American Union modeled on the socialist European Union? This is only one of many breaches of the contract with America, the Constitution, meant to destroy our independence. You know it. The facts are published.

The Constitution of the United States of America was written as a binding contract, binding government rather than people, to create a federal government based on home rule. Our home. For government officials to simply disregard it as an "archaic" impediment without consulting the people is a callous crime. Our forefathers sacrificed their blood, sweat, and tears, their time, treasure, and sacred honors to purchase our independence and civil liberties. Our governing officers now take it upon themselves to discard that heritage in treasonous pursuits, without consulting these united states who are signatories to that contract. The administration goes so far as to consider those faithful to the Constitution as enemies to be closely watched and vilified. We must act now...while some still remember what principles "OLD GLORY" stood for in 1776.

Let's face it . . . we now have a King, er, a President, who claims to be above the law and advocates torture just like the King George Americans rebelled against fighting for freedom. He displaces American workers with millions of illegal alien invading our nation, and rewards them with preferential treatment rather than deport them. He defames today's Minutemen as "vigilantes". We, the people, are delared by law to be the enemy in the President's "War Powers" portfolio...under the "Trading With The Enemy Act"! Dissent is increasingly limited to "Free Speech Zones" as in Red China (which people like Bill Clinton & Henry Kissinger laud as a model society). People are going to jail for simply displaying a t-shirt or poster critical of der Fuhrer, and rights to due process or an attorney can be waived under the "Patriot Act".

We have a Supreme Court openly talking of submitting our nation to a World Court and foreign laws, with complete disregard of their oaths to uphold the U.S. Constitution. Our system of "Checks & Balances" is now check-mated, with no checks and no balances in the federal system. The black-robed "Gang of Nine" refuses to support the public posting of God's Ten Commandments, the basis of Western Law so prominently displayed in their own historic courthouse.

Both Houses of Congress have delegated many of their constitutional duties to private interests like the Federal Reserve Bank, who serve their own interests at our expense. Our Social Security funds are stolen in the one part of the Constitution they uphold...the right to pool all public money in one big pork barrel they can spend like drunken sailors. These "public servants" are too busy to represent we, the people. They are so busy they don't even read the bills they vote on, like the "Patriot Act". Their zeal is in meeting corporate lobbyists bearing gifts along the campaign trail.

Our Bill of Rights has become a list of rights denied, a heritage trampled by brazen bureaucrats and politicians alike. Hard evidence exists for massive vote frauds fostered by the wonders of black-box technology in voting machines. "Big Brother" wants to track us all with microchips and make cash worthless historical notes. Bush claims we are a "nation of law" while he makes a mockery of our Constitution in the quest for absolute power absolutely corrupt. The government that says "If you have nothing to hide, you have nothing to fear" hides everything. When a g-man's lips are moving, you know he's lying. Tyranny is now at home in America. Let's not forget those July 4th fireworks commemorate much more than entertaining bursts of light in the darkness!

We, the people, must pressure our state legislatures to bring suit against the federal government for breach of contract. The list of breaches is far longer than this space allows. Only these united states, as signatories to the U.S. Constitution, can sue the federal government for breach of contract. Even one state would be enough. Time is short. Speak now or forever hold your peace in fear and loathing!

For Truth, Justice, & Liberty for All!

"Why Won't They Answer?" Tour, Coming to Santa Fe!

By Frank Martin [frank@fundimensions.com]

Hello Mike! I am emailing to ask you to place an announcement in the LPNM newsletter about a We The People event to be held in Santa Fe on Friday, August 4 from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. Location to be announced.

This event will feature WTP Chairman Bob Schultz on a tour of all 50 states. The purpose of the tour is to arouse the awareness of the People to the meaning and importance of the First Amendment's "Petition Clause" and to the significance of our lawsuits.

During the 71-day nationwide tour commencing on July 1st, WTP Chairman Bob Schulz will conduct daily public briefings to members and meetings featuring opinion leaders who want to join the chorus of folks asking "Why?" and saying to the federal government, "We want you to answer the questions!"

A tri-fold brochure for the tour is available in PDF format on the WTP site [www.givemeliberty.org].

I am the local coordinator for this event. I take that on because I am inspired and moved by the powerful, unstoppable stand that We The People is for liberty and constitutionally-limited government. I also see the event as a possibility for causing a quantum leap in the intensity of conversation for Liberty in New Mexico!

Call me at 505-989-3670 if you have questions, or know of a space in Santa Fe that would hold 100-200 people.

Regards,
Frank Martin

A NEW MEMBERSHIP PARADIGM

Joseph Knight [nm_libertarian@yahoo.com]

With dues to the National LP having been reduced to zero and the national convention expected to eliminate them permanently, it will become incumbent upon state parties to advise the national LP of who our core membership is and to define membership in ways that remove impediments to mass membership and at the same time protects the integrity of our party's defining principle.

We already do this in New Mexico. One "joins" the Libertarian Party of New Mexico by simply registering as a Libertarian, the way you join the Republican or Democrat Parties. An affiliate member can volunteer to do LP stuff and can hold any party office at the county level except county chair (unless the county LP has additional requirements).

To be a policy maker as a delegate at the state convention or a spokesperson for LPNM as an officer or Central Committee representative, or as a candidate for public office, one must become a caucus member by also signing the Non-Aggression Principle pledge and paying dues. Requiring party officers, candidates, and delegates to sign the Non-Aggression Principle pledge is a good thing: this does protect the integrity of our party's defining principle. But as to dues, I suggest that there should be alternative paths to caucus membership – which I might add is declining in New Mexico as it is currently defined.

The caucus membership should be defined as that sub-set of the Libertarian Party of New Mexico who helps out. That includes everybody who pays the bills and does the work. Previous discussions of alternatives to dues have been dismissed as welfare schemes or charity, but I hold that this approach simply recognizes that the contributions of volunteers are as valuable and necessary as the contributions of donors.

To this end, I am herewith submitting a proposed amendment to the LPNM Constitution and Bylaws. The new definition of caucus membership would offer ten choices of "helping out" qualifications that would earn caucus membership for affiliate members who have signed the Non-Aggression Principle pledge.

It had been suggested to me that we might require caucus members to qualify under any two of the ten qualification options, but the idea to be more inclusive, not exclusive, and this would be counter to that purpose. If anything, we should add more options.

There might be a revenue slump if "dues" diminish. But donating and fund-raising activities are among the qualification options. It is up to the caucus membership to devise ways to fund the party, but excluding from caucus membership those who are active volunteers but don't pay dues should not be one of those ways.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT FOLLOWS:

Bylaw #1 is repealed and Article II is amended to read:

2.1 CATEGORIES AND DEFINITIONS OF MEMBERS

(a) **AFFILIATE MEMBER.** An affiliate member is any registered voter within the State of New Mexico who has indicated "Libertarian" as his or her party affiliation on the affidavit of voter registration.

(b) **CAUCUS MEMBER.** A caucus member is any person who has indicated "Libertarian" as his or her party affiliation on the New Mexico affidavit of voter registration, has certified in writing that he or she opposes the initiation of force; and has met at least one of the qualifications enumerated in 2-1-c below.

(c) **CAUCUS MEMBER QUALIFICATIONS.** Only one qualification must be met. Qualifications are not cumulative and the qualification with the latest expiration date shall be recognized.

1. Payment of a lump sum donation of \$50 to LPNM, or of \$25 to LPNM and an additional \$25 to a recognized county affiliate of LPNM, to the campaign of a ballot-qualified LPNM candidate for partisan public office, to an LPNM-affiliated College Libertarian Club, or as dues to the national Libertarian Party. Qualification is enabled when the Secretary receives the \$50 lump sum donation to LPNM or the \$25 lump sum donation to LPNM with a written certification that the additional donation has been made, and will expire in one year.
2. Payment of a monthly pledge to LPNM of \$10. Donors should indicate that contributions are for caucus membership. Qualification is enabled when the first monthly pledge is received and will continue until pledges are 30 days or more in arrears.
3. Service as an LPNM executive officer or on the LPNM Central Committee, or on the LPNM Judicial Council. Qualification is enabled when member assumes office and continues as long as member holds office.
4. Service as an executive officer or central committee member of a recognized county affiliate of LPNM, or as an officer of an LPNM affiliated College Libertarian Club. Qualification is enabled when member assumes office and continues as long as member holds office.
5. Service as a delegate to a national LP convention. Qualification is enabled when the member is elected as a delegate and expires one year from the last day of the convention, provided that the delegate actually attended the convention.
6. Ballot qualification as an LPNM candidate for any partisan public office in New Mexico. Qualification is enabled when ballot status is certified by a county clerk or the Bureau of Elections and expires one year from the date of the election.

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 7]

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"The correct way to punctuate a sentence that starts: ' Of course it is none of my business but – ' is to place a period after the word 'but.' Don't use excessive force in supplying such moron with a period. Cutting his throat is only a momentary pleasure and is bound to get you talked about."
– Robert Heinlein

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6]

7. Collection and timely submission of at least 200 verified signatures on any petition for LPNM party certification, or at least 150 verified signatures on any petition for ballot qualification of a nominated LPNM candidate in a statewide or congressional race, or at least 100 verified signatures on any petition for ballot qualification of a nominated LPNM candidate in a county or legislative race. Qualification is enabled when the Secretary certifies verification of the signatures and expires one year from that date.
8. Twenty-five hours of volunteer service within a one-year period. Service must be in activity (excluding business meetings and social events) sponsored by LPNM, a county affiliate of LPNM, or an LPNM-affiliated College Libertarian Club. Qualification is enabled when the Secretary receives certification from the State Chair, County Chair or College Libertarian Club President that the service has been completed and expires one year from that date.
9. Submission of a proposal to the State Chair for a project, and with acceptance of the project by the Executive Committee, execution of the project. Qualification is enabled when the Secretary receives certification from the State Chair that the project has been completed and expires one year from that date.
10. Publication in a newspaper(s) of general circulation within a 12-month period, a total of two editorials or five letters to the editor promoting the Libertarian Party, its philosophy, or its candidates. Qualification is enabled when the Secretary receives dated copies of the editorials or letters and expires one year from that date

2.2 MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS AND RESTRICTIONS

- (a) Only caucus members shall serve as delegates to state conventions of LPNM. Any caucus member in good standing is automatically a state convention delegate.
- (b) Caucus members shall receive the state newsletter and other such publications and benefits as determined by the Central Committee.
- (c) As all officers of LPNM and its affiliates, LPNM delegates to national conventions, and LPNM candidates for public office will automatically meet the 2-1-c qualification for caucus membership, all such members must submit the certification that he or she opposes the initiation of force prior to being nominated.
- (d) As LPNM recognizes Life Memberships, members who became Life Members prior to 2006 are exempted from the provisions of 2-1-c.

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"Morningstar's Explanation of Politics: Human progress is evolutionary. Evolution is a process of variation and selection. Right-wingers want to stop variation. Left-wingers want to stop selection. **Both ends of the political spectrum are impediments to progress.**"

– Chip Morningstar, www.fudco.com/chip/laws.html

Letter to the Editor – Disbanded Chaves County LP by Elke M. Mikaelian [elkemm@peoplepc.com]

Dear Editor:

I guess I stand corrected. I was under the (mistaken?) impression that the San Juan County LP and the Bernalillo County LP had not filed the proper paperwork with the state and their respective county clerks to be legitimate party organizations. Surely, if they had not filed, San Juan would not continue to issue resolutions and Bernalillo County candidates could not run for office.

With respect to the method of disbanding the Chaves County LP, please be assured that, whether a Special Convention had been called instead of the Central Committee meeting that was held, the IDENTICAL, SAME people would have attended! The outcome would have been the same. We had arrived at the point where we preferred to stop beating that particular horse.

We (*ESPECIALLY* Chairman Dorsey Glenn) made every effort to invite registered Libertarians, and other interested individuals, to all scheduled events. Unfortunately, they always stayed away in droves. If New Mexico is Never, Never Land (which I have thought since moving to Albuquerque in 1972), then Southeastern New Mexico is **NEVER, NEVER, NEVER** Land. People in the Agriculture Business here are too comfortable with their subsidies to support the capitalist LP; and businesses who do support the LP philosophy don't want to let it be known, for fear of consequences and reprisals. That really shrinks the pool from which to recruit LP members. Maybe you just had to be there / here to appreciate our situation fully. We were tired of making pretentious, empty gestures to try to generate interest in the LP. However, our paperwork will be preserved, and will be available quickly for any new group that may form in the future and wants to take on the filing process.

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Surfing at the Oasis

by John Trever [www.tinyurl.com/z4nr9]

LPNM CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Chair

Jay Vandersloot, 505-362-1733
jayvandersloot@yahoo.com

Vice Chair

Bruce Bush, 505-256-0810
bruce1776@msn.com

Secretary

Mike Blessing, 505-710-5197
gunssavelives@comcast.net

Treasurer

Richard Obergfell, 505-378-8025
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At-Large Representative, Seat B

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jtigger@plateautel.net

District 1 Representative, Seat A

VACANT

District 1 Representative, Seat B

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505-301-2601 / neoconssuck@att.net

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University of New Mexico

John Pfersich (Acting)
505-301-2601 / neoconssuck@att.net

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It's amazing what one has to believe to believe in gun control by Michael Z. Williamson
www.tinyurl.com/88mu3

That we should outlaw bullet proof vests so criminals can't use them, and private citizens should be then proud to be killed in the crossfire, knowing they are doing their part for society.

COUNTY CHAIRS

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"Men decide far more problems by hate, love, lust, rage, sorrow, joy, hope, fear, illusion, or some other inward emotion, than by reality, authority, any legal standard, judicial precedent, or statute."
- Marcus Tullius Cicero
(3 Jan 106 BC - 7 Dec 43 BC)
Roman orator and statesman

LPNM VACANCIES

Central Committee (1)

District 1 Representative, Seat A

County Contacts (21)

Catron / Chaves / Cibola / Curry
De Baca / Eddy / Grant / Guadalupe
Harding / Hidalgo / McKinley / Mora
Luna / Quay / Rio Arriba
San Miguel / Sierra / Socorro / Taos
Torrance / Union

College Contacts (3)

Eastern New Mexico University
(Portales)
New Mexico State University
(Las Cruces)
Western New Mexico University
(Silver City)

Contact the state chair if you're interested in filling a slot.

If you don't, who will?

INTERNET RESOURCES

Official Website
www.lpnm.org

Mailing lists on lpnm.org
www.tinyurl.com/hogsn

LPNM Discussion
groups.yahoo.com/lpnm-discuss

New Mexico Liberty
groups.yahoo.com/group/nmliberty

LPNM Activists
www.tinyurl.com/z7ug5

LPNM Business List
groups.yahoo.com/group/lpnm-biz
(Caucus membership required)

Myspace.com
groups.myspace.com/lpnm

The SW Region LNC list
www.tinyurl.com/e8khh

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"I would rather be exposed to the inconveniences attending too much liberty than to those attending too small a degree of it."
- Thomas Jefferson

**AUTHORIZATION FOR AUTOMATED TRANSFERS
(DEBITS AND CREDITS)**

Charter Bank:

I authorize Charter Bank to initiate an electronic transfer via the Automated Clearing House (ACH) as noted below:

Customer Name (on account, please print): _____

DEBIT (charge) Financial Institution Name: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Routing Number / ABA: _____ / _____ / _____ Account Number: _____

(Please include a deposit slip or voided check)

CREDIT (deposit) Charter Bank, to the account of LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEW MEXICO, account number 0092040302

\$_____ LPNM General Fund \$_____ Chair's Contingency Fund \$_____ Major Player Fund \$_____ Win One Fund

TOTAL AMOUNT of electronic transfer \$_____ MONTHLY on the _____ day of each month starting ____/____/____

I understand this authority is to remain in full force and effect until Charter Bank has received notification from me regarding termination in such time and in such manner as to afford Charter Bank a reasonable opportunity to act on it. I also understand this transfer is not immediate and could take up to two business days.

Signature: _____ Date: _____ Social Security Number: _____

BANK USE ONLY Bank Employee: _____ Date: _____

Authorization processed by: _____ Date: _____

MONTHLY CREDIT CARD PLEDGE

I authorize the Treasurer of the Libertarian Party of New Mexico to charge my credit card MONTHLY as indicated below:

CARD TYPE (circle one): VISA / MASTERCARD / AMERICAN EXPRESS / DISCOVER

Number: _____ - _____ - _____ - _____ Expires: ____/____

\$_____ on the _____ day of each month beginning on ____/____/____ to be used as follows:

\$_____ LPNM General Fund \$_____ Chair's Contingency Fund \$_____ Major Player Fund \$_____ Win One Fund

I understand that this agreement remains in effect until I notify the Treasurer of the Libertarian Party of New Mexico, in writing, to cancel or alter this agreement.

NAME (on card, please print): _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE ____/____/____

FEDERAL INFO REQUIREMENTS, DISCLAIMERS, ETC.

Federal law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, occupation and employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. Political contributions are not tax deductible. Your contribution may be used to fund federal election activity.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone (h): _____ (w): _____ E-mail: _____

Employer: _____ Occupation: _____

This form is for monthly pledges only. Please pay dues separately. Complete either the AUTOMATED TRANSFER section or the CREDIT CARD section, and the INFO section. Mail the entire form to the address below. PLEASE NOTE: LPNM receives 100% of your pledge when you use AUTOMATED TRANSFER, but pays substantial fees on CREDIT CARD pledges. Thank You !!

LPNM, 918 IVORY RD SE, RIO RANCHO NM 87124

Note: Special thanks go to Richard Oberfell, the LPNM's Treasurer, for updating this form for the transition from Los Alamos National Bank to Charter Bank.

ADMINISTRIVIA

Mike Blessing, Editor [gunssavelives@comcast.net]

If you have news, interesting stories, op-ed pieces, a letter to the editor, or timely information that you think belongs in the newsletter, please send it along. I can be contacted at 505-710-5197, or just send it to email address gunssavelives@comcast.net.

When sending your submission as an MS Word (or Open Office Text) file, send it single-spaced in 10-pt Arial – like this is. Margins should be half-inch (0.5”) around, with no headers or footers. If you send it in a text-only format, make it clear to me if you want anything in **bold type**, underlined, *in italics*, ~~struck through~~, **different colors**, etc. I'm not telepathic here, so help me out.

Graphics (pictures, cartoons, etc.) – send the highest quality graphics you can – email them to me at the address above, and I'll do what I can to get them in the next issue. In particular, what I want are pictures of YOU the LPNM members, either at LPNM-sponsored events or at other peoples' events.

Submission deadline for the June issue – midnight, Tuesday, 23 June 2006

Articles

As for writing your article, It should be concise (no longer than a full page) and topical. A bit of humor helps, especially for op-ed pieces.

What I'm really looking for in the way of articles is what's going on in the LPNM – what YOU the membership are up to in spreading the message. For example, an article about the stupidity, insanity and evil of the UN might get put in, depending on available space and the quality of the article. A group of LPNM members counter-protesting the raising of a UN flag by the city council WILL get put in, and probably will get first priority.

Letters to the Editor

The editor will publish letters on a space-available basis. The same standards apply for letters that apply for articles – keep them concise and topical. The editor will NOT publish letters in response to other letters – *New Mexico Liberty* is NOT a message board – -- use the message section of NML's Yahoo! group for that purpose. Or post your traffic to the LPNM's other email lists – LPNM-discuss or LPNM-forum.

Editorial Viewpoint

The basis for libertarian thought is the Zero Aggression Principle –

A libertarian is someone who believes that *no* human being has the right – under *any* circumstances – to *initiate* force against *another* human being, nor to threaten, incite or delegate its initiation.

New Mexico Liberty holds that Libertarian candidates, officeholders or appointed spokespersons at all levels of government or the Party should refrain from advocating new or more restrictive laws, new or more expensive spending programs, or new or higher taxes. To paraphrase from the medical profession, “First, do no harm.”

Subscriptions and Correspondence

groups.yahoo.com/group/nmliberty/join

To subscribe, send a blank email to nmliberty-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

To UNsubscribe: send a blank email message to: nmliberty-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com

For a print subscription, contact Ron Bjornstad for details.

Finally, *New Mexico Liberty* will be posted to the web, in PDF format, both to the Archives section of the page on lpm.org, and to the Files section of the Yahoo group I've set up for it:

groups.yahoo.com/group/nmliberty

Copyright

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Advertising in *New Mexico Liberty*

Current rates for year-long spots

Full page	Ø60.00
Half page	Ø30.00
Quarter page	Ø15.00
Business card	Ø 8.00

Rates are subject to change at the discretion of the editor. The editor will do his best to make any such changes only when absolutely necessary.

Inserts – For an insert into the PDF version that goes out over the internet, contact the editor at email address nmliberty-owner@yahoogroups.com. For an insert into the print edition, contact Ron Bjornstad at email address rbjornstad@earthlink.net or phone number 505-288-4228.

Ø – The symbol for Federal Reserve Note(s), as used by Boston T. Party in his books. In plain-text message traffic (such as email), the acronym “FRN” will be used by the editor. See www.javelinpress.com for more information. Also see the Wikipedia page for “Federal Reserve Note” – en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federal_Reserve_Note

Submissions Policy

The editor reserves the right to refuse service to anyone for any reason. The editor will most often be willing to explain any such reasons. Appeals of the editor's refusal to post an advertisement, article, letter to editor, or anything else can be made to the LPNM's State Chair, Central Committee and/or Judicial Council.

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"I had rather be on my farm than be emperor of the world."
– George Washington

Change the Rules and You Can Downsize DC

By Jim Babka [jimbabka@downsizedc.org]

Government grows every year. It's no accident. That's how the rules are written.

The Constitution used to be the rulebook. The voters used to be the referees. But not anymore.

Congress now writes its own rules. And referees them too. They ignore the Constitution. And ballot access laws, gerrymandering, debate commissions, and campaign finance laws, combined with winner-takes-all elections, make the voters irrelevant. The result is re-election rates worthy of a third-world dictatorship, and ever-growing government.

That's why DownsizeDC.org was founded. To change the rules. Examples . . .

Americans can disagree with a lot of things about the libertarian agenda, but nearly everyone agrees that Congress ought to read the laws it passes. That's why DownsizeDC.org created *The Read the Bills Act* (RTBA). If Congress had to read the laws it passes it wouldn't have time to pass so many. And government growth would slow.

Change the rules and you can change the outcome.

By proposing something that nearly everyone would support we have a real chance to recruit enough people to compel Congress to change the rules. There are millions of Americans who would support RTBA, but only 535 members of Congress. The numbers are on our side. We could overwhelm Congress with messages, faxes, letters, and phone calls, until they scream "uncle," and pass RTBA.

Change the rules and the game changes, in our favor.

But why stop with making Congress read the laws it passes? Why not apply the same concept to bureaucratic regulations? Regulations are *de facto* laws. They shouldn't be written by un-elected bureaucrats. They should be written by Congress. And read by Congress too, before they can be voted into effect. DownsizeDC.org is working on a bill to do just that. It's the kind of thing most people would support, not just libertarians.

But when you change the rules in a libertarian direction you can get a libertarian result.

And there's more along the same lines . . .

Why not require the government to live under the same rules it just imposed on the private sector with the Sarbanes-Oxley bill? After the WorldCom and Enron scandals Congress passed the Sarbanes-Oxley bill to hold CEO's responsible for their companies' financial statements. Shouldn't politicians do the same?

By proposing something that nearly everyone would support we have a real chance to recruit enough people to compel Congress to change the rules. There are millions of Americans who would support RTBA, but only 535 members of Congress. The numbers are on our side. We could overwhelm Congress with messages, faxes, letters, and phone calls, until they scream "uncle," and pass RTBA.

Before the prescription drug bill passed a government employee testified it would cost \$400 billion over 10 years. But his agency knew the real figure was closer to \$550 billion. His boss told him Congress wanted to hear the lower number. He obeyed. The real number came out after the bill passed. And then the estimate rose again, to nearly \$700 billion! No one lost their job and Congress made no move to reconsider. Government employees lied. The accounting was botched. And only the taxpayers have suffered the consequences.

But what if we had a Sarbanes-Oxley bill for government? What if programs created with inaccurate numbers had to be brought back to Congress for a new vote? Real numbers could make a real difference in the outcome. The prescription drug bill barely passed as it was. Change the rules and you can change the outcome.

Millions of Americans would support this kind of change. If we propose new rules that nearly everyone would support, we could potentially recruit enough people to overwhelm Congress. Change the rules and you can change the game, in your favor.

Play their game with their rules, and you'll probably lose. But play your own game with your own rules, and you've got a fighting chance. DownsizeDC.org wants to play a different game, with different rules; rules where we can win. Check out DownsizeDC.org. Join the DC Downsizer army. Help us overwhelm Congress. Help us change the rules.

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Jim Babka is the President of the Downsize DC Foundation and DownsizeDC.org, Inc. He's the host of the *Downsize DC Conference Call* heard Sunday's on GCNLive.com and a commentator for the Free Market News Network. Jim Babka was the Press Secretary for Harry Browne's 2000 presidential campaign and guest-hosted Mr. Browne's radio show during the final months of his life. Contact – 703-236-5202 or jimbabka@downsizedc.org.

THE UNANIMOUS CONSENT CHALLENGE

CASH Ø10,000 PRIZE

To the first person to write a logical and documented essay showing one of the following to be compatible with the Declaration of Independence:

- Sherman Anti-Trust Act of 1890
- Pure Food and Drug Act of 1906
- Federal Communications Act of 1934
- National Firearms Act of 1934
- Banking Act of 1935
- The Internal Revenue Code
- Controlled Substances Act of 1970
- RICO Act of 1970
- Federal Elections Act of 1970
- Plumbing Products Efficiency Act of 1992
- Anti-Money Laundering Act of 1992
- USA PATRIOT Act of 2001
- Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002

To claim your prize, contact Mike Blessing at 505-710-5197 or gunssavelives@comcast.net.

Libertarian Party of New Mexico Enrollment / Renewal Coupon
Please print in all areas

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____ Employer _____ Occupation _____

I am registered to vote as a Libertarian and wish to join renew as a caucus member. Enclosed is \$25 annual dues payable to “**LPNM.**” (Sorry, we cannot accept corporate checks.) I will get the state newsletter “*New Mexico Liberty*” and will have delegate status at state conventions. I understand that the *LP News* is **NOT** at this time included in my membership.

I am not registered as Libertarian in the State of New Mexico or I do not wish to sign the statement opposing the initiation of force to achieve social or political goals at this time. Enclosed is \$25.00 annual-dues payable to “**Libertarian Party.**” (Sorry, we cannot accept corporate checks.) I will get the state newsletter “*New Mexico Liberty*” and will have no other benefits. I understand that the *LP News* is **NOT** at this time included in my membership.

I oppose the initiation of force to achieve social or political goals.

Signed _____

Enclosed is my donation of \$ _____ for use as indicated:

LPNM General Fund Chair’s Contingency Fund Major Player Fund Win One Fund

Please make donation check payable to “**LPNM.**” (Sorry, we cannot accept corporate checks.)

Credit Card Info: Type _____ Number _____
Exp. Date _____ Amount _____

Signed _____

Government mandated notices:

- The US Postal Service requires us to notify you that the annual *New Mexico Liberty* subscription cost is included in your LPNM membership dues of \$25.00.
- The Internal Revenue Service requires us to print “political contributions are not tax deductible” on all fundraising appeals.
- The Federal Election Commission requires us to ask for the employer and occupation of each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year.

The preceding notices alone should be enough reason to join the Libertarian Party, the only political party working to increase your freedom.

COPY OR PRINT, FILL OUT, AND SEND TO:

**918 IVORY RD SE
RIO RANCHO NM 87124**