

LIBERTY PLEDGE

NEWSLETTER

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Monthly Pledge surpasses \$30,000; Election Time

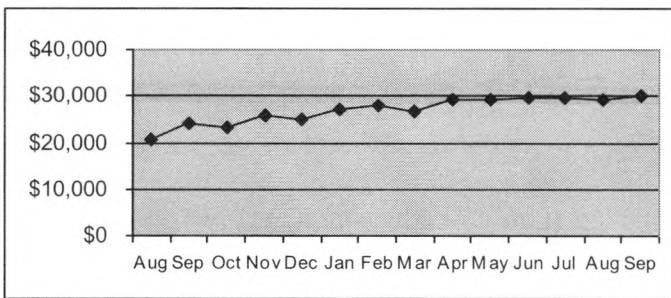
*By Wes Benedict
Executive Director
Libertarian National Committee*

Our monthly pledge amount has finally surpassed the \$30,000 level, thanks to generous donors like you.

Fourteen months ago, August 2009, we were receiving \$20,504 from 902 pledgers. At that time, I set a goal for our staff to get to \$25,000 by the end of 2009, which we did.

We've since grown to \$30,157 from 1,226 pledgers. That's 47% growth in the pledge total, and 36% growth in the number of pledgers.

Here's a graph of the pledge total since August 2009:



I don't know if you will receive this before or after Election Day. In any case, at the time of writing, I'm feeling good about our preparation for the elections, and I'm proud that we have over 800 candidates on the ballot, compared to around 600 in 2006 and 2008.

While I'm optimistic that we will show improvements at the polls, and win some races, my

optimism is tempered with the realism of having been a Libertarian activist for many years.

I'm always hopeful for major breakthroughs, but those are hard to predict. In the meantime, my approach to success has been to stay focused and work hard on the basics at the national level. We can take advantage of economies of scale at the national level, while providing plenty of room for our state and local affiliates and candidates to innovate and experiment with new approaches, like YouTube videos and other publications.

Our Quiz Across America door hangers have proven to be popular. The door hangers feature the World's Smallest Political Quiz and information on the Libertarian Party. I had set a goal of distributing 1 million. At the time of writing this, we have shipped about 500,000 which is great, but I'll be surprised if we get all the way to a million. Nevertheless, this has been a great outreach project, involving far higher quantities of outreach literature than anything I can think of organized by the LP in recent times. Many of our candidates have written to us thanking us for assisting their campaigns.

Looking ahead, it will soon be time for more focus on the 2011 elections. There are far fewer partisan elections in 2011, but there will be many local elections for things like city council and school board. I look forward to seeing a strong effort for those campaigns.

Thanks again. And, depending on the mail speed, perhaps it's not too late to remind you to:

Vote Libertarian on November 2 !

Libertarian Party: On the Trail

Libertarian Candidate for State Treasurer Receives Major Media Endorsement

from the Ohio LP, October 11

The Cleveland Plain Dealer announced endorsements for statewide candidates on Sunday, and surprised Ohioans with its endorsement of Libertarian **Matthew P. Cantrell** for state treasurer. They admit that normally Cantrell wouldn't get a second look, and "That would be a mistake—especially in light of glaring deficiencies that make both major-party candidates unattractive options."

The Plain Dealer also aptly points out "Cantrell's professionalism and willingness to serve should matter more than his ability" to raise money, and the fact that others won't base their decision on that "is one reason Ohio and much of the rest of the country lack the kind of selfless...leadership needed to erase some of the cynicism of politics."

The incumbent in this race has used the office to promote "cronyism and party favoritism in hiring" the Plain Dealer points out. It also says he has "exposed repeated lapses in judgment." Meanwhile, the Republican Josh Mandel has "ambition that vastly exceeds his record in office and an instinct for pandering." His ad against Boyce, a Christian, has implied he did his hiring in a mosque. The Plain Dealer points out "the ad raises serious questions about Mandel's maturity and decision-making ability."

The Libertarian Party of Ohio believes that the Plain Dealer is finally seeing what we've been saying for years: when Libertarians are allowed to be included in the political discussion and endorsement process, voters will see that our ideas are typically the best, most practical options, and most focused on performance of the actual job when compared to Republican's and Democrat's.

Great week for John Babiarz

from the New Hampshire LP, October 3

Saturday kicked off a week of appearances and publicity for **John Babiarz**, NH Libertarian candidate for governor. John spoke at the Merrimack Valley Porcupines meetup, along with LNC regional rep Rachel Hawkridge, about his campaign, the issues, the censorship Libertarian challengers face in the media and the great reception he's been getting at events across the state. John had a great time at the MVP meetup, several people took T-shirts and literature and all the signs he brought went home with supporters to supplement the 600 he already has placed across the state.

This is just one example of effective campaigning. John has several upcoming television appearances. This morning at 10am, John will be on WMUR's "Closeup", tonight his interview with Concord's Capital Access TV airs (check listings for local rebroadcast), and on Friday at 6pm John and senatorial candidate **Ken Blevens** will be on NHPTV's "NH Outlook", with rebroadcasts over the following several days (check local listings).

Also, for the first time ever, WMUR, the state's largest TV station, has done full candidate profiles on the Libertarians, available on the politics section of their website.

We are on the verge of a liberty breakthrough in NH. According to one poll John saw during his encounter with the organizers of the recent candidate forums, when voters were asked "do you prefer the Democrat, the Republican or Other for governor?", 15% chose Other. John joked that he should change his name to "Other" for his next run for office.

Libertarians propose balanced budget

from The Irvine for Congress Campaign, October 4

In an effort to give voters a real alternative to the big-spending politics of the Democratic and Republican parties, two Libertarian candidates for the U.S. House of Representatives have developed a

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federal budget that completely eliminates the federal budget deficit in one year.

Travis Irvine, the Libertarian candidate in Ohio's 12th District, teamed up with **Mark Grannis**, the Libertarian candidate in Maryland's 8th District, to produce the budget for fiscal year 2012 (the fiscal year that begins October 1, 2011, and the first fiscal year for which the next Congress will prepare a budget)....

"It's one thing to talk about budget problems, but it's another thing to go out and come up with solutions," Irvine said. "I challenge Republicans and Democrats to give voters these type of specifics about how they would balance the federal budget."...

Under the Libertarians' budget proposal, federal spending in 2012 would decline by \$991 billion from the levels set forth in the President's 2011 Budget. The President's Budget requested total spending of \$3,833,861,000,000 for 2011, a figure that remains only a request because Congress decided not to bother passing a 2011 budget. Under the Libertarian Balanced Federal Budget Proposal, spending would decline from \$3.834 trillion to \$2.843 trillion.

New and renewing Liberty Pledgers

Micah F. Barksdale	Mitchell Grossman	Jacob Porter
Sandra I. Bartlett	Blair T. Harle	Donavon Prom
Sean Bearly	Forrest Lee Horn	Jonathan Ragle
Carl M. Belanger	Robin C. Hudson	Richard C. Randall
John A. Bennett	Al Hurshman	Robert H. Ritter
Sara Bennett	John Derek Jackson	John D. Rizzi
Muir Boda	Deron Johnson	Dante Salazar
Jonathan A. Briggs	Douglas Wade Jones	Christopher Schmidt
Jaimes D. Brown	Matthew Juszczak	Charles Shull
Sara M. Cameron	Martin Joseph Keller	Robban A. Sica
David Chance	John W. Kling	Elizabeth M. Smith
Martin Chell	Virginia Kling	Cisse Spragins
Timothy Cole	Ben Lake	Aaron C. Strausbaugh
Tyler Colopy	Julie C. Law	John M. Swanagon
David J. Dewar	Deja Lerer-Crutcher	Ron J. Theriault
Jeffrey L. Dimit	Gregory J. Lindmark	Jon Thirkield
Anna M. Dooley	Ann Loudermilk	M. Frances Tipton
Carol Dorough	Robert A. Marlowe	Gregory D. Troxel
Joshua Dove	Austin McFall	Bruce Vogelgesang
Peter Emerson	Ronald Midgette	Christopher W. Walker
Randy Eshelman	Dorie Ann Morgan	Steve Welty
Josh Featherstone	John Morris	Joseph Wetherington
Cheryl A. Flynn	Robert T. Murphy	Stann Whipple
Michael S. Gerlica	Robert T. Murphy	William T. White
Michael E. Graff	Brady Nemeyer	Daniel Paul Wiener
Benjamin Granley	Carolyn O'Day	Graham Wienke
Dave Grant	Norman T. Olsen	Charles Brian Younce
Ryan Gray	Theodore Pastor	
Michael Paul Griffith	Bryan Pigott	

I would like to make a one-time donation to the LP:

- \$5,000 \$100
 \$1,000 \$50
 \$500 \$25
 \$250
 _____ Other

I would like to increase my monthly pledge to this level:

- \$2,500 \$100
 \$1,000 \$50
 \$500 \$30
 \$250
 _____ Other
 (minimum \$10)

(Please make checks payable to **Libertarian Party**.)

Please bill my Visa MasterCard AmEx Discover

Card number: _____ Exp: _____

Name on card: _____

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Occupation*: _____

Employer*: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work: _____ Cell: _____

E-mail: _____

* Federal law requires us to use our best efforts to collect and report the name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer of individuals whose contributions exceed \$200 in a calendar year. Political contributions are not tax deductible.

Libertarian Party in the News

Libertarians on the Rise

New York Times, September 25, 2010

The Libertarian Party — which has 21 candidates for U.S. Senate and 170 candidates for U.S. House on ballots in November — dismissed the Republican [Pledge to America] proposal as "distortions, hypocrisies, and idiocy," slamming the party for pouring money into federal programs from TARP to the War on Drugs.

"Instead of a 'Pledge to America,' the Republicans should have written an 'Apology to America,'" read a statement issued on Friday. "It is deeply insulting to see the Republicans refer to 'America's founding values' on their cover. The Republican Party has no understanding whatsoever of America's founding values."

Libertarian challenges Republican incumbent in Allegan County

Kalamazoo Gazette (Michigan), September 30, 2010

ALLEGAN — Libertarian **Charlie Clegg** hopes to unseat Republican incumbent state Rep. Robert Genetski, R-Saugatuck, in the race for the state House's 88th District....

"I think people deserve a choice, and I'm not happy with how the Republicans and Democrats are playing partisan politics," Clegg said. "If people aren't happy with how the Republicans and Democrats are running the state, they should look into the Libertarian Party for change."...

"The Libertarian Party is the only (political) party that really stands for less government," Clegg said. He said he would try to revive the state's economy by encouraging people to reinvent themselves and switch to higher-paying occupations.

Third-party candidates hope voters are ready to take a chance on them

Carroll County Times (Maryland), October 3, 2010

...**Susan Gaztanaga**, Libertarian Party candidate for governor, and her husband **Lorenzo Gaztanaga**, a congressional candidate in District 2, said things have improved for third parties in the state since 1992 when they became active in the Libertarian Party....

Susan Gaztanaga thinks the party's philosophy will resonate with voters because the Libertarian Party represents their beliefs.

"I really do feel our philosophy is the American philosophy, and Americans just generally like the sound of it, like the feel of it," Susan Gaztanaga said.

She said she expects issues she's campaigning on, such as protecting Second Amendment rights, eliminating the sales tax and removing Maryland National Guard troops from serving in Iraq and Afghanistan, will attract voters this fall.

District 18 candidates look to tackle issues

Statesman Journal (Oregon), October 6, 2010

...Republican incumbent Vic Gilliam, 57, is seeking a third term. Challengers are Democrat Rodney Orr, 60, and Libertarian candidate **Martin Soehrman**, 59.

Among Soehrman's concerns are irresponsible spending and excessive government regulation.

"I'm tired of government taking things away from us and taking our money and taking our liberty and trying to regulate us," he said. "There are things we can do better ourselves if allowed to."