

LIBERTY PLEDGE

NEWSLETTER

Libertarian National Committee, Inc. ♦ 2600 Virginia Ave, NW, Suite 200 ♦ Washington, DC 20037 ♦ Phone: (202) 333-0008 ♦ Fax: (202) 333-0072
www.LP.org August 2011

Republicans and Democrats join hands to raise the debt limit

*By Wes Benedict
Executive Director
Libertarian National Committee*

One of the biggest problems our nation faces is the growing deficit. Yet Republicans and Democrats in Congress just voted to raise the debt ceiling again.

Republicans and Democrats often use different rhetoric, but on many of the most important issues they join hands and vote the same way.

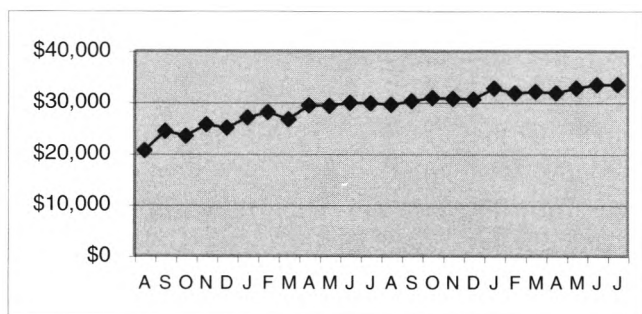
Recent bipartisan efforts include the wars in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Libya, the TARP bailouts, the Patriot Act, and so much more.

I sometimes think Libertarians overdo it a little on the “doomsday is near” rhetoric, but our country really is in serious trouble.

I do hope the Libertarian Party can help lead the way towards liberty and away from statism.

The more candidates we have getting out our message, and the more officials we elect, the better hope I have for the future of America.

Here’s a graph of the total since August 2009.



I want to thank our many monthly pledgers. Our monthly pledge total hit a new high again last month: \$33,427.

As I mentioned in the last issue, many Libertarians attended Freedom Fest in Las Vegas. There were over 2,000 people in attendance and the Libertarian Party had a strong presence there.

Three of us were listed as speakers in the program guide, which also contained tributes to eleven freedom advocates including LP co-founder David F. Nolan (1943-2010), and the first LP presidential nominee, John Hospers (1918-2011).

I was especially inspired by television news host Judge Andrew Napolitano’s speech.

Judge Napolitano was asked what we can do when our members of Congress keep violating the Constitution.

The Judge responded that we should point out in public when our congressmen are violating the freedoms protected by the Constitution.

That’s something that Libertarian candidates for Congress are ideally suited to do.

Our candidates for higher offices typically can’t afford much in the way of televised advertising, but they often get invited onto televised debates and get to point out to Americans on live television how Republicans and Democrats have specifically violated the Constitutional restraints on government.

Republicans and Democrats keep leading America away from freedom.

Libertarians are working to lead America back away from statism, and towards liberty.

I want to thank monthly pledgers like you again for being such reliable supporters of our efforts. Your support is vital.

We will keep doing our best. Our country need us and the survival of freedom may depend on how effective we are at winning the hearts and minds of Americans.

Libertarian Party: On the Trail

Libertarians Announce for Ron Paul's Congressional Seat

from the Texas LP, July 13, 2011

Within hours of Rep. Ron Paul's announcement that he will not seek re-election to Congress to focus on his bid for the Republican nomination for President, three Libertarians announced their intent to seek the Libertarian Party of Texas nomination for the seat.

Beaumont real estate agent **Amy Jacobellis**, 54, serves currently as Chair of the Jefferson County LP affiliate. She said the 2011 Texas legislature's congressional redistricting expanded Texas-14 east to include all of Jefferson County. "I'm a resident of this newly-drawn Congressional District, and I'm really pleased to compete for the opportunity to represent the district held by Dr. Paul for more than two decades."...

Bob Smither, 66, a fifth-generation Texan, holds a Ph.D in electrical engineering from the University of Houston. In 2006 he was the Libertarian Party of Texas' candidate in the special election to replace former U.S. Rep. Tom DeLay....

Dallas attorney **Eugene Flynn**, 62, serves on the Texas State Libertarian Executive Committee, following terms in 2002-03 and 2008-10 on the body. He was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1980 and is certified in the area of Immigration and Nationality Law by the Board of Legal Specialization of the State Bar of Texas. In 2002 Mr. Flynn was the Libertarian Party's candidate for Chief Justice of the Texas Supreme Court.

Said Libertarian Party of Texas Chair **Pat Dixon**, "Dr. Paul has served honorably for 12 terms as 'the Libertarian' representative in Congress. The Libertarian Party is proud to offer the voters of District 14 a representative in Congress who will continue to uphold the same principles to which Dr. Paul has remained committed, and that are completely absent in the Republican and Democratic parties."

New York Libertarian calls for sale of Coliseum site

from the New York LP, August 2, 2011

New York Libertarian Party leader **Richard Cooper** organized Coliseum bond issue opponents with his Stop Nassau Coliseum Funding website www.stopnassaucoliseumfundings.wordpress.com, distributing flyers around Nassau County dubbing the proposal as Coliseumscam.

Welcoming their victory, Cooper issued a call for sale of the entire Coliseum site's 77 acres to the highest bidder, with no requirement that a sports facility be kept there.

"The Libertarian Party calls for the separation of sports and state. The county has no more business running or financing sports team facilities than it does supermarkets. Nassau voters rejected the false notion of stimulus that Obama and Mangano both advocate."

Cooper, a Westbury businessman, notes that if Nassau was a country with a parliamentary system, Mangano would have to resign and a special election held. "We could hold one in November, that would allow more time than they gave us to prepare."

Ohio Libertarians sue for ballot access

from the Ohio LP, August 9, 2011

The Libertarian Party of Ohio (LPO) filed a lawsuit today in federal court seeking to overturn a portion of the recently passed election overhaul bill. HB 194 contained ballot access "remedies" that returned petitioning thresholds to the same level that existed prior to the LPO's successful 2006 lawsuit. The 2006 suit resulted in that law being struck down. The key difference between the new law and the 2006 law is the

Libertarian Party: On the Trail

additional 30 days to submit signatures. The 2006 case was LPO v Blackwell....

During committee hearings in front of both the House and the Senate, Vice Chair **Michael Johnston** provided oral and written testimony calling on the General Assembly to produce reasonable ballot access laws. "The bill signed by Governor Kasich is clearly unconstitutional based on previous precedent. The ballot access restrictions in HB 194 are worse than the ones struck down in 2008, and are barely an improvement on the ones from prior to 2006. We feel quite confident that this effort will be equally as successful as our previous lawsuits," noted Johnston.

"It is absurd that, in the United States of America, we need to fight for ballot access laws - but at least we can do so through the court system here rather than putting soldiers' lives on the line as the US has done in so many other regions of the world, most recently Iraq and Afghanistan. We'll keep fighting for free, open, fair, and honest elections until every Ohioan has an even chance to participate in the political process," concluded Johnston.

New and renewing Liberty Pledgers

John O. Adams	Gary M. Graham	Alfred B. Murray
Robert E. Alexander	Benjamin Granley	John Nisbet
Billy E. Allison	Chloe R. Griffith	Stan L. O'Dell
Kanajai Aungkhav	Raymond A. Hallenbeck	Albert J. Pappas
Jerilyn K. Barthel	Joseph P. Hartman	Timothy Payne
Don Bates	William B. Hendricks	Joe E. Retford
Jason A. Beer	Dianna Hoover	John D. Rizzi
Mark Brashier	Eric R. Imken	Joshua L. Rupp
David Britt	Jeffrey N. Jones	William M. Sloane
Patric R. Brock	Gregory D. Kelder	Aaron C. Strausbaugh
Ronald W. Brown	Olaf Kuhlke	Edward W. Sudduth
David S. Cassarino	Jolie M. LaChance	Amanda Swafford
Allen E. Chantelouis	John F. Lewis	James Thomas
Carl Cooper	Kenneth Lidonnici	Michael Thomas
Paolo Costabel	Jesse A. Lucy	Darren A. Thorneycroft
Matthew Davis	Patrick T. Madden	Gregory D. Troxel
Reedy Downs	Cassy L. Marshall	Frank B. Turberville, Jr.
Claudia I. Eccles	Guy C. McLendon	Allan Vickery
Paul D. Eccles	David F. Metsker	Susan Waddell
Richard J. Edgar	E. A. Milz	Dale R. Warren
Dwight L. Ennis	David J. Misco	Dan White
Randall H. Enterline	Stephen W. Modzelewski	Aaron L. Wieland
Daniel Fishman	Bessie M. Moore	Daniel P. Wiener
Brenda J. Francis	Brandon Morin	Jennifer K. Wornath
Patrick Gillilan	George W. Mowbray	Alan Yottey

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

Libertarian Ken Moellman to run for state treasurer

Louisville Courier-Journal, July 26, 2011

Ken Moellman, a 34-year-old information-technology professional who lives in Pendleton County, says he has collected the signatures of about 7,000 registered voters in a bid to run for state treasurer.

Moellman, past chairman of the Libertarian Party of Kentucky, said he is advocating elimination of the state treasurer's post, which he called "the most useless office in state government."

Todd Hollenbach IV, the Democrat who currently holds the office, and Republican K. C. Crosbie, a member of the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Council, are the major party candidates in the race....

He said he has taken polls that show him with about 5 percent public support, and he said his campaign has raised and spent more than \$10,000. He also has set up a campaign website and has named several campaign coordinators.

Protest held outside sheriffs convention

Daytona Beach News-Journal, August 1, 2011

The Transportation Security Administration last year began giving U.S. air travelers a choice: Submit to a scanner that could produce a crude image of their naked bodies, volunteer for a "patdown" or don't fly.

About 50 activists gathered Sunday outside the Ocean Center and Daytona Hilton Oceanfront Resort, where the Florida Sheriffs Association Convention was getting under way. The protesters want the sheriffs to enforce state laws against sexual molestation when TSA agents perform patdowns that are too intrusive....

Adrian Wyllie, the Libertarian Party chairman, said the U.S. Constitution's Fourth Amendment guarantees all Americans the right to be secure against unreasonable government searches.

"It's unacceptable the federal government is violating the Bill of Rights," he said....

The protest, organized by the Libertarian Party of Florida, also featured an author, activist and former Arizona sheriff, Richard Mack, who argued agents of the federal government should have no more right to grope people than criminals would.

Seven Percent of North Carolina Income Tax Filers Who Helped a Political Party with a Small Donation Chose Libertarian Party

Ballot Access News, July 25, 2011

North Carolina, and eleven other states, lets state income tax filers choose a political party that they wish to help. North Carolina taxpayers can choose to send \$3 to the ballot-qualified party of their choice, by checking a box on the form.

For the income tax returns that have come in during the period July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011, 6.9% of the taxpayers who participated chose the Libertarian Party. 59.3% chose the Democratic Party, and 33.8% chose the Republican Party. This is the highest share for any minor party, in any state, since Ballot Access News has been tracking this data. The North Carolina Libertarian Party will have received \$47,646 from the tax returns filed during the last twelve months, after it requests the money.

The September 1, 2012 print edition of Ballot Access News will have a chart showing this data for all twelve states that have this type of program.