

LIBERTY PLEDGE

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May 2007

newsletter

Record Slate of Libertarian Party Candidates in New Jersey

Most states hold their statewide elections in even numbered years, but not New Jersey. In 2007 New Jersey will elect a new state legislature. This November, the voters will see a record number of Libertarian candidates on their ballots.

The NJLP nominated 23 candidates in convention in March. This includes 21 for State Assembly and one each for State Senate and Mercer County local office. You can find the list of NJLP candidates at <http://njlp.org/candidates/>. This list may continue to grow as filing deadlines approach for both state and local offices.

NJLP Chair Lou Jasikoff said their plan to run as many candidates as possible is, "ambitious for sure, and doubted by more than a few."

However, Jasikoff continued, "The opportunities it gives us all to put the party in the forefront of New Jersey politics are endless."

New Jersey Libertarians have learned the lessons from other states which have tried the full slate strategy. "We as a party must then support our candidates," said Jasikoff, "because too often in the past they had to go this alone. They not only represent themselves when running, but they represent us and our party, and therefore need and deserve our help and assistance."

To that end, the NJLP has put together a candidate support team, which includes Jeff Hetrick developing candidate websites, Peg Hunsicker working on press releases, Frank Warren hosting a workshop for all candidates at the convention,

and Joseph Dunsay coordinating volunteers. Jasikoff added, "The list goes on but so do our needs if this is going to succeed."

The state party is also busy coordinating events involving participation by all their candidates and volunteers. On May 20th, the NJLP will be holding a "Walk Across New Jersey." Jasikoff described it this way, "Led by our State Senate candidate in the 10th district Jim Miller and the memorial wheelchair, we will be traveling the same path he has taken in the past in his efforts to get medical marijuana passed. Our message will be if 'the current legislators neither have the heart nor the courage to pass such legislation we have the candidates that will.'"

In case of inclement weather, the make up date for the "Walk Across New Jersey" is May 27th.

Sean Haugh, who manages the Candidate Tracker program for the Libertarian Party, said, "this strategy does a great job of energizing the current party base as well as bringing in new volunteers. The vast majority of party members want us to act like a real political party and run candidates, period. When we do that, they get excited and come out of the woodwork. This is New Jersey's opportunity to show leadership to the rest of our state parties, and they are making the most of it."

As we approach November these campaigns will start heating up. Keep checking the Candidate Tracker on the home page of www.LP.org to see how our candidates in New Jersey and across the country are doing.



Websites of Interest to Members of the Libertarian Party

For those who wish to find out more information about the Libertarian Party on the Internet, www.LP.org is the obvious first place to start. From our heavily visited website, one can easily find the latest news scoops about Libertarian victories, media attained and commentary on today's events at the Libertarian Party weblog. There are additional websites which also have a considerable amount of Libertarian Party information on them, as well.

Are you curious about where that cool LP T-shirt you saw a few weeks ago was probably purchased? For those of you who wish to purchase Libertarian Party branded material or pamphlets on political issues, www.LPStuff.com is the place to visit. Some of the newest accessories include LP cuff links, key chains and T-shirts. Bumper stickers, campaign materials and even books are also available on the site.

Did you know that the Libertarian Party of New York was one of the first Libertarian parties to or-

ganize and run candidates in the US. It was originally named the "Free Libertarian Party" to prevent confusion with New York's Liberal Party. Its first state chair was Ed Clark, who was also the 1980 LP presi-

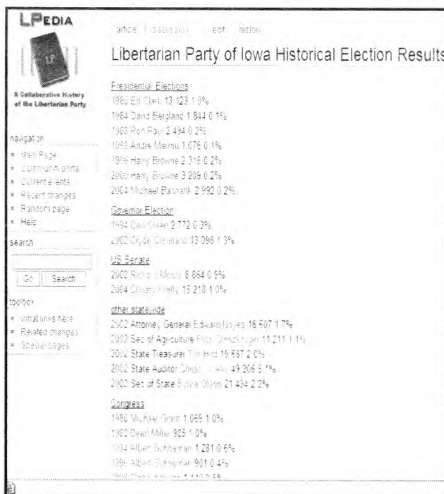
but also to allow you to update information presently available on the website.

Another important site is *Ballot Access News*, which is located at www.BallotAccess.org. Edited by ballot access guru Richard Winger, the site maintains a blog filled with daily news about the latest in electoral reform issues and ballot access endeavors. It also provides copies of the monthly newsletters, which are great sources for any one interested in ballot access information. Whether keeping up to date with national ballot access issues or merely trying to determine the filing requirements in your own state, *Ballot Access News* is a must for the serious Libertarian activist.

Another source of interesting information about third-party politics is www.ThirdPartyWatch.com. Founded by Austin Cassidy, the blog-styled site covers a considerable amount of media coverage pertaining to the independent and third-party world. Additionally, it has provided several interviews of Libertarian Party personalities and provided outstanding coverage of the 2006 Libertarian National Convention in Portland, Oregon.

Aside from the LP National Convention, the most important national gathering of Libertarians is called the Libertarian State Leadership Alliance Conference. Originally called the State Chairs Conference, the LSLA website is located at www.StateChairs.org. In addition to learning about the next annual conference, reports are available from conferences dating back to 2001.

Finally, a site of importance to all LP members should be www.LPConvention.org. The 2008 version of the site is currently under construction and expected to be released before this newsletter hits your mailbox. From this site, you will be able to obtain the latest information about the Libertarian National Convention, to be held in Denver in May 2008, Memorial Day weekend. You'll be able to register for the convention, learn about the hotel where the convention will be held, find things to do in the area, keep track of the speaker line-up, and much, much more.



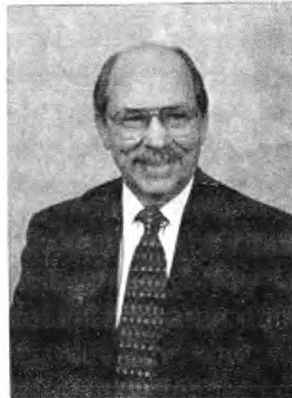
dential candidate. If you are more interested in LP attire, www.LPedia.org is a great site to check out.

LPedia allows site visitors to compile a collaborative community online encyclopedia about Libertarian Party organizations, personalities and activities. The site is not only geared to place important Libertarian Party information at your fingertips,

Dr. Sendelbach to Run in GA CD-10 Orlando, Florida — March 16, 2007

Following the death of Republican Congressman Charlie Norwood in Georgia's Tenth Congressional District, a special election has been called by Governor Sonny Perdue to fill the seat. There will be ten candidates on the June 19th ballot: six Republicans, three Democrats and one Libertarian. With this many candidates involved, a run-off election seems almost a certainty.

"Not only will all of us fortunate enough to call [Charlie Norwood a] friend and colleague miss him deeply, but his principled voice and actions will be sorely missed by all Americans who he represented so ably in the Congress," wrote Bob Barr in his blog. The former Congressman and currently LNC member is reported to have been close to Norwood.



Dr. Jim Sendelbach

Libertarian Party candidate Dr. Jim Sendelbach explained, "My political beliefs are in line with Dr. Norwood's, and I intend to carry forward his legacy of fighting bureaucracy, government waste and abuse."

Sendelbach, a former Democrat, believes the three major issues facing Americans are health care, illegal immigration and government intrusion into citizen's lives.

As a healthcare provider, Sendelbach is particularly concerned that insurance companies look out more for themselves than the people they insure. "The climbing costs and decreasing benefits are a huge concern for everyone," Sendelbach explained. "We need to make things easier for Americans, without letting government take over health care."

While fundraising totals haven't been made public, campaign insiders suggest that Sendelbach's campaign is competitive from a third party perspective. They've had several large

contributions, including a significant one from Bob Barr.

This will be the first time in history that Georgia has placed an LP member in a U.S. House race. While the Georgia Libertarian Party has been able to run candidates for U.S. Senate at times they have had statewide ballot access, the signature requirement has been prohibitive for House races. Because this is a Special Election, according to Georgia election law, the signature requirement has been replaced by a rather expensive filing fee. The race is officially considered non-partisan, however, Sendelbach will be listed on the ballot as a Libertarian."

"A run-off seems certain," wrote campaign Press Secretary Marshall McCart in an e-mail to LPHQ. "And even though this is a strong

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Welcome to the Liberty Pledge Club!

Michael Abrams
John Boyer
Robert Gump
Todd Hedgcoth
Mark Hiselman
Evan Hughes
Michelle Kingston
Todd Levan
Joseph Lewis
Robert Merrill
Stephen Modzelewski
James Powell
Daniel Quaid
Rebecca Reynolds
Frank Robinson
Eric Ruuhela
William Spitsbergen
Jack Wilcox

Thank you for your generous support!

Comedian Stanhope Drops Presidential Bid

Earlier this year, stand-up comedian Doug Stanhope had declared his intention to run for president as a Libertarian Party candidate. He's now dropped the race, primarily because of campaign finance reform laws. Since the *Washington Times* was the first mainstream source to pick up the story, here's their angle:

"Stanhope says he is withdrawing from the race because of Federal Elections Commission rules that prevent him from discussing his political views while simultaneously earning an income from his comedic performances.

"In an email to supporters, Stanhope writes: 'For all of our false optimism, forced enthusiasm and the tireless effort of a small team of close friends, we couldn't get past the wall of bureaucracy.'

"The idea that I could run an effective campaign rested on the fact that I tour constantly for a living and have a built-in audience and media wherever I go. FEC rules would not allow for me to campaign at paid gigs while also retaining a personal income from those shows."

Because Stanhope's comedic activities operate under a corporate entity, the FEC won't even

allow him to even bring up a platform or political position during his stage performances.

If this standard was applied equally to all candidates, we would guess that Obama, Edwards and Clinton couldn't mention political issues from the Senate floor.

For years, Libertarians have called BCRA the Incumbency Protection Racket. It's called the **Bi**-partisan Campaign Reform Act for a reason.

One wonders if Senator McCain will renounce the McCain-Feingold Act now that the FEC has eliminated one of McCain's competitors in the presidential race.

Stanhope was scheduled to appear on Howard Stern to officially announce his campaign in May. Instead of making the announcement, he ended up explaining why he was ending his presidential bid.

It shouldn't be up to the Republicans and Democrats who serve as FEC commissioners to determine the LP presidential candidate. That's *our* job and why we will be holding our national convention in Denver next year.

Sending Sendelbach to Congress

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Republican district, there are six of them. If Dr. Jim could somehow make it to the run-off, we think that all bets would be off -- that anything could happen."

Sendelbach earned a B.A. in philosophy from Holy Apostles College and Seminary in Cromwell, Conn., and an M.A. in theology from The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. He earned a doctorate degree in counseling psychology from Argosy University's Sarasota, FL campus (formerly the University of Sarasota). He is a Licensed Professional Counselor and a Certified Forensic Addictions Examiner. He is a Vietnam-era US Army veteran, having enlisted in 1963.

He is currently the chief operating officer and principal therapist at Anchor Point, Inc., where he provides psychological services including testing, education, therapy (including neurotherapy) and a substance abuse program. His previous posts include: Director of Religious Education, Pastoral Counselor, and Clinical Research Coordinator.

Jim Sendelbach and his wife, Dr. Susan Sendelbach, have been married for 24 years and have made their home in Conyers for the past 15 years. More information about his campaign may be found at www.sendselbach.com or on their MySpace page at myspace.com/sendselbach.