

LIBERTY PLEDGE

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July 2006 *newsletter*

William Redpath Elected New Libertarian National Committee Chairman in Portland

On the final day of the Libertarian Party National Convention in Portland, Oregon, financial consultant and Certified Public Accountant, William Redpath, was elected to the Libertarian Party's top post. Redpath received 64% of attending delegates' votes.

Involved with the LP since 1984, Mr. Redpath has been a truly exceptional party member and a leader from the start. His distinguished record of service and his many accomplishments within the party on a state and national level are a clear example to fellow Libertarians.

Mr. Redpath recently completed a term as an at-large member of the LNC and will continue his duties as Ballot Access Project Manager during his term as Chairman. Mr. Redpath's previous offices included two terms as Treasurer of the LNC and extensive work with the non-profit organization, FairVote. FairVote's mission is to "promote voter turnout, fair representation, inclusive policy, and meaningful choices" in elections, a cause to which Mr. Redpath is deeply devoted.



As well as being a committed member of the LNC, Mr. Redpath has also represented the Libertarian Party in several elections. In 2001, he became the first Libertarian candidate for Governor in the Commonwealth of Virginia and Bill has also competed in elections for the Virginia House of Delegates and the Virginia Senate.

Outside of his work with the Libertarian Party, Bill is a Vice-President of Consulting for BIA Financial Network, Inc., a financial consulting and valuation firm

that specializes in the appraisal of broadcasting, cable, and telecommunications properties. He is a Certified Public Accountant, a Chartered Financial Analyst, and Accredited Senior Appraiser in Business Valuation in the American Society of Appraisers and holds the Accredited in Business Valuation designation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

A native of Ohio, Bill attended Indiana University and the University of Chicago. He and his wife, Melinda, currently reside in Leesburg, Virginia.

Libertarian Party Headquarters congratulates Bill on his new post and looks forward to working with him in the coming years.

The recently elected LNC is comprised of the following members:

Executive Committee

Chair—Bill Redpath
Vice Chair—Chuck Moulton
Secretary—Bob Sullentrup
Treasurer—Geoffrey Neale

At-Large Representatives

Angela Keaton
Patrick Dixon
Adm. Michael Colley
Jeremy Keil
Dan Karlan

Regional Representatives

Region 1—Tony Ryan	Julie Fox (Alt.)
Region 2—M Carling	Scott Lieberman (Alt.)
Aaron Starr	Richard Burke (Alt.)
Region 3—Emily Salvette	Rebecca Sink-Burris (Alt.)
Region 4—Mark Bodenhausen	Stewart Flood (Alt.)
Region 5—Dr. Jim Lark	Steve Damerall (Alt.)
Region 6—Wes Benedict	Nancy Neale (Alt.)
Region 7—Hardy Machia	Eric Sundwall (Alt.)

Have questions about your membership or need assistance with your pledge? Visit our website at www.lp.org or email us at pledge@lp.org, or call (202) 333-0008.

Libertarian Party Launches Online GOTV Application

While the Libertarian Party is smaller than their Republican and Democrat counterparts, sometimes being smaller can provide a distinct strategic advantage. Party officials unveiled the LP's new GOTV (Get Out the Vote) project last Sunday at the Libertarian National Convention. The project, dubbed Ballot Base, is administered online at www.BallotBase.org.

"By combining online volunteer activity with the LP's Ballot Base, we can now utilize our national online volunteer base to target specific races," said John LaBeaume, the Party's national campaign coordinator. "As the other parties are fielding more candidates, it's tougher for them to effectively apply national resources to each and every race."

The Ballot Base allows activists to volunteer online. Once they've logged into the system, they are given a targeted calling script and a telephone number to dial from their personal telephone. The scripts are currently targeted based on voter registration information. Independents, Libertarians, Republicans and Democrats all receive custom tailored live messages from callers.

While exploring options to develop this project, the LP staff received quotes that began at \$10,000 per participating state; half-a-million dollars for national deployment. As a result, the project was nearly shelved because of the overwhelming costs. In a final attempt to get the project off the ground, the LP began consideration of developing the product internally. They sent out an e-mail asking for volunteers and advice. The volunteer base came though and the project was officially announced at their national convention.

The Ballot Base had already received some attention before it was officially launched. A test run of the new political tool was performed in California's 50th Congressional District, where Libertarian Paul King was running for the seat vacated by Duke Cunningham. King was opposed by Republican Brian Bilbray and Democrat Francine Busby. The LP's new Ballot Base helped the Libertarian candidate to more than triple his number of votes.

Congratulations and Thank You to All Our New Pledgers!

Without the continued support of our monthly pledgers, so much of the valuable work we have accomplished in recent months would have never even begun. Many thank go to our new pledgers and to those of you who have supported the LP for many years. Congratulations to the winners of the LP iPod raffle, Bill Dunlap and Gary Brunner!

Deborah S. Gordon
David M. Warden
Robert D. McWilliams
Andrew LeCureax
John Shuey
Joel Mountain
Inessa M. Hamilton-lee
Richard D. Bonesteel
Patric Brock
Arne Mortensen
Charlie Warfield
Douglas C. Bates
Charles T Van Dusen
Ann Loudermilk
Gordon J. Bakken
William B. Stutler
Bernard B. Carman
Lech Dabrowski
Gerald Serafino
Stephen P. Gordon
Donovan Moore
Alana N. Garberoglio
Wayne E. Klemme
Julia Fox

John M. Adams
Michael R. Houze
Sean T. Mccarson
Richard Granson
Stephen L. Dasbach
Harland A. Machia
Cheree Dumas
Mark W. Hinkle
Bud Raymond
Geoffrey J. Neale
Sandra L. Kallander
Brendan Kelly
Nicholas Sarwark
Jon Airheart
Scott K. Lindsley
James Begley
R J. Duensing
Guy C. McLendon
Robert W. Schubring
Steve Boone
Rich Shepard
Derek Pomery
Albert J. Segalla

Thank you to all of the Liberty Pledge Club members who were able attend the Pledge Reception at the National Convention in Portland, OR. It was great to finally meet you!

Bruce Guthrie Running a Strong Campaign for US Senate in Washington State

The Libertarian Will Appear on the General Election Ballot in November

Bruce Guthrie, a resident of Bellingham, Washington, is pursuing the U.S. Senate seat up for election in Washington this November. Guthrie, a graduate of Cornell and Northwestern Universities, is a professor at Western Washington University in Bellingham and the co-founder of Kellogg Worldwide Experience and Service Trips (KWEST, an outdoor activities and volunteer program for students).

Bruce previously ran for U.S. Congress in the 2nd District in 2002 and 2004, receiving the highest number of votes per campaign dollar spent of any candidate in the race. His campaigns were in opposition to the war in Iraq and the Patriot Act while they supported marriage equality and medicinal marijuana.

The current Guthrie campaign platform is focused on three main planks: A Policy of Peace, A Culture of Freedom, and A Legacy of Hope.

A Policy of Peace would end the American occupation of Iraq, reduce the number of troops permanently stationed abroad, and retain an all-volunteer military. Guthrie says, "In this election there is one dominant issue: the war in Iraq. Both my Democratic and Republican opponents want to keep US troops in Iraq until the Iraqis 'stand up.' I'm calling to immediately bring our troops home as swiftly as their safety permits."

Guthrie's second plank, A Culture of Freedom, would hold the DC leadership accountable for their disregard of liberty and freedom. If elected, Bruce would fight to end domestic spying programs and reform the Patriot Act, recognize an individual's right to medical freedom, and demand equality under the law for all individuals by recognizing marriage equality, ending the ban on gays in the military, and extending naturaliza-

tion rights to same-sex couples. "I'm running because I have a vision of a free and peaceful America that respects the rights of every individual. For too long now, the Democratic and Republican leadership has been moving us away from that vision. I'm determined to reverse that trend."

Finally, Guthrie's Legacy of Hope would attempt to preserve America for our children and grandchildren by eliminating budget deficits, keeping promises to senior citizens and veterans, and restoring faith in our democratic system.

On July 8th, Guthrie was notified that he qualified to appear on the general election ballot as the Libertarian candidate for U.S. Senator. The Guthrie campaign collected 2,200 signatures at nominating conventions in 5 different Washington cities in June. Unlike his Republican and Democratic counterparts, Guthrie will not have to face a primary election.

Guthrie is running a strong, well-organized campaign and has appeared on the Quality News Network, *Up Front* with Robert Mak. His campaign has also been endorsed by the Libertarian Party of Washington State.

Bruce is a passionate outdoorsman with a long history of service to his community as a teacher, coach, and volunteer. His campaign serves as an excellent example to an aspiring Libertarian office-holder.



Have a libertarian organization that you'd like to see profiled in Liberty Pledge News? Interested in being profiled in Liberty Pledge News yourself? Contact the staff at pledge@lp.org for details.

Libertarian Party Moves Forward as 'Party of Principle' at 2006 National Convention

Stronger Focus Placed on Politics

By the close of the 2006 Libertarian National Convention that took place in Portland, OR, on July 1 and 2, it was clear that history had been made. While delegates conducted their standard business of electing new Libertarian National Party leadership and modifying the party bylaws, they also made a significant statement by changing the party's platform. The platform was pared down from 61 planks to 15 with the Libertarian Party Statement of Principles as the guiding philosophy behind the platform. While the platform has been trimmed, the guiding principles behind it remain unmodified.

"To understand this move by the delegates, you have to have a clear understanding of what the platform is and what impact it has on our candidates, elected officials and the party as a whole," said the Libertarian Party's executive director Shane Cory. "What has changed is the level of detail we provide in our policy statements as described within the body of the platform." To some degree, platform changes were a matter of housekeeping. For three decades, platform planks had been piling on top of one another, making it difficult for the casual observer to navigate through the various policy positions of the Libertarian Party. Some of these planks were eliminated while others were consolidated. Additionally, modifications were made to update the language used in certain planks.

"Consider it a move that we would love the federal government to make. We've reduced our own party bureaucracy to allow our candidates to express their own viewpoints while holding true to our statement of principles," said Cory. "Our candidates will no longer be governed by a slate of restrictions and guidelines jumbled together over a few decades. They will be given the freedom to address each issue on its own merit without restriction by some supposed higher authority.

"The delegates of the 2006 Libertarian National Convention freed candidates for office to address issues with reason and in real time. For that, they should be applauded. Now we can get down to the business of 'moving public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office.'

"If there was any mandate from this convention, it's that an overwhelming majority of the delegates wished to engage in the activities which help us conduct and win elections. Our theme of 'Uniting Voters' was persistent throughout the convention."

The platform is divided clearly into four major area headings: Individual rights and civil order, trade and the economy, domestic ills and foreign affairs. Each section is divided into planks with individual rights and civil order containing nine planks and foreign affairs just one. Each plank is carefully divided into sections laying out the issue, the Libertarian principle guiding our solution, our solution, and most importantly, a call for a "transitional action" which would bridge

the gap between the status quo and the libertarian solution.

One area on the platform that has experienced significant revision is the Libertarian Party's stance on immigration. In its new platform, the LP recognizes the necessity of border control in the modern world and calls for secure borders with free entry to all those who meet certain simple and clear requirements.

For more information on the changes to the platform, or to view the new platform in its entirety, visit http://www.lp.org/issues/platform_all.shtml.



Would you like to become a major donor to the Libertarian Party? For a monthly pledge of only \$85 you can become a member of the elite Torch Club. For details contact pledge@lp.org or call (202) 333-0008.