

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 November 2010

2010 Election Results— A Mixed Bag

*By Wes Benedict
Executive Director
Libertarian National Committee*

Election Day is always tough for Libertarians, even when we show improvement.

We are seeing some improvements, (see state reports on the following pages), and we have some wins to report for smaller offices.

However, I can't say we've seen the dramatic breakthroughs this election that we always hope for and dream about.

While I consider myself a realist and try to manage expectations, I'm also quite optimistic and always want to be prepared. We have to do everything we can to be prepared for whenever opportunities present themselves.

Many of us were hoping that the Tea Parties would produce a bigger backlash against both the Republicans and Democrats. We had lots of candidates for Congress on the ballot in case that happened. (And I want to see even more Libertarians run for Congress in future elections.)

Instead, it seems a lot of voters simply switched back from the Democratic Party to the Republicans, or they just stayed home.

It appears our average percentages improved some, but not dramatically. For example, fifteen of our candidates for U.S. House (running against both a Republican and Democrat) got over 5 percent of the vote. That's way up from previous elections. Also, two of our candidates for U.S. Senate (running against both a Republican and Democrat) got over 4 percent, which hasn't happened since 2000.

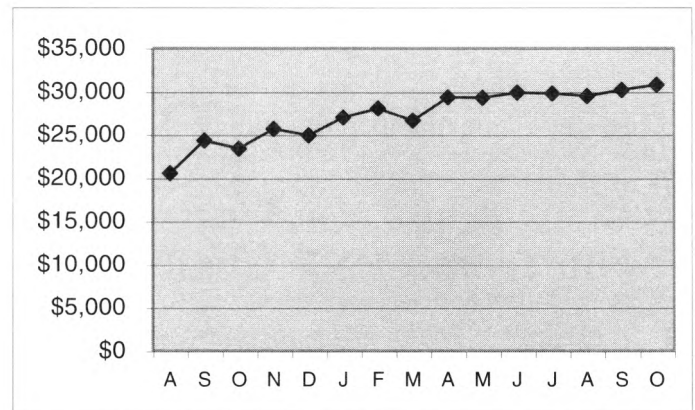
We'll try to have more complete details and analysis in an upcoming issue of *LP News* and at LP.org.

In the meantime, it looks like Republicans and Democrats will go back to growing government, taking away our civil liberties, and pursuing a destructive foreign policy.

Some of our candidates become very disappointed by the election results, especially those who were expecting to win. But many of our candidates (often those with more realistic expectations who "pace themselves") enjoy their experience, learn a lot, and are eager to run again to spread the Libertarian message and increase their vote percentage next time. Win or lose, all our candidates make a difference.

We had a goal of distributing 1 million Libertarian door hangers. That was certainly a stretch goal. We purchased 900,000, and it looks like we have shipped over 650,000 to activists. The remaining door hangers will continue to be useful, and we have continued to receive requests for them since Election Day.

And thanks to you, our monthly pledge remains above the \$30,000 level.



Thanks again.

Libertarian Party: On the Trail

Congratulations and a Heartfelt Thank You to Our Libertarian Candidates

from the Missouri LP, November 3, 2010

Congratulations and a heartfelt Thank You to all our Libertarian candidates and to everyone who voted Libertarian.

With 99.8% of precincts reporting, **Jonathan Dine** received 3% and **Charles Baum** received 3.7% in our two statewide races, well over the 2% requirement to retain ballot access without petitioning for the next four years. Great Job!

Also, Baum's vote total of over 70,000 votes is a new record for a Libertarian in Missouri!

Without looking at County races, our highest percentage in a 4-way race is **Kevin Kobe** for State Rep District 51 with 4%. Our highest percentage in a 3-way race is **Kevin Craig** with 6.2% for US House Dist. 7. Our highest percentage race is **Sean O'Toole** for State Rep District 40 (2-way race) with 33%. Congrats to you all!

Also, our vote percentages are higher across the board for our statewide and congressional races than in 2008.

Once again, we bested the CP in every race in which we went against them, though it does appear they will retain ballot access with Beck garnering 2.1% of the vote.

Thanks again to you all for your hard work to keep the flame of Liberty burning in Missouri.

Statement on New York election results from LPNY Chair

from the New York LP, November 3, 2010

As many of you are aware, the **Redlich/Link** team garnered almost 45,000 votes so far (44,699 with 97% of the precincts reporting), or 1.1% of the total votes cast. That number is likely to

increase slightly when absentee and military ballots are counted after November 14.

I am proud of this tremendous showing for the Libertarian Party, which practically doubled our previous best result of 24,611 in 1990.

And this great result came right after the most successful petition drive in the history of the LPNY in which we submitted more than double the statist requirements.

In particular, I am proud of the Warren's fine showing in the Governor's debate at Hofstra and the dozens of radio and television interviews each of our candidates secured, from Randy's appearances on NY1 and Talk1300 to Warren's interviews on YNN, WPIX and many, many radio stations throughout the State. We ran TV and radio ads, had a campaign song and experienced grassroots enthusiasm. Our media exposure and debate success is the best explanation for 45,000 votes, especially given our limited financial resources and the innate predisposition of the media against independent candidacies.

Mark Axinn

Chair, Libertarian Party of New York

The Libertarian Party of Indiana Maintains Ballot Access for Four More Years

from the Indiana LP, November 3, 2010

The Libertarian Party of Indiana will maintain ballot access for four more years because of their achievement of six percent in the Secretary of State race. Libertarian **Mike Wherry** earned 100,847 votes which is the highest number of votes cast for a single candidate in the LPIN's history.

Automatic ballot access is granted to a political party that reaches two percent of the vote while the ten percent mark enters a political party in to the primary system. In 2006, **Mike Kole** received 54,381 (3.3%) votes. **Rebecca Sink-Burris** was the

Libertarian Party: On the Trail

party's candidate in 2002, and received 60,937 (4.1%) votes.

"Throughout the campaign, I can't count the times I heard people say they agree with Libertarians, but feel they're wasting a vote," said Wherry. "Last night, we proved once again that our libertarian philosophy is spreading across the state. Our team topped 100,000 votes for the first time in the Secretary of State's race. This means our county organizations and their candidates can continue their growth without the burden of petitioning."

Wherry continues, "With municipal elections around the corner, maintaining our ballot access was critical. It's this level where we stand to really see victories. Admittedly, it's tough to compete in a statewide race as a third party. But, when put in a local race where we know our neighbors, have been active in service clubs, and our churches, we will be very tough competition. We can't compete if we have to expend our resources just to get on the ballot. That's why last night's record vote total was so important."

State Chair **Sam Goldstein** shared Wherry's point of view.

"Ballot access is the key to our survival as the state's only third party," said Goldstein. "In

many races across the state, we were the only other choice in many local and state races. We view electoral competition to be as important to the health of Indiana as economic competition."

New and renewing Liberty Pledgers

Efren H. Arjona	Preston Harris	Timothy Payne
Mark Augustyn	Kelly F. Hawker	John N. Prentice
Michael Bankston	Michael T. Hume	Blair M. Priest
Scott Berkey	Vickie Huwe	William E. Ramage
Paul A. Brown	Bradley J. Johnson	Joe E. Retford
Robert Mark Chapman	Richard K. Judt	Paul D. Rolig
Martin H. Coalson	Anton V. Karpov	Stephanie E. Russell
Travis Cook	Vicki Kirkland	Neal Rzepkowski
Robert C. Cornish	John E. Kite	Kirk Singh
Geoffrey Costner	Eric Knipe	William M. Sloane
David G. Cruse	Shawn S. Levasseur	Cyril B. Smaling
Marian L. Dalton	Jeff Long	William J. Smith
Kerry G. Daniel	Michael R. Marston	Scott Stephens
Brandon B. De Hoyos	Thomas L. Marzec	Carolyn Swanson
Patrick J. Dixon	Thomas P. Mathers	Andrew S. Talley
Mark Droste	James J. McGill	William Thornton
Jerry Emans	Stephen McIntosh	Colleen M. Trask
John England	Mariellen Miller	Matthew J. Turner
John P. Evans	Eric M. Milner	Justin VanHoozer
Melanie Folstad	Jordan Moss	Andrew A. Walker
Bart J. Geraci	Stan L. O'Dell	Doug Webb
Patrick Gillilan	Jeremy J. Oehlert	Gene Weeks
Raymond A. Hallenbeck	Harold Owens	Timothy White
Wayne E. Harley	John G. Parks	Christian K. Wilson

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

U.S. Senate race

AP / Roanoke Rapids Daily Herald, October 16, 2010

RALEIGH (AP) — **Mike Beitler** was once so frustrated with politics he didn't bother voting for several years over the past decade.

• But the professor at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro business school found motivation within the Libertarian Party and a bid as its U.S. Senate candidate. He hopes now to turn what had been his own discontent into momentum to attract other citizens who feel neither major party has fixed problems in Washington.

Beitler, 56, is an ex-banking executive and host of a weekly Internet radio show who lives in Oak Ridge. A former registered Republican, Beitler said he switched to the Libertarians about five years ago because he was attracted to their platform of less government and free markets but also tolerance on social issues....

"I was politically homeless until I found the Libertarian Party," Beitler said. He's for abortion rights, is OK with gay marriage and features prominently on his Web page his endorsement by the North Carolina Cannabis Patients Network, since he wants marijuana use and possession decriminalized.

Candidates in last-minute push to Election Day

North County Times (California), October 29, 2010

The youngest Congressional candidate in the region, 26-year-old Libertarian **Mike Paster** of Fallbrook, said if he doesn't win this time, he will run against Issa again in 2012.

"It's been really rewarding," Paster said of his first run for elective office. "I feel I'm doing the right thing and that people are more accepting of the Libertarian point of view."

U.S. Congress District 5: Chard Reid

Indianapolis Star, October 22, 2010

...Neither [Democrat] Crawford nor [Republican] Burton responded to invitations to meet with The Star's Editorial Board. Independent Jesse Trueblood and Libertarian **Chard Reid** did. Both were impressive....

Reid, a young economics teacher at Plainfield High School, has taken the fight to Burton on taxes and the deficit. He maintains that the 14-termer has not worked for systemic change despite his conservative persona. Reid also offers thoughtful ideas for cutting spending, simplifying the tax code and reforming entitlements.

Reid represents the best of Libertarian small-government ideals. He would be a refreshing departure from the incumbent's complacency and cavalier attitude toward ethics.

Bain pushes for small government

News Leader (Virginia), October 31, 2010

...[Libertarian **Stuart Bain**] also emphasizes the Libertarian principle of not just less, but minimal government. He opposes health care mandates, social insurance and what he considers a web of licensing and regulations that intrude upon personal liberty, states' rights and industry.

"What really differentiates the other two candidates from me is that they believe the government has first dibs on your time, your life and your productivity," Bain said.

"I decided that I would rather run for Congress knowing that I stood by my principles instead of trying to bow to some particular party," he said.