

LIBERTY PLEDGE

NEWSLETTER

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Congressman Ron Paul's Presidential Bid Impacting LP Discussions

By Wes Benedict
Executive Director
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Congressman Ron Paul recently announced his entry into the Republican primary for president. Congressman Paul was the 1988 Libertarian nominee for president, and he is still a Lifetime Member of the Libertarian Party.

It's unclear how this might affect the Libertarian Party in the long term. In the short term it certainly has been a significant topic of discussion amongst Libertarians.

We receive lots of emails and phone calls about Ron Paul and people bring him up frequently in online discussions on our Facebook page.

People ask if the Libertarian Party will support Ron Paul or if Ron Paul will run as a Libertarian.

This seems quite similar to what happened leading up to the 2008 presidential election. Lots of election laws and our own party by-laws govern this situation and I don't have space to get in to all of that here.

On the positive side, it's good to see libertarian ideas reaching people outside of the Libertarian Party.

On the negative side, I do get worried when the conversations get confrontational and you have Libertarian Party members and libertarian-minded Republican Ron Paul supporters fighting with each other, when perhaps they'd be better off leaving each other alone and spending their time in more productive ways.

It's a sensitive area and one that I'll try to address in a more helpful way in the near future,

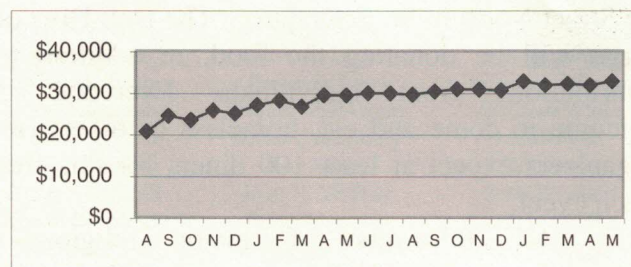
and I expect other Libertarian Party leaders will have to address this topic more in the upcoming months.

In any case, I've often said our liberties won't be secure until Republicans, Democrats, and Libertarians are all fighting with each other over the best ways to reduce government.

We're nowhere near that situation yet.

Our monthly pledge reached \$32,686 in May, which set a new record by slightly surpassing our January total of \$32,655.

We're shooting for \$33,000 in June and I'm cautiously optimistic that we'll make it due to the errors we corrected as described in last month's newsletter.



The LNC recently adopted a budget of \$1,324,500 for 2011. As of the end of April, we had raised \$405,347, which leaves us at \$36,153 behind budget for the year.

While our revenue is behind, we have kept expenses low. One result of holding down expenses, however, is that we haven't been able to invest in as many growth opportunities as we'd like to. So, fundraising and building membership will continue to be a top priority.

I hope you have a nice summer in spite of the rough economy.

Thanks again to our monthly pledgers for providing the base of support that is so critical to the financial health of our party.

Our staff and volunteers throughout the country are doing their best fighting for freedom.

Libertarian Party: On the Trail

Libertarians Protest Feeding Ban By Offering Free Lunch At City Hall

from the Florida LP, May 13, 2011

ST. PETERSBURG - The Libertarian Party of Pinellas County (LPPC) will be serving free lunch on the steps of St. Petersburg city hall on Saturday to protest the proposed ordinance to ban feeding the homeless in downtown parks. Libertarians believe that the proposed ordinance is a violation of the First Amendment.

The proposed St. Pete ban would require a permit for feeding groups of more than 25 in public parks, and would limit permits to two per year.

The event will be held on Saturday, May 14, 2011, from noon to 1pm in front of city hall at 175 5th Street North in St. Petersburg. The Deli Diva of Largo will be donating the food, in addition to contributions from individuals. Everyone is welcome to come and eat, homeless or otherwise. Organizers expect at least 100 diners for this free lunch event.

"All followers of major religions—Christianity, Judaism, Islam—are compelled to be charitable and to feed the hungry," said LPPC Chairman **Greg Bowen**, "The City of St. Petersburg wants us to practice our religion on their terms, and that is unconstitutional."...

"When you criminalize charity, you guarantee that people in need will become dependent on government," said **Adrian Wyllie**, chairman of the state Libertarian Party. "The last thing any government should do is to outlaw compassion for one's fellow man."

Libertarian Party of Texas Announces Opposition to SB 9

from the Texas LP, May 9, 2011

AUSTIN - Senate Bill 9 will be heard by the Texas House's Homeland Security & Public Safety Committee on Tuesday, May 10, 2011 at 8:30 a.m. at the Texas Capitol Room E2.026. The Libertarian Party of Texas opposes SB 9, which would bring Texas into compliance with the unconstitutional and unfunded federal Real ID Act of 2005.

The Real ID Act calls for national standards for state-issued driver licenses and non-driver identification cards, supposedly for securing national borders and protecting against terrorism. It would nationalize driver licenses, effectively turning them into national ID cards, which would be required to fly on commercial airlines, enter government buildings and open bank accounts, to name a few. Many states have passed resolutions or binding legislation to not participate in the program, and many bills introduced in Congress have called for its repeal.

"There was a time when people pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor for Liberty. The Libertarian Party, alone among all political parties in Texas, continues this tradition. It remains to be seen if voters in Texas will join us in protesting to state legislators on this continued encroachment on our privacy and individual rights," says **Patrick Dixon**, the Chair of the Libertarian Party of Texas.

The Libertarian Party of Texas invites all libertarians to join us at the committee hearing on Tuesday. If you are unable to join, you may also voice your opposition by contacting the Homeland Security & Public Safety Committee members. It is very important for our government to know that Texans oppose Real ID in our state.

Win \$500 by bringing friends to your party!

from the Michigan LP, May 31, 2011

An anonymous donor to the Libertarian Party of Michigan is offering \$500 to the affiliate that brings in the most NEW members (not

Libertarian Party: On the Trail

renewals) to the LP from May 1, 2011 until October 31, 2011. The money may be used in any way the winning affiliate wishes to further the cause of liberty in its area. Here are the rules:

1. Any brand new member (not renewal) to the LPM or national LP residing in Michigan counts. A member is defined as someone who has donated \$25 or more to the LPM or LP and has signified his or her agreement with the LP statement of principles.
2. Unless a new member indicates otherwise in writing, he or she counts for the affiliate that covers the address given on the membership application. New members may join any affiliate they wish and indicate where they want to be counted, but they may only be counted once for purposes of this contest.
3. The LPM membership director will tally the new member counts and report results in the Michigan Libertarian every month. The winner will be announced and a check awarded at the next LibertyFest Dinner.

Affiliates, the contest is running. Start your engines.

New and renewing Liberty Pledgers

Michael L. Alexander	Wayne Goff	William Peddie
Herman Alley	Rupert Gore	Herbert G. Peters
Adam Almog	Darren M. Greway	Poul Petersen
Thomas J. Applegate	Everett P. Hale	C Michael Pickens
Adam J. Babica	Robert L. Hanley	Paul Purdom
Arthur C. Barker	Thomas F. Hastings	Gilbert K. Ranney
Ryan Belcher	John F. Hathaway	Abigail A. Riedinger
Rex Bell	William Hines	Andrew S. Riley
Jeff Berg	Laura Hocter	Eugenia Sansone
Kati A. Bosch	William A. Jacobs	Christopher Schuck
Henry C. Boschen	Douglas W. Jones	Richard Secula
Josh Brady	Patrick B. Keller	Sean Seyler
Michael J. Brauer	David H. King	Syed A. Shahid
Garland L. Bray	T. M. Kluz	Robban A. Sica
Eric Briel	Eugene Kogan	Anthony N. Sileo
Dale W. Brockelman	Jay B. Korinek	Bradley Smith
Ted Brown	Edward Kostich	Rory C. Smith
Steven J. Burden	Jacques R. Lachance	Kim Starmer
Daniel Campos	Howard P. Lambert	Kyle S. Suchy
Luis P. Chalmeta	Simon S. Lancaster	Max Torres
H. A. Cole	William R. Lang	David G. Towell
Dale Deckers	Connie C. LeCompte	Dennis D. Trapp
Brian W. Firth	Joseph Lee	Roy C. Turnbull
James V. Fornabai	Gustave Lopez	Kermit C. Wallace
William J. Forte	Roger L. Luna	Bill Wareham
James G. Foster	Ronald MacArtney	Jeffrey J. Weston
Kenton Gambill	Richard McNeely	William White
Joseph P. Gillotte	Roy Minet	Matthew P. Wicklund
Robin A. Gist	Joan P. Mokray	Beth Woodell
Robert E. Glisson	Brian Moriarty	Adrian Wyllie
	Jeffory A. Orrok	Aaron D. Yeargan
	Michael Panella	

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

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

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$5,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$2,500 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$30 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 | | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> _____ Other | | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ Other
(minimum \$10) | |

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

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

Occupation*: _____

Please bill my Visa MasterCard AmEx Discover

Employer*: _____

Card number: _____ Exp: _____

Home Phone: _____

Name on card: _____

Work: _____ Cell: _____

Signature: _____

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 pick 16 to run for mayor, council

Indianapolis Star, May 14, 2011

The Libertarian Party of Marion County on Saturday selected 16 candidates for mayor and City-County Council at its nominating convention.

Chris Bowen, a hospitality manager, is the party's nominee for mayor of Indianapolis.

Running for the council are:

Bill Levin, at large; **Reid Miller**, at large; **Sheri Meinert**, at large; **Michael Bishop**, District 1; **Sam Goldstein**, District 2; **Raymond Vanlanot**, District 4; **Kevin Fleming**, District 6; **Joell Palmer**, District 10; **Tom Mulcahy**, District 11; **Jason Sipe**, District 13; **Zach Capehart**, District 15; **Josh Featherstone**, District 21; **Kent Raquet**, District 23; **Ed Coleman**, District 24; and **Kevin Vail**, District 25.

The party potentially could slate additional candidates in coming weeks, political director **Timothy J. Maguire** said.

"We're committed to growing the party and getting more Libertarians elected to local office," Maguire said.

Libertarian Party Submits Signatures To Put Candidates On The Ballot

KUAR (Arkansas), May 18, 2011

The Libertarian Party of Arkansas hopes to field candidates for a broad range of political offices next year.

Wednesday its leaders submitted 16,139 signatures to the Arkansas Secretary of State's office.

It will need at least 10,000 of those to be verified to get candidates on the ballot.

"The two party system...it's flawed and people are finally starting to understand that," said

Arkansas Libertarian Party Chairman **Rodger Paxton**.

"You put the Democrats in power for a couple of years. You get disgusted by them so you put the Republicans in power for a couple of years and get disgusted with them. I think people are finally starting to wake up to that and are looking for other choices."

Paxton says they are recruiting candidates for offices ranging from Congress to local positions like county sheriffs.

The Libertarian Party spent nearly \$40,000 and thousands of hours gathering the signatures.

The Secretary of State's office has 30 days to verify the signatures submitted.

Third Parties Slam GOP Superior Court Candidate

Politics PA, May 31, 2011

Both the Pennsylvania Green and Libertarian Party representatives slammed the GOP's choice for Superior Court judge, Vic Stabile, citing his efforts as a Republican party official to knock third party candidates off of ballots in PA.

The Pennsylvania Libertarian Party chair **Lou Jasikoff** called it "shameful."

"Mr. Stabile led the charge to get Libertarians knocked off the ballot in 2008 and was recently quoted as being pleased by efforts to keep the Green and Libertarian Parties from appearing on the statewide 2010 ballot."...

Wayne Allyn Root, the 2008 Vice-Presidential candidate on the Libertarian ticket, stated that Mr. Stabile's actions not to be tolerated. He called them "Unamerican."

"To purposely disregard laws on the books that allow for candidate substitution, or applaud efforts that totally ignore voter intent is unconscionable. Mr. Stabile is the face of everything wrong with Pennsylvania's ballot access laws and his flawed and biased judgment should not find its way on Pennsylvania's Superior Court."