



# The Liberty Quill

A Publication by the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County

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## If We Recall Gavin Newsom – Then What?

### *A message from Joe Dehn, County Chair:*

It's beginning to look like the petition to recall the Governor is going to succeed! It's not a sure thing yet, and more signatures are needed to ensure that it does qualify (see "How to Sign the Recall Petition" below), but organizers are hopeful.

So what happens if the petition is found to be valid? There will be an election, some time later this year, with two questions. First, voters will be asked if they want the Governor to be removed. Second (but on the same ballot),



the voters will be asked to pick his replacement from a list of candidates. If a majority vote 'yes' on the first question, then the person who gets the most votes on the second question will become California's new Governor.

**Will that new Governor be an improvement?** Maybe, maybe not. It's certainly not guaranteed. There are many possible replacements that might be just as bad. But we can hope voters have enough sense to at least elect somebody who is not as inclined to use the power of the state to regulate every aspect of our lives, and who is less enthusiastic about raising taxes.

It is **not** likely that the voters will elect an actual Libertarian this year. But it is important that both the **libertarian perspective** and the **Libertarian Party** be represented during this campaign. This is going to be the biggest political event of the year, with the eyes of the public and the media focused on issues of the state government. **The only way we can be sure that our perspective is represented is to have a Libertarian on the ballot for Governor!**

Who will that candidate be? So far, I am not aware of any formally announced candidate. There have been rumors of at least one Libertarian considering running, but he has not said so publicly, and he hasn't presented any plan for how he might campaign.

*What we need for this recall election is somebody*

1. *Willing to run as a Libertarian.*
2. *Capable of presenting Libertarian ideas on state issues.*
3. *Willing and able to campaign in a way that will reach voters and the media.*

This person could be from anywhere in the state. It could be somebody from right here in Santa Clara County. That would be especially useful to us in helping to build the party this year, because unlike some counties we have no other offices, partisan or non-partisan, up for election in odd-numbered years. So this recall election, if it happens, is going to be our one chance to participate in a campaign this year.

**Can you think of anybody who would be a good candidate for Governor? If so, send your suggestions to [campaigns@scclp.org](mailto:campaigns@scclp.org).**

We have our next central committee meeting tentatively scheduled for the second Saturday in April. If we have one or more announced candidates by then, we can consider making an endorsement at that meeting.

**Joe Dehn**  
*County Chair*  
[chair@scclp.org](mailto:chair@scclp.org)

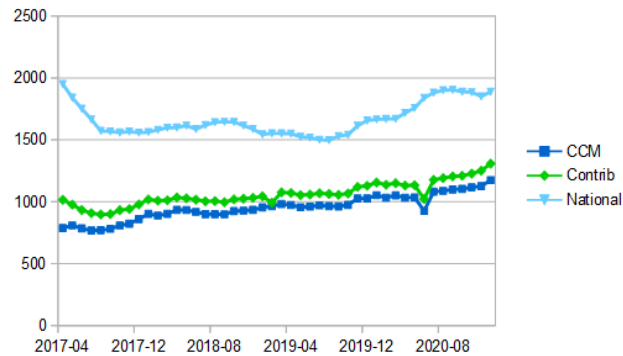
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## Central Committee Membership is Up Statewide

Good news - LPC membership is up!

As of the end of January, our statewide count of central committee members had reached 1175, which is most likely a record for the past decade. That's up about 12% from a year earlier, and about 23% from the same time two years ago.

The accompanying graph shows growth since 2017. The darker blue line is central committee members, while the green line that tracks it pretty closely but slightly higher represents all contributors. (The difference is that the CCM count includes only people who made the certification regarding the initiation of force and who are not registered with another party.)



The lighter blue line shows the number of dues-paying national members (in California), which has also been trending upward over the past couple of years. Note that while in California state and county membership are combined – a single dues payment qualifies you for both – national LP membership is separate.

If your dues aren't current for both, you can renew (or start) your membership using the following links:

*For state/county membership:*

[www.sccplp.org/join](http://www.sccplp.org/join)

*For national membership:*

[my.lp.org/contribute/join/](http://my.lp.org/contribute/join/)

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## LPC Platform Updates

The Libertarian Party of California **Platform** presents the LPC's positions on a wide range of issues. There is an opportunity to update this document each year during the annual state convention. Proposals are drafted prior to the convention by a Platform Committee, made up of representatives from each county organization, and then submitted at the convention for a vote of the delegates.

This year Santa Clara County is being represented by our county chair, Joe Dehn. If you have suggestions for updates to any of the existing planks, or for new planks to address issues that have become of significant public interest recently, let him know at [chair@sccplp.org](mailto:chair@sccplp.org) and he will share them with the other members of the committee.

A copy of the Platform as it currently stands (last revised in 2018) can be found at:

[LPC-Platform.pdf](#)

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# LP of Santa Clara County "Help Wanted"

We currently have several openings on our Executive Committee. These are the people responsible for keeping the Libertarian Party running at the county level.

Following are the officer positions defined in our bylaws:

Chair  
Vice Chair  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Activities Chair  
Campaigns Chair  
Fundraising Chair  
Membership Chair  
Newsletter Chair  
Publicity Chair



When not all of these positions are filled, that means the remaining officers end up having to do multiple jobs – or the jobs simply don't get done. Some of the current officers might actually be happy to do one of the other jobs, and focus on that, but they can't do that if there is nobody available to do their current job. So basically, more important than filling any specific position, **what we need is more people willing to help!**

*If any of the jobs listed above sound like something you could do, please let us know!*

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## Libertarian Reasons for Recalling the Governor

The recall of Governor Gavin Newsom is being supported by many different groups. Both the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County and the Libertarian Party of California are among them. However, not everybody is pushing for the Governor to be removed from office for the same reasons. Following are some reasons why **Libertarians** should support this recall:



### **Imposition of Draconian Rules Relating to the Pandemic:**

- violations of fundamental rights
- serious economic damage that other states/countries avoided
- rules that don't even make sense scientifically
- setting bad precedents, out of line with other emergencies
- hypocritically imposing rules that he himself doesn't follow

### **Incompetent Management of Programs Relating to the Pandemic:**

- billions in unemployment funds sent to ineligible people

- millions spent on wasteful "education" (propaganda) efforts
- millions spent on faulty protective equipment
- millions spent on unneeded treatment facilities
- inefficient and slow distribution of available vaccines

#### **He Supports Taxes and Government Spending in General:**

- one of the highest state income taxes in the nation
- one of the highest sales taxes in the nation
- one of the highest property tax levels in the nation
- one of the highest vehicle registration fees in the nation
- highest gas taxes in the nation
- attempting to undermine Prop 13
- proposed new wealth tax
- government debt and unfunded liabilities now up to \$1.5 trillion

#### **He Supports Other Things that Damage Our Rights and Economy:**

- AB5 attack on gig work
- attacks on right to keep and bear arms
- mandatory health insurance
- bullet train to nowhere
- threatened state takeover of PG&E
- energy-related mandates, e.g., ending sale of gas-powered cars
- rent control

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## How to Sign the Recall Petition

The petition to recall Gavin Newsom has already been signed by more than 1.8 million people. But more than two million signatures are needed to ensure that the requirement is met, because the signature verification process (for any petition) always disqualifies a large percentage, sometimes as much as a third of them.



*The deadline for submitting the signatures is coming up fast.*

**Your help is needed to get this job done in time!**

If you haven't signed the petition yet, you can find a list of places in Santa Clara County where you can go to sign it here:

[recallgavin2020.com/county/santa-clara/](https://recallgavin2020.com/county/santa-clara/)

Even better would be to circulate the petition yourself, to **get your family, friends, and neighbors to sign.**

But even if you can't get anybody else to sign it, you can **at least sign it yourself** and then just send it back by mail. You can find a printable (PDF) copy of the petition form at:

Be sure to also **read the instructions** on that page! There are all sorts of mistakes that could invalidate a petition sheet, so you want to be sure to get it right. *And if you are sending any petitions in by mail, make sure you do that by March 10th at the latest, so they can be received in time to be turned in.*

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## Local Political News

*Selected stories about local governments and politicians.*

[San Jose Mayor Renews Six-Figure Contract with Washington PR Guru](#) ([sanjoespotlight.com](https://sanjoespotlight.com)).

[Palo Alto Prepares for More Budget Cuts](#) ([paloaltoonline.com](https://paloaltoonline.com)).

[County Approves Scaled Back Hazard Pay Plan](#) ([sanjoespotlight.com](https://sanjoespotlight.com)).

[Sheriff's Office Reforms Use of Force Policies](#) ([paloaltoonline.com](https://paloaltoonline.com)).

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## Commentary

*Opinions from around the web – not necessarily official positions of the LP of Santa Clara County unless so noted.*

[Instead of Lifting Trump's Tariffs Biden is Imposing More](#) ([reason.com](https://reason.com)).

[There's No Excuse for the Disaster at the EDD](#) ([hjta.org](https://hjta.org)).

[Free Speech Under Threat at Stanford](#) ([stanfordreview.org](https://stanfordreview.org)).

[Voting With Your Feet](#) ([aier.org](https://aier.org)).

['See Something, Say Something Online Act' Punishes Big Tech for Not Snitching](#) ([reason.com](https://reason.com)).

[Donations 'Requested' by Newsom as His Emergency Powers Ballooned](#) ([reason.com](https://reason.com)).

[Making Higher Education More Useful and Affordable](#) ([libertarianpolicy.org](https://libertarianpolicy.org)).

[Gun Bill Mandates Psychological Exams for Gun Owners](#) ([americanmilitarynews.com](https://americanmilitarynews.com)).

[Selective Schools Come Under Pressure in Pandemic](#) ([educationnext.org](https://educationnext.org)).

['ZeroCovid Movement' - Cult Dressed as Science](#) ([aier.org](https://aier.org)).

[How Brexit Helped the UK Win Europe's Vaccination Race](#) ([fee.org](https://fee.org)).

[School Choice - The Only Choice Left? \(thisiscommonsense.org\)](http://thisiscommonsense.org)

[Why We Need Simple Rules for a Complex World \(aier.org\)](http://aier.org)

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## Video Selections

*Also not necessarily official positions of the LP of Santa Clara County unless so noted.*

[Thomas Sowell: Common Sense in a Senseless World \(freetochoosenetwork.org\)](http://freetochoosenetwork.org)

[What's Ahead for the U.S. Under One-Party Rule? \(independent.org\)](http://independent.org)

[Who Ya Gonna Call - Government or Ghostbusters? \(fee.org\)](http://fee.org)

[California - the Place You Oughta Be? \(hoover.org\)](http://hoover.org)

[Invisible Hands: The Market Process \(fee.org\)](http://fee.org)

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## Calendar Summary

Important note: Due to the COVID-19 situation, many events that would normally be held in upcoming weeks and months have been cancelled. Also it is possible that there will be other changes relating to events listed here, depending on how the situation evolves. Check our web site for updates.

- 20 March - [Third Saturday Coffee Meetup \(online\)](#)
- 10 April - Central Committee Meeting (tentative)
- 17 April - [Third Saturday Coffee Meetup \(online\)](#)
- 14-16 May 2021 - [LPC State Convention \(Visalia\)](#)
- 4 July - Rose White and Blue Parade and/or LPSCC Event
- 26-30 May 2022 - [National Convention \(Reno\)](#)
- 7 June 2022 - [Primary Election](#)
- 8 November 2022 - [General Election](#)

**Do you have ideas for activities that don't require in-person contact?** Contact our [Activities Chair](#), Bob Goodwyn, with your suggestions.



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