



# Washington Libertarian

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## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Directory	2
Libertarians in Office	2
Badnarik in Washington	3
Rant and Rave V. I With Dustin Viall	3
Opinion: Low Visibility Politics: Low Visibility Party	4
Property Tax Relief: Recipe for Disaster?	5
State Fair Outreach A letter from Kathy Gruber	6
Freedom Events	7
Calendar Aug/Sep	8

## Washington's New Primary

Help ensure our candidates reach the general election

By Ruth Bennett  
LIBERTARIAN CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR

It has never been so important for you to vote in our primary this year. Between a US Supreme Court decision and our new legislation, the LPWS is caught in an unprecedented situation.

In the past we have always needed our candidates to get at least one percent in the Primary in order to move to the general election ballot. That part hasn't changed.

What has changed is that voters must, for the first time in 70 years, choose just a single party ballot and vote just for the candidates of that party. We can no longer plan on getting a significant number of people who, for instance, vote Democrat except for one or two Libertarians. This year they must choose which ballot to vote and the odds are it won't be the Libertarian!

In raw numbers, this means that we need to convince 15,000 Washington State voters to choose a Libertarian ballot and vote only Libertarian. This is a huge task.

We have nearly 2500 people who have been members or contributors to the LPWS at some time in the past few years. We need six times that number to vote for our candidates. That is why it is so important for you to vote in the primary and for you to talk to your friends and family about voting Libertarian in the primary, too.

See **PRIMARY** Page 2

## Libertarian Party of Washington State

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Bellevue, WA 98008  
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## Libertarians in Office in Washington

**Bob Bromley** Mayor of Sumas

**Judy Byrd** Peninsula Park & Recreation Commission

**Mark Hamilton** Bonney Lake City Council

**Gene Hawkridge** Northshore School Board

**Ray Huff** Granite Falls City Council

**Steve LePage** Benton County Conservation District Supervisor

**Scott MacQuarrie** South Cle Elum Town Council

**Bill North** North Highline Unincorporated Area Council

**Debbie Raplee** Kent City Council

**Jim Richardson** Skamania Cemetery District Commissioner

**Don Vandervele** Peninsula Park & Recreation Commission

**Bruce White** Kent City Council

**Derek Young** Gig Harbor City Council

### *Appointed Officials*

**Rob Chase** Chase Youth Commission

**Frank Jenkins** Pierce County Aging and Long Term Care Advisory Board

**Walt Kloefkorn** Trustee, Stevens County Rural Library District

**Jonathen V. Wright** Trustee, Harborview Hospital, Seattle

**Richard Whitmore** Chairman, WRIA 1 Water Resource Interest Caucus

There are many Libertarians serving as public officials in Washington State.  
Not all can be or want to be recognized. Please contact us if you wish to be listed.

## Local Chairs and Contacts

**Asotin/Garfield/Whitman Counties:** Scott Campbell, south-east@LPWS.org (509) 332-0836

**Benton/Franklin:** David Carson, Benton-Franklin@LPWS.org, 509-627-1303

**Chelan/Douglas:** Bill Allyn (*contact*) Chelan-Douglas@LPWS.org, 509-665-9132

**Clallam County:** John Bennett, Clallam-region@LPWS.org, 360-683-9041

**Clark County:** Charlie Novy, Clark-region@lpws.org, 360-885-4545

**Cowlitz County:** Dan & Judy Fiest, Cowlitz-region@LPWS.org, 360-274-8287

**Grant County:** Gordon Beeman, Grant-region@LPWS.org, 509-766-1904

**Grays Harbor County:** Jason Constantino, Grays-region@LPWS.org, 360-533-8635

**Jefferson County:** Larry Hovde Jefferson-region@LPWS.org, 360-765-3994

**King County:** Cary Thomas, King-region@LPWS.org 206-767-4827

**Kitsap County:** Lowell Dietz, Kitsap-region@LPWS.org 360-377-2105

**Lincoln County:** Steven Jayne, Lincoln-region@LPWS.org, 509-796-5317

**Pierce County:** Kathy Gruber, Pierce-Region@LPWS.org 253-564-7005

**Skamania County:** Jim Richardson, Skamania-region@LPWS.org, 509-427-4412

**Snohomish County:** Larey McLaren, snohomish-region@lpws.org 425-481-6482

**Spokane County:** Janice Moerschel, spokane-region@lpws.org

**Stevens/Ferry/Pend Oreille Counties:** Bob Fisher, northeast-region@lpws.org 509-233-9297

**Thurston County:** Aaron Grahn, aaron@aarongrahn.com 360-556-1844

**Whatcom County:** Bruce Guthrie, whatcom-region@lpws.org 360-647-5372

### City Organizations

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8ballman1@comcast.net

Please let the editor know of any changes or corrections to the list above. Thanks.

## Directory State Party

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Vicechair-state@LPWS.org, 509-783-9497

**Treasurer:** Tim Perman  
Treasurer-state@LPWS.org

**Secretary:** Peter Wilkie  
Secretary-state@LPWS.org

**District 1 SEC Rep:** Rachel Hawkridge Rep-1@LPWS.org

**District 2 SEC Rep:** Bruce Guthrie Rep-2@LPWS.org, 360-647-5372

**District 3 SEC Rep:** Linda Main  
Rep-3@LPWS.org, (360)-864-6694 Aaron  
Grahn (Alt.)

**District 4 SEC Rep:** Tom Stahl,  
509-745-8801

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**District 6 SEC Rep:** Jason Constantino  
Rep-6@LPWS.org, 360-533-8635 Ernie  
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David Fries (alt.)

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## *Washington Libertarian*

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## Primary

*Continued from Page 1*

If our candidates do not get the one percent, then we will not have candidates in the general election and we will be unable to get our five percent in a statewide race to continue major party status. This would be an enormous step backwards in the development of the Libertarian Party in Washington State and would be seen a significant defeat by the media.

Please be sure to vote in the primary, either by mail or in person on September 14<sup>th</sup>. Please talk to your friends, family and neighbors about supporting the Libertarian Party in September. The primary has no affect in the presidential race, so don't let folks deter you with an anti-Bush or anti-Kerry sentiment!

Without the support of every person reading this newsletter, we have no chance of making it through the primary. Please be a Voice for Liberty.

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## Badnarik in Washington!

*Libertarian Presidential Candidate, Michael Badnarik* is making a campaign swing through Seattle August 15-17. Washington Badnarik for President Chair, Ruth Bennett said, "We are so pleased that Michael can spend some time in Seattle. He is an incredibly articulate spokesman for liberty and we want people to meet him."

LPWS member, John Evans, is hosting a fundraiser aboard his boat. "We will spend two hours cruising around Lake Washington so people can have a chance to meet and talk with Michael." Bennett said. "Afterwards, we will be hosting a dinner at a Lake Union restaurant."

A second function will be held in Tacoma on Monday evening at the home of Karen Allard, former LPWS State Chair and Libertarian Party National Vice-Chair.

"We are lining up press interviews and events including a hour with Fred Ebert on KIRO and a KING TV interview. We are also looking for other opportunities for Michael to speak while he is here." Bennett added.

For details and to make reservations for either event, please contact Ruth Bennett at (206) 595-8559 or call the LPWS office.

## Rant and Rave:

v. 1

*With Dustin Viall: Local Freelance Writer*

During the course of a normal day, I am often filled with reminders of how my rights as a freethinking individual are trampled on by the misguided polices of the government. While writing these words, I am sitting in one of my favorite cafes enjoying lunch while sipping on a local micro-brewed beer. As the carbonated bubbles travel to the top, I imagine what it must of been like in the good old days when a person walked into a seedy alley, knocked three times on a steel reinforced door and through a tiny slit, a gruff voice coupled with a Neanderthal set of eyes said, "what's the password?" After saying some derogatory remark about the police, one would be let into a posh nightclub with flapper dancers and a big jazz band playing while the proprietor would sit in the VIP section surround by Tommy-gun toting gangsters. What a wonderful time in history! Sure, during alcohol prohibition the murder rate rose nearly 80%, and the St. Valentines Day Massacre ruined some romantic dinner plans; however, if it weren't for prohibition we wouldn't have the cinematic masterpiece of *The Untouchables*.

It's good that times have changed...no longer does an overbearing government enforce laws so outrageous that large groups of peaceful citizens are deemed criminals. Ok, you're right, that's not fair. Marijuana is different than alcohol. Very different: no one has ever overdosed on marijuana. Last year nearly two hundred thousand peaceful citizens congregated in Seattle in defiance of the morality-police. Help end modern day prohibition. I'll see you at Hempfest!

<b>Opinion:</b>	<i>Election Strategy</i>
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<b>And Property Tax Relief...Vital Services: Don't be Fooled by Dire Predictions</b>
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## Low Visibility Politics: Low Visibility Party

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**By Damon Gibson**

WASHINGTON LIBERTARIAN EDITOR

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If we were to take an honest look at the current state of the Libertarian Party ("LP"), we would see desperation. The quantity of candidates to be fielded and the outcome of fielding these candidates has always been an issue of survival for the party. Yes, recruiting large amounts of candidates for small, low-visibility offices is necessary. In the absence of this strategy, the Libertarian Party no longer exists as a political organization. The fact remains, however, although these offices sustain the apparatus, they have little effect on the growth of the party as a whole. In the course of the LP's history, few candidates have achieved mainstream appeal. The result is a party unable to capitalize on large amounts of political sympathy.

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***Candidates must have the ability to compete equally in elections and progress to levels only available to qualified, lifelong politicians.***

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The recruitment of Ralph Nader to run as the Green Party Presidential nominee in 1996 is a classic example of the publicity a high-profile candidate can bring. His campaign brought a fractured party, with minimal leadership and coordination, to the forefront of political thought and changed the outcome of the presidential election in 2000.

The Libertarian Party has the organization (unmatched by any other outside party) in place to take advantage of such an opportunity. Until successful leaders rise to the forefront, Libertarian-minded voters will continue to look to the established parties. The LP may survive indefinitely, kept afloat by its core base of support; economically conservative, two-party defectors. But to achieve sustained growth, select candidates must be fielded who will win elections by virtue of their qualifications, appeal, and political value. This does not require an end to running citizen candidates. The results of these campaigns are, however, extremely local, and limited compared to Republican or Democratic Party efforts. And those who do gain office most likely will never advance to more visible heights. To move forward, the party must adopt radically-new ideas. Candidates must have the ability to compete equally in elections and progress to levels only available to qualified, lifelong politicians. This may seem unfeasible or even dangerous. Where will these candidates be found? How will they become qualified for such endeavors? Will they stay loyal to Libertarian principles? The answer is, candidates must have a lifelong commitment to the cause of liberty. Without this, the party's values will be compromised. This would require grooming certain candidates like any other successful party. It will be hard work for candidates, and it may take a college degree, time in the military, or more to make an individual ready for a serious career. These candidates must find a starting point to build on, and it is possible the LP may not provide the platform they need. It may be necessary to spend time in another, more established party, or other political organizations that have little to do with the LP. Ultimately, successful candidates must be able to compete with two established political parties, with one goal in mind: Liberty.

Will a few Libertarians with a different letter before their name hurt the party? Absolutely not. "Republican" Congressman Ron Paul is proof that this course-of-action can produce desirable results for the LP. If the Libertarian Party is to survive, it must move aggressively to adjust to the current political climate without compromising the values of liberty. The cause of freedom must trump all other concerns.

# Property Tax Relief: Recipe For Disaster?

*A look at the issues behind the predictions...*

Tim Eyman and his group, Voter's Want More Choices, have qualified yet another property tax initiative for the November election. I-892, if approved, would allow non-tribal businesses to use electronic slot machines. The tax revenue, provided by a 35% user fee on the machines, would be used to reduce state property taxes. Not surprisingly the initiative has drawn criticism from Washington tribes and moral advocacy groups. What are the issues behind the debate? Is this merely natural resistance against a much larger statewide spending problem, or have tax relief efforts gone too far?

Critics of property tax relief often point to the essential programs property tax revenues fund. I-722, I-747 (2000/2001, 1% and 2% cap on property tax increase) and I-864 (Didn't qualify for ballot) drew much criticism for this reason. Attention usually is focused on fire districts, libraries, and police services, which obtain funding largely from property tax. Libraries, for example, depend on property tax for roughly 95% of their funding. Most moderately aligned residents will find these programs necessary. However, essential services, although a focus point of the property tax debate, are only a small part of the issue as a whole.

Should property ownership dictate weather and what a resident will pay for state services? It hardly seems fair; property owners do not constitute 95% of library use. Public spending has ballooned in Washington over the last two decades; property owners have assumed much of the burden. In the fiscal biennium of 1979-1981 state operating expenses totaled \$9.5 billion, by comparison 2001-2003 saw a total expense of \$50 billion. That's a spending increase of over 500 percent. During that same period of time the states population increased by only a little more than 40 percent.

The vast majority of spending and revenue increases are implemented outside of citizen approval.

This has led to a feeling among many residents that the state government has moved beyond voter control.

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*The initiative process is an alternative to normal representative procedure. In fact, when the citizens of a state approve an initiative, representative government has failed.*

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As state and local governments continue to increase revenue at the disproportionate expense of property owners, vital services are used as a shield against the natural backlash. The state legislature continues to assert that no correction is needed. The initiative process, therefore, is the only option left to residents who feel differently.

Unlike a bill presented to congress, an initiative cannot be debated and changed before it is enacted into law. There is no way to add wording to an initiative that would dictate the way local governments are to compensate for reduced revenue. The initiative process is an *alternative* to normal representative procedure. In fact, when the citizens of a state approve an initiative, representative government has failed. For this reason, most tax reduction initiatives have no way to guarantee that all basic services will remain unchanged. Ultimately, when such initiatives are approved, government officials, not citizens, will decide the distribution of reduced property tax revenue. Voters can and should decide the outcome of these initiatives based on the merits of local and state property tax reduction, not the fate of popular public services.

**Sources:**

- 1 Voters Want More Choices
- 2 Permanent-Offense
- 3 Permanent-Defense
- 4 2003 Washington State Data Book

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**Letters to the Editor**

Want to discuss an idea read about in the Washington Libertarian? Please send Letters to the Editor to:

**Mail:** E-mail: Fax:  
**LPWS: Editor** Editor-lpws@LPWS.org (425)-353-1776  
 PO BOX 7118  
 Bellevue, WA 98008

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# State Fair Outreach

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**A letter from Kathy Gruber:**

Chair of the Pierce County Libertarian Party

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We have achieved great things in this state in the past few years. We have a state office, and major party status, and we continue to gain elected offices. We as a party have the other two major parties running scared. We are strong, proud, and principled.

The scary thing is, it seems we are going to start off this election cycle the same way as the last one. If you look at the polling data, George W. Bush, and John F. Kerry are in a dead heat in the Presidential Election. What does that tell us? The thing we Libertarians have known for decades, that the majority of the voting public only half agree with one candidate or the other. And it is at times like this that the Libertarian Party shines as the party many people look to for confirming their own thoughts and beliefs.

This brings me to my point of this letter to you. We are at that time of year again when we need your help to let the party of Liberty, and Prosperity shine in this time of political confusion. The Pierce County Libertarian Party is hosting the Western Washington State Fair booth, at the Puyallup Fairgrounds. Since Presidential years have historically been growing years for the LP, this year should prove to be a time of huge growth. But that growth can only happen one way, and that is if we get our message out to the public. The WWSF booth is a great opportunity to not only get our message out, but also give our candidates a chance to meet with people from all over the western Washington area. The response from this booth each year is overwhelming.

The position that we have at the Puyallup Fair is a prime location. It is situated under the Grandstands, in a heavy traffic area, and is in a direct line between the other two parties booths; it is out of the

weather, and in a part of the fair where people go if the weather takes a turn for the worse. To sum it all up, it would be a shame to lose a prime opportunity as this one because of a lack of funding and manpower.

We again need the funds to not only get the booth at the fairgrounds, but also to get the supplies to equip the booth (flyers, handouts, etc.). Any contribution that you wish to give will go to help spread the word of freedom. If everyone donates \$25, \$50, or \$100, we will have the remaining booth fees in a short time. And everyone will have the opportunity to be a part of this very worthwhile event.

Contributions can be sent to the address below, and please make all checks, or money orders, out to the Pierce County Libertarian Party, and make a note on the check that it is for the fair booth. Your generous contribution is, as always, gratefully accepted. You will also receive the incredible feeling of selflessness for doing a good deed for the Libertarian Party. Thank you for your time, and see you at The Fair!

Mail your donations to Pierce County Libertarian Party, 2421 S Union Ave. Ste L-1 #174, Tacoma, WA 98405-1309. To schedule a work shift, please e-mail Dean, the booth coordinator, at [thedeanofmen@yahoo.com](mailto:thedeanofmen@yahoo.com) or phone him at 253-564-7005.

Thank you for your support,

**Kathy Gruber**

Chair, Pierce County Libertarian Party  
E-mail; [Pierce-Region@LPWS.org](mailto:Pierce-Region@LPWS.org)

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**Have any Letters News or Essays you want to see published in the Washington Libertarian?  
Please Send:**

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**E-mail:** [Editor-lpws@LPWS.org](mailto:Editor-lpws@LPWS.org)

**Fax:** (425) 353-1776  
**Phone:** (425) 641-8247

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# Freedom Events

Freedom Oriented Events for the Months of August and September

## Meet Ilana Mercer

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Local author Ilana Mercer will be presenting her book "Broad Sides: One Woman's Clash with a Corrupt Culture", a compilation of her articles from WorldNetDaily.com and other publications. She will be available for conversation and autographs at the following locations and dates from 2:00PM to 6:00PM.

August 16 - Maple Leaf Book Exchange, 88 S. Front St. Issaquah 425-391-0686

August 17 - McDonald's Book Exchange 16134 NE 87th St. Redmond 425-885-4773

August 18 - Lake Hills Book Exchange 523 156th AVE SE Bellevue 425-746-0354

Mrs. Mercer has lived in Israel, South Africa, and Canada, She now calls Issaquah, Washington her home. She started her writing career with the North Shore News in Vancouver and has since written for the Calgary Herald, Insight Magazine, The Financial Post, The Globe and Mail (Canada's National Newspaper), the Ottawa Citizen, the Vancouver Sun, the Report Newsmagazine, the Colorado Gazette, and the Orange County Register.

Check out her website at: [www.ilanamercer.com](http://www.ilanamercer.com). You can read her weekly column every Friday on WorldNetDaily.com, the Internet's leading independent news site

## Voice of the People Forum

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And Pancake Breakfast

The Western Conservative Alliance Spokane task Force cordially invites you to it's first ever Voice of the People Forum.

Saturday, Aug. 21st

9:00-11:00am

Riverfront Park-Forestry Shelter  
(Near the Washington State Bridge)

Cost: \$4.00 per person

Come and enjoy a hearty breakfast along with local elected officials and candidates for a variety of offices throughout the inland Northwest. Discuss important issues with local and regional policy makers.

Local candidates will be speaking and opportunities will be available to ask questions. All candidates and their campaigns may also set up tables at the event to display campaign materials for a cost of \$20.00.

To sign up for the event or for more information about the alliance, please contact Jerry Brooks, Spokane Task Force interim chairman at: [westallencenw@netscape.net](mailto:westallencenw@netscape.net) or call at (509) 327-4009.

Please RSVP by Aug. 15th  
Western Conservative Alliance-Spokane  
930 N. Washington #129  
Spokane, Washington 99201

# Libertarian Calendar, August and September

## Local Meetings by County or Group

Please contact your local chair or party official to confirm dates, times and locations of local events.

### Benton and Franklin LP: General Meeting

**Date:** Inquire with David Carson

**Time:** 7:00 PM

**Location:** Round Table Pizza, 295 Torbett in Richland

**Contact:** David Carson (509) 627-1303 Benton-Franklin@LPWS.org

### Clallam County LP Meeting

**Date:** Second Tuesday of each month.

**Time:** 7:00 PM

**Location:** Las Palomas Restaurant in Sequim

**Contact:** Sidra Johansen (360) 683-6921 Clallam-Region@LPWS.org

### Grays Harbor County LP

**Date:** To be announced; inquire with Jason Constantino

**Time:** 6:30 - 8:30 pm

**Location:** Aberdeen Timberland Library, 121 E. Market St, Aberdeen.

**Contact:** Jason Constantino at jjcon2@yahoo.com , 360-533-8635

### King County LP Liberty Forum

**Date:** Inquire with contact

**Time:** 6:30 - 9:00 pm

**Location:** Azteca restaurant in Bellevue on 112th NE at Main (near I-405) Contact: jevens@solutionsiq.com.

### Pierce County LP Monthly Meeting

**Date:** Every 3rd Wednesdays, confirm with contact

**Time:** 7:00 PM

**Location:** Elmer's Restaurant (by I-5).

**Contact:** Dean Gruber (253)-564-7005 Spokane-Region@LPWS.org

### Thurston County Libertarian Party

**Date:** Inquire with Aaron Grahn

**Time:** 6:00 PM

**Location:** Brewery City Pizza in Lacey (near Lacey Cinema and O'Blarney's Pub)

**Contact:** Aaron Grahn, Thurston Chair: Thurston-Region@LPWS.org

### Whatcom County LP Meeting

**Date:** 1st Sunday of each month

**Time:** 7:30 pm

**Location:** Home of Bruce and Grace Guthrie in Bellingham

**Contact:** Bruce Guthrie at (360)647-5372 or spdsk8@aol.com

### Spooner Society Social & Shooting Club

**Date:** usually meets last Wednesday of each month

**Time:**

**5:00 PM:** Wade's, 13570 Bel-Red Rd, Bellevue: www.wadeguns.com

**6:30 pm:** Applebee's, 13856 Bel-Red Rd (300 yds. east of Wade's).



## Hempfest Outreach

Hempfest is right around the corner (Saturday and Sunday August 21st and 22nd at Merytle Edwards Park Pier 70). This is a great opportunity to have some fun while getting involved with a good cause; ending drug prohibition. Last year more than 170,000 people attended, and with the great list of speakers and musicians, there may be even more. Don't miss it! And while you're at it, come check out the Libertarian Hempfest booth. **Volunteers are needed! Candidates are encouraged to bring their campaign materials.** Contact Jacqueline Passey for more details: mail@electjacquelinepassey.com (206) 783-0389.

## Libertarian Campaign Workshop

Running for office? Meet with other Libertarian candidates for office while you improve your public speaking and campaigning skills.

**Join us:**

**Woodinville Public Library:  
Aug 21st from 9:00-5:00**

**Bothell Regional Library:  
Aug. 28th from 9:00-5:00**