



Washington Libertarian

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Make 2003 our most successful year yet!

Four reasons to run for one of dozens of nonpartisan jobs

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Kelly Haughton **LPWS Campaigns Chair**

In the state of Washington, the majority of non-partisan positions are up for election in odd-numbered years and the majority of partisan positions are up for election in even-numbered years. For example, in 2003 we will be having elections for City Council, Port Commissioners, School Boards, Water Commissioners, Park Commissioners and other similar positions. These types of positions have been the elections where LPWS members have had the most success in the past. The LPWS encourages members to run for non-partisan positions for several reasons.

1) The possibility of winning elec-

tion and having an opportunity of influencing public policy;

2) The opportunity of building one's political resume;

3) If one wins, one can endorse Libertarian candidates for other offices thus giving the other Libertarian a better chance of winning;

4) If one wins, one can later run for higher office with the benefit of a previous political win and the experience of serving in public office.

Now is a good time to start planning a run for local non-partisan office.

Also, in 2003, there will be some county level contests in Clallam, King, Snohomish and Whatcom counties. Clallam County Commissioner

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Inside: your Initiative 807 Petition!

Get to work to stop the income tax and cap government spending

Libertarian Party of Washington State

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Libertarians in Office in Washington State

- **Bob Bromley** Mayor of Sumas
 - **Judy Byrd** Peninsula Park & Recreation Commission
 - **Rob Chase** Chase Youth Commission
 - **Mark Hamilton** Chairman, Civil Service Commission, Bonney Lake
 - **Gene Hawkridge** Northshore School Board
 - **Greg Holmes** Spangle City Council
 - **Ray Huff** Granite Falls City Council
 - **Frank Jenkins** Pierce County Aging and Long Term Care Advisory Board
 - **Walt Kloefkorn** Trustee, Stevens County Rural Library District
 - **Steve LePage** Benton County Conservation District Supervisor
 - **Scott MacQuarrie** South Cle Elum Town Council
 - **Bill North** North Highline Unincorporated Area Council
 - **Jim Richardson** Skamania Cemetery District Commissioner
 - **Don Vandervelde** Peninsula Park & Recreation Commission
 - **Bruce White** Kent City Council
 - **Richard Whitmore** Chairman, WRIA 1 Water Resource Interest Caucus
 - **Derek Young** Gig Harbor City Council
- = elected ● = appointed

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.

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From the Executive Director Brien Bartels

So far, a couple congressmen, a governor, and a president. Those are the positions sought by people who've contacted me for help in starting campaigns.

Not to deride these folks. I mean, it does seem like the big important matters of life and death, war and peace, are decided at the federal level. Getting into a federal campaign is one way to try to focus a normally drab conservative statist v. liberal statist debate on actual solutions. I've tried it myself.

But where are the wannabe city council men, school board members, water and fire commissioners, or freeholders? Where are the folks who, having examined the resumes of vulnerable statist politicians, are forming three and four year plans to unseat those pols by building a community service resume as impressive?

War protestors, globalization protestors, single-issue voters, donors to think tanks, writers of letters to congresscritters and editors; they all have the privilege of focusing on the issue that excites them, with all their energy, all the time. How much planning or education does it take to write another letter to the local weekly, blaming McDonalds' for global warming (or is it global cooling this month)? Being a single-issue activist, or waiting to be "Activated" by some expert cadre of organizers, is great that way. It's instant gratification. They cut right to dessert.

We Libertarians, specifically the members of this Libertarian Party, have taken a tougher road. We do

something unique: we affect public policy by electing Libertarians. Cato, the NRA, the ACLU, the Evergreen Freedom Foundation, for all the good they do, can't and won't ever do that. We're unique. An elite.

We're the sage-strategists that plan in terms of years rather than days. That means we have to compartmentalize our passions for world peace or social Security reform (if passion is the right word for the study of pension reform). We have to reserve our attention for learning local issues, learning how to retail a libertarian solution to voters face to face, on their front porch, and learning the techniques of campaigning and governing in the positions that can be won with the resources we have now.

There's been a lot of crying about membership decreases. While that does retard some of the things we should do, at the same time the party is more successful at its core mission. More nonpartisan victories. More Libertarian campaigns. Higher shares of the vote. If the shrinking of the party means more focus, then we have to accept our dwindling as bitter medicine. Not everyone is patient or long-sighted enough to be in the LP; nothing wrong with that. But neither is it a reason for us to give up on what we are doing.

So call me up to learn how to win a local election. We'll have volunteers compiling openings around the state. You can already learn about some opportunities from your county auditor's office. We have books on campaigning and on issues, and we have experienced political leaders, like Reece and Rufus Rose, Bruce White and Rep. Brian Thomas, to help you. We can win in 2003. And we will save our freedom.

Protest, If You Want by Bruce Guthrie

There are two really important small-government dates each year. One is tax day on April 15th and the other is Tax Freedom Day which last year fell in mid-May. Other than Operation Politically Homeless (World's Smallest Political Quiz) Booths at fairs and other events these are the two best opportunities for us to hold rallies to spread our message to more of the public.

Libertarians are individualists. Getting Libertarians to agree on something by consensus is often like herding cats. I had the opportunity lately to go to some Green Party events on Instant Run-Off Voting and the USA PATRIOT Act. In contrast to Libertarians, Greens are usually very group-process friendly

people. Many of them *love* coming to a consensus and then acting as an amorphous, individuality-challenged mob. Hence their events, rallies and protests tend to be well-attended if disorganized and emotional.

Most Libertarians are not like this. Even our spouses have failed to change us, so I suspect that changing us to be more like Greens is impossible, even if it were desirable. So I propose that we hold a Tax Protest Day on April 15th and a Tax Freedom Day celebration (later in June or July) in the most decentralized, individualistic, libertarian way possible. If you want, make a sign relating to taxation and go down to your local post office on April 15th and walk around carrying your sign. Call out slogans and pass out libertarian literature, if you like. Just do it on your

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Running to Win in 2003 & 2004

by Reece & Rufus Rose

A reader of our last article, "When Should I Start My Campaign?," felt that the process is daunting. He is correct. It is difficult to be elected, especially as a 'third party candidate.'

Our reader wondered about running as a Democrat or as a Republican while really being a Libertarian. The Republican and Democrat base will vote for any candidate with the 'correct' Party label. There may be merit to this approach for some. We know several successful office holders who have been elected that way. Of course each potential candidate must decide his or her own strategies and tactics for winning the right to govern. We think Libertarians must run as Libertarians.

We know that many Libertarians are ex-Republicans or ex-Democrats. We believe that continued clear differentiation between Parties is necessary. Accordingly, we have reproduced our article "**Some reasons for our libertarian party membership**" as partial background for our advice to always run for election as a Libertarian.

Some Reasons for our Libertarian Party Membership

Republicans and ex-Republicans are being admonished to continue to work within that Party rather than becoming Libertarians. The suggestion is, while imperfect, the Republican Party is better for our country than the Democrat Party alternative. We can agree, but with rapidly decreasing enthusiasm. We observe that the Republican and Democrat Party elected officials' political positions and actions grow ever closer and become virtually indistinguishable in too many ways to suit us. The ever-increasing compromise of principles that we observe in our country troubles us deeply.

We have been Republicans for most of our lives; we are now semi-retired. Reece owned an international business for years. Rufus was a career Naval Officer, Aviator. We have functioned as Precinct Committee Officers, attended and taught campaign training schools, run for partisan and non-partisan offices, donated money and countless hours of political sign erection and removal, visited Olympia to meet legislators, and to testify about pending legislation. We host bimonthly lunch meetings with elected officials among the guest speakers and attendees. Rufus served on the Island County Planning Commission for ten years as a citizen concerned about excessive regulation of Private Property Rights. He was also the Campaign Manager for a successful Re-

publican State Senator who became a Congressman. In short we have been, and continue to be politically involved. We have worked very hard within the Republican Party. Breaking with the Republican Party was deeply troubling for us, as breaking with the Democrat Party would be for similarly committed people. We view the decision to change one's political Party somewhat like getting a divorce. The necessary mutual commitment and respect no longer existed for us. We are now Libertarian activists. For us this is a positive political evolutionary step.

The dominance of the "Two Party System" worked well for many years. It may again. We note that the

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"Two Party System" exists completely outside the Federal or State Constitutions. No party is recognized or given any standing in our State of Federal Constitutions. Politics must include the art of compromise, but not the compromise of Constitutional principles.

Our belief in well-informed bottom up representative government is unswerving. In Washington State the idea has been that that the Parties would organize starting with Party Precinct Caucus meetings. From these neighborhood efforts, County and State Party Conventions would formulate Party Platforms. These are the current declarations of principles and policies of the Parties and their candidates. The Platforms would, it was presumed, carry significant, but not obligatory, weight with elected partisan officials at the local, state, and federal levels and with the Parties Caucus' at the State and Federal levels. Platforms help differentiate between Parties and candidates. Party Platforms help citizens evaluate probable performance of elected officials. Party Plat-

(Continued from page 4)

forms help to guide citizen's votes.

Because of our desires to be responsibly involved we have maintained dialogue with elected officials, regardless of Party, and intend to continue to do so. That dialogue, however, has changed from our point of view. We now find that as Libertarians we are blamed for the failures of Republican candidates to be elected or reelected because we are dissatisfied with their political performances. The notion of promoting a same-party challenger to an incumbent has become virtually unthinkable due to the advantages of incumbency. The goal of maintaining Party majorities has become nearly paramount. We are encouraged to believe that electing a less competent Republican is better than electing a Democrat regardless of competence. Having a "majority" has become a justification for supporting less competent people. However, we are tired of less-competent representatives and will not support them any more. The entrenchment of the "seniority system" troubles us because it rewards tenure rather than competence. Supporting competent Libertarian candidates makes us feel cleaner, and responsible.

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Republican and Democrat elected officials tell us by word and deed that they do not want to be responsive to their State Parties, the County Parties, nor the Precinct folks. Our recognition of this fact hit us like a ton of bricks when one of our recent past State Legislators publicly answered our question, "What influence does the State Republican Party Central Committee have in the Washington State House of Representatives Republican Caucus?" The instant and frank, but deeply troubling answer was, (laughing) "They are a joke! " And, "We don't pay any attention to them." That demonstrates a loss of respect for citizen political participation that goes deeper than we suspected. The Representative's comment is appreciated for its honesty. The content is unacceptable to us. At any rate we will no longer support officials who regard campaign activists and volunteers as "a joke." Nor will we consent to be taken for granted as part of an unthinking "Party base."

The recent disagreement between the political Parties and our elected State Legislators about Primary Elections is most informative. The Parties want the authority to differentiate themselves by promoting candidates that support their Party platforms. Our elected officials dislike being closely associated with those Party differences because they freely acknowledge "needing cross-over votes to be elected." That seems to us to equate to "me" over Party or principle.

Our voices are small, but they are ours and we will do what we can to influence this great country, as all responsible citizens should.

There are many ideas floated with the hope they will earn enough support to succeed in getting Libertarians elected to political office. The task is daunting. There are many reasons to encourage Libertarians to employ the strategies and tactics most likely to lead to their elections. Differentiating between the Parties will appeal to disenchanting Democrats, Republicans and the approximately 50% of eligible voters that have given up on those Parties. We believe that candidates' commitment to campaigning as Libertarians is the best course to follow.

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The most important column of the year

By Tim Eyman

Why are we doing Initiative 807 this year? What does I-807 do? What is our goal and what is our strategy? The answers to these questions are answered by the column reprinted below. Read this top-to-bottom -- it is the absolute best summary of I-807. Learn what's in this column and you will be light years ahead of the pack when it comes to understanding I-807 and its critical importance to taxpayers and our economy.

I-807 renews Initiative 601's policies & stops a state income tax

For years, we've asked voters to consider several new ideas with our initiatives. And voters have responded by not only helping us qualify these new ideas for the ballot but by overwhelmingly endorsing them in four general elections in a row.

This year, rather than offering a new idea, we are instead offering voters an old idea: the policies of I-601, an initiative approved by voters in 1993. If our initiative, I-807, qualifies for the ballot and is approved by voters in November, it would:

- Reestablish and clarify I-601's state spending limits (I-807 limits the growth of state government to the fiscal growth factor which is defined as the rate of inflation plus population growth -- this formula was originally required by I-601)
- Reestablish and clarify I-601's emergency reserve fund requirements (I-807 requires the emergency reserve fund to not exceed 5% of biennial (two-year) general fund revenues -- this requirement was originally required by I-601)
- Reestablish and clarify I-601's limits on tax and fee increases (I-807 requires any tax or fee increase to receive either 2/3's legislative approval or majority voter approval at an election -- 2/3's for tax increases was originally required by I-601)

To their credit, many legislators fought hard to implement I-601. And for quite a few years, they were successful. But unfortunately, they were outnumbered and outvoted by elected officials who succumbed to the constant lobbying of people and groups who are ever-present in Olympia. As a result, I-601's policies and principles have been eroded through recent amendments and various interpretations.

It is unfortunate that I-601 wasn't followed more closely. As John Pennington, a well-respected former legislator from southwest Washington, said at I-807's

kickoff press conference, if the Legislature and Governor had strictly abided by the policies and intent of I-601 since 1993, state government would not be facing its current financial challenges. But on the other hand, he estimated our state's deficits would likely be double what they are today if not for I-601's fiscal and political discipline.

The voters sent a clear message when they approved I-601: that we didn't want roller-coaster government spending. That we want the growth of state spending to be reasonable and moderate so major disruptions to essential government services would be minimized. That's good for everyone. In addition, reasonable limits on spending growth provide the best defense against a state income tax. If they can't spend it, they won't impose

We are at a critical crossroads in Washington and we are hopeful that our elected officials will recognize the recklessness of a state income tax and tax or fee increases. During these tough economic times, our economy and our families would clearly be hurt by higher taxes.

it. Spending growth limits also stop a state income tax because the limits help avoid crisis decision-making (you can easily imagine an elected official offering this excuse after this legislative session is over: "I've always opposed an income tax, but it was a crisis, so I had to vote for it").

We are at a critical crossroads in Washington and we are hopeful that our elected officials will recognize the recklessness of a state income tax and tax or fee increases. Washington's economy is clearly sluggish and we have one of the highest unemployment rates in the nation. During these tough economic times, our economy and our families would clearly be hurt by higher taxes. But income tax advocates, aided by many newspapers, are undeniably in the midst of an aggressive, full-court press to get it enacted this year. The voices in favor of a state income tax are loud, influential, and well-represented in Olympia. The taxpayers' voice deserves to be heard as well. I-807 is intended to not only reestablish I-601's policies but also to lobby our elected officials to use existing revenues more cost-effectively rather than raising taxes. When it comes to our struggling economy, legislators need to take the doctors' oath: first do no harm. A state income tax and tax or fee

(Continued from page 6)

increases on top of our current crushing tax burden will only delay the economic recovery we all want and need.

The team: Jack & Mike Fagan and I have all agreed to lead the campaign to reestablish the spending & taxation limits provided by voter-approved Initiative 601 (team member Monte Benham has been planning for a long time to do an initiative in 2003 that would require the constitution to be taught in schools – he’s very passionate about it and we do wish him well with his idea – however, Jack, Mike, and I want to continue fighting for reasonable taxation and spending accountability – we feel politicians will go back to “business-as-usual” if we don’t keep the pressure on). Our treasurer, who will oversee our campaign expenditure and donation reports and handle all other financial responsibilities, is Stan Long from Spokane who has extensive finance experience (the reports will be prepared by our accounting firm in Seattle). Also, we have put together a top-notch group of individuals who will serve as an advisory group for us. Steve O’Donnell, Bill Farden, Eric Phillips, and Jeff Kirby are all successful businessmen who have proven they have our cause, our movement, and our beliefs as their priorities. They round out our very effective leadership team and will help en-

sure the success of this critical effort.

Compensation for us in 2003: *Nothing during the signature drive, something if we succeed.* The top priority must be to use every dollar donated to get the necessary signatures for I-807 and require 2/3’s to raise taxes. So Jack, Mike, and I have all agreed to donate our time, effort, and expertise from November until June, 2003 to get the job done. If all of us (our leadership team and our thousands of supporters) are successful at gathering the necessary signatures for I-807, we will then send out requests for compensation for our work running the fall campaign. In other words, we will ask for your help if we succeed. We don’t know yet how much compensation we’ll receive because we don’t know how much all of you will be able and willing to give. We hope you will be generous if we succeed. So we’ll try to get I-807 qualified for the ballot, and if we’re successful, we’ll begin raising funds to ensure its passage and to ensure we receive some compensation.

We cannot emphasize enough how difficult I-807’s signature gathering drive will be. Our opponents are going absolutely berserk because they know the policies of I-601 are very widely supported. They’ve claimed I-807 would be overturned by the courts based on various legal theories – but these same opponents tried using these same theories to attack I-601 and the courts refused to overturn it and instead allowed it to take effect. Opponents know that legally, constitutionally, and politically, I-601 is good law – I-807 simply reestablishes it. Opponents have also begun their usual attack-the-messenger strategy. Voters have not been persuaded by this approach for four years in a row but frankly, considering I-601’s widespread popularity, it’s all they’ve got.

We have a well-thought-out, effective strategy for I-807. Taxpayers are counting on us to protect them from a state income tax and massive tax and fee increases. We can’t let them down. I-601’s policies are needed now more than ever. Say YES to renewing I-601’s reasonable limits on taxes and spending. Say NO a state income tax. Support I-807. Let’s go to work.

Tim Eyman is spokesman for Permanent Offense, the anti-tax initiative machine.



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THE POLICY OF UNION ACCOUNTABILITY

By Daniel Cook
Evergreen Freedom Foundation

If you interested in free enterprise and individual liberty you might be interested in information regarding latest union financial fiasco. You decide: do individuals that are compelled to pay union dues or fees deserve more accountability from union officials?

UNION DUES FOR FUR COAT S AND ALLIGATOR SHOES?

In December 2002 Barbara A. Bullock, president of the Washington (D.C.) Teachers' Union (affiliate of American Federation of Teachers) and other executives were accused of defrauding union members out of over one million dollars. According to newspaper accounts, the FBI raided Ms. Bullock's home and seized (among other things) a \$20,000 fur coat, shoes worth \$11,000, and a sterling silver tea set valued at over \$57,000. The items are thought to have been purchased with mandatory union dues money.

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U.S. DOL PROPOSES REFORM OF UNION FINANCIAL REPORTING

Unfortunately situations such as the one described above are not an uncommon occurrence. As a result of numerous complaints and investigations that have led to an average of eleven criminal convictions per month over the past five years, the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) has called for stricter reporting of union financial affairs.

Currently, union officials have minimal obligations to disclose financial information to members or the public. However DOL has proposed that unions with annual receipts of \$200,000 make fiscal information available online, including specific information regarding individual expenditures in excess of \$5,000.

SPEAK OUT ON UNION ACCOUNTABILITY

Disclosure is valuable and necessary in the case of labor unions that compel individuals to pay fees. Profit-making entities such as Enron and Global Crossing are not the only organizations subject to greed and corruption, and corporate executives are not the only dishonest people who undertake to dupe or mislead innocent investors. But at least the investors in such fiascos have a choice whether to invest or not.

Unions, on the other hand, typically force workers to pay union dues as a condition of employment. Thus the DOL proposal to broaden union financial disclosure from its current negligible state is necessary and appropriate.

If you share a concern that union officials should be accountable for how money is spent, DOL would like to hear what you think about requiring unions to disclose their financial affairs to help prevent fraud and corruption. The special email address DOL has set up for comments on this proposal is: FormLM2-comments@dol-esa.gov

If you have any further questions or comments, you may contact Daniel Cook of the Evergreen Freedom Foundation at (360) 956-3482.

The Evergreen Freedom Foundation (EFF) is a non-profit, educational research organization based in Washington state. The Foundation's mission is to advance individual liberty, free enterprise and limited and responsible government. EFF staff conduct research and publish analysis and policy alternatives in the areas of state budgets; governance and citizenship; and health, education and welfare reform.

EFF neither solicits nor accepts donations from public sources. All programs and activities are funded by private donations from thousands of concerned individuals and numerous foundations.

Nothing in this article should be construed as an attempt to aid or hinder the passage of any legislation.

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Letters to the editor

Dear Editor:

I am writing to protest the editorial policy appearing on page 11 of the Dec 02/Jan 03 issue of the *Washington Libertarian*. That policy reads as follows:

Note from Editor: Due to space constraints, we will not print any more letters to the editor on the subject of the Blanket Primary, unless they primarily contain new information or points. Thank you for your understanding!

Could it be that Chairman Mills caused these "space constraints" by personally responding at length of the letters written in support of the Blanket Primary, thus taking up valuable space in the letters column?

The Chair has a right to his opinion, and that opinion is properly expressed in the WL. But he already has a column for this purpose. He should confine his comments to his own column rather than usurping space in the letters column.

Further, the Chair should avoid the paternalistic tendency to lecture members who hold "politically incorrect" views, those views which deviate from his own. Libertarians can decide for themselves about

issues raised in the letters column without the Chair's running commentary.

This policy also raises free speech concerns. If the membership needs to debate a topic, the WL should permit a full airing of the topic. The policy chills the very membership involvement ostensibly sought by the Party.

The policy to limit letters regarding the Blanket Primary is nothing more than a thinly veiled attempt at censorship. It is no excuse to cloak this policy as "space constraints." The powers-that-be oppose the Blanket Primary and they are using editorial policy to squelch the proponents' views.

Sincerely,
Patricia Michl

Editor's Note: Ms. Michl's concerns are well taken, but the fact is, the editor solicited J. Mills responses; the chair did not "usurp" any space. Second, speech may be free, but space in this newsletter costs money. The editor is the steward of that space and must make hard choices as to what can be covered. Within such constraints, we welcome your letters, news, features and editorials; see page 2 for details.

(Continued from page 3)

own. Coordinate with a few Libertarians if you like. It may not make sense to make a big, formal, organized project out of it with our official, county organizations. Just say to them, "Hey, I'm going to the post office with a sign on April 15th. If you want to join me, please do."

Hold your own celebration on Tax Freedom Day in some other public space with lots of pedestrian traffic. Make your signs with white cardboard and thick, waterproof magic markers. Nail 'em or staple 'em to sticks. I won't try to tell you what they should say; you wouldn't listen to me anyway.

Simple, honest and effective.

That's what I plan to do. It's fun. Come and join me!

And don't you ever change.

Bruce Guthrie is an instructor at Western Washington University and advisor to that school's libertarian clubs. He was a candidate for Congress in Washington's second district last year.

(Continued from page 1)

District #1 will be up for election. In King County, all of the even-numbered County Council Districts will be up for election. In Snohomish County, the County Executive, and County Council members for District #2 and #3 will be up for election, as will the non-partisan positions of Assessor, Auditor, Clerk, Sheriff, and Treasurer. In Whatcom County, there will be three non-partisan County Commissioner seats up for election.

In 2004, most counties will have two county commissioner seats up for election; the entire State House of Representatives and half of the State Senate will be up for election; the entire Congressional delegation, one U.S. Senate seat and the statewide executive offices such as Governor as well as President will be up for election. We already have our first candidate planning a run for County Commissioner. Let's recruit as many as possible. Now is a good time to start planning a run for county level office in 2004.

So much opportunity. So little time. Let's recruit candidates to run winning campaigns around the state!

All the action! All the excitement! All the fellowship! *In one day!!*

Libertarian Party of Washington State Annual Convention April 26, 2003 Seattle, Washington

Sign up early for the new Libertarian Party convention! We're doing things a little different this year. We're going to try to pack what we normally accomplish in two days, into just one, while still bringing you up close and personal with some of the Northwest's Libertarian stars!

Take care of business...elect new officers...learn from our guest speakers...and still have half your weekend!

This year's convention packages...

Business meeting and coffee only: **Free!** Donations for room cost accepted, of course.

Lunch and speakers — \$59 a person

Full convention: Lunch, speakers, Banquet, entertainment and fellowship time — \$79 a person

Reserve by March 15...**take \$10 off the price of your registration!**

*Non-members welcome! Bring a friend!
Bring your family!*

Convention Hotel:
University Plaza Hotel

400 45th NE
Seattle, Washington

**Single rooms \$85/night +
15.6% tax. Free Parking!!**

Call **800-343-7040** and mention the
Libertarian Party of Washington State
to receive this special rate.

Reservations must be made by
March 25, 2003

Please return this form to: LPWS, 400 NE 45th St. #1776, Seattle WA 98105

LPWS Convention Registration Form

Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

___ Enclosed is a check payable to LPWS

___ Visa ___ MasterCard ___ American Express ___ Discover

Card Number: _____

Exp: _____ Signature: _____

Occupation*: _____

Employer*: _____

Emp. City, State*: _____

Business Meeting Only. Please mail me a meeting packet

Lunch and Speakers....\$59

Full convention: Lunch, speakers, Banquet.... \$79

I'm signing up early. Please take \$10 off my registration.

* The Public Disclosure Commission and Federal Election Commission require we ask these questions.

LPWS News Briefs

Around the State

LPWS Officer and Executive Committee elections

The four state officer positions – Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary – and the nine Executive Committee positions (one from each Congressional District) are up for election at the LPWS business meeting Saturday morning, April 26, at the University Plaza Hotel in Seattle. Three out of nine Judicial Committee positions are also up for election this year. Candidates are encouraged to submit statements to be published in the April/May issue of the newsletter; the deadline is March 15.

Blanket primary lawsuit argued before appeals court

Oral arguments for Democratic Party of Washington, et. al. v. Reed, et. al. (otherwise known as the blanket primary lawsuit) occurred Thursday, February 6, 2003 at the U.S. Court of Appeals - 9th Circuit in Seattle. A correspondent who attended the oral arguments on the blanket primary lawsuit said the panel from the Court of Appeals gave the state a pretty hard time. As usual, there is no date projected for a decision to arrive.

State Central Committee fulfills duty

The meeting of the statutory State Central Committee, the convention of state committeemen and women elected by county parties, was held Jan. 25. As the party's bylaws committee planned last year, when it overhauled the bylaws of the LPWS to deal with major party status, the SCC delegated its powers to the State Executive Committee. The SCC will not meet again until 2005, when the PCOs elected in 2004 will gather.

I-267 fails to get enough signatures

Initiative 267 to the legislature, Permanent Offense's transportation proposal did not gather enough signatures by the first of the year to be considered by the legislature. However, Tim Eyman said I-267 had focused legislators' minds on the transportation spending problem. "We already see progress because of pressure from I-267," he said. "We are very pleased that the Transportation Commission has decided to open carpool lanes during some off-peak hours. We have seen positive signals that the Legislature will finally allow the state auditor to conduct independent, comprehensive performance audits of government spending, another idea from I-267."

Benton / Franklin Co. LP pounds pavement

The Libertarian Party of Benton-Franklin Counties, after successfully organizing the Benton County Committee, will be using the "Liberty Tea Party" model to promote their large number of Precinct Committee meetings to be held in February.

The LPBF saw 6 of its members elected as PCOs this past November, and the County Committee has appointed several more. LPBF members will be gathering throughout January and February to cooperatively "walk the precincts," distributing information about precinct meetings, the LPBF, and the LP in general. Jocelyn Langlois, who has volunteered to set up the meetings, said "Taking what could be an onerous duty for one person and turning it into an excuse for a little party is a great way to build enthusiasm for our local party, and should help bring attention and new prospects to the LPBF as well."

Snohomish LP elects officers, prepares for "intense" campaign season

The Libertarian Party of Snohomish County held its bi-annual organizational meeting on Wednesday, January 8th. The county central committee enacted new bylaws and elected Larey McLaren chair; Tony Smullin vice chair; Thomas Kinnebrew Secretary; and Bill Wald Treasurer. Don Polson, Gordy Bohnke, Howard Gross, Pierre Parent and RC Quint were elected at-large.

Other issues addressed included

- * Restructuring our monthly dinner meeting
- * Fundraising activities
- * Outreach at fairs/festivals
- * Creation of 'librarian' position

"We are looking forward to a lively and intense campaign season," McLaren said.

Kitsap LP elects officers, changes schedule

Kitsap Libertarian Party elected Chairman was Lowell Dietz. Linda Gunning was re-elected vice chairman. Dennis and Diane Haynes elected state committeeman and state committeewoman. Rex Nelson will continue to serve as treasurer, and John Thorne as secretary. The party will meet quarterly going forward.

Local Events by County

Benton/Franklin LP Meeting

Thur, Feb 20, 7:00 PM
(meets 3rd Thurs of even months)
Round Table Pizza, 295 Torbett, Richland
Contact Steve LePage, 509-967-7215,
benton@LPWS.org for information

Clallam County LP Meeting

Tue, Feb 11, March 11, 7:00 PM
(meets 2nd Tue of every month)
Las Palomas Restaurant, Sequim
Contact John Bennett, 360-582-2653,
clallam@LPWS.org for information

Island County Old Goats Luncheon

Fri, March 7, March 21, April 4, 12:00 PM
(meets 1st and 3rd Fri of every month)
By reservation only
Contact Reece Rose, 360-579-5880,
island@LPWS.org for information

Jefferson County LP

Sat, March 1, time TBA
Contact Larry Hovde, at 360-765-3994 or
pugetcty@olympen.com for information

King County Events

Bellevue Liberty Forum

Wed, March 5, 6:30 PM
(meets first Wed of every month)
Las Margaritas, 437 108th NE, Bellevue
Contact John Evans, 800-235-4091 x122,
jevans@solutionsiq.com for information

Free Speech & Shooting Club Social

Wed, Feb 26, March 26, 5:30 PM
(usually meets last Wed of every month)
Wade's Gun Range in Bellevue
Contact Doug Witt, 425-888-2266,
DougWitt@centurytel.net for information

Tax Day Protest

Monday, April 15, 2003
Seattle: Henry M. Jackson Federal Building
at 2nd & Marion, details to be announced

Larry Elder Radio Show

Weekdays, 9-10 PM & 3-5 AM, KVI 570 AM

Kitsap County LP Meeting

Tue, Dec 10, Jan 14, Feb 11, 7:00 PM
Silverdale Community Center, Silverdale
Contact Lowell Dietz,
kitsap@LPWS.org for information

Pierce County LP Dinner Club Meeting

Thur, Feb 20, March 20 7:00 PM
(meets 3rd Thur of every month)
Elmer's Restaurant,
7427 S Hosmer, Tacoma
Contact Jonny Whiting, 360-893-7348

Snohomish County LP Meeting

Weds, March 12, 6:30 PM
(meets 2nd Weds of every month)
King Buffet, 5303 Evergreen Way, Everett
Contact Larey McLaren, 425-481-6482,
snohomish@LPWS.org for information

Snohomish Tax Day protest

Mon, April 15 2003
Time to be announced
Demonstration at Everett Post Office
Contact Larey McLaren, (425) 481-6482,
lmclaren@foxinternet.net

Please send your meeting dates and times, events and schedule changes to calendar@LPWS.org. Notices received by the 15th of the month will be printed in the newletter. Thanks!

Statewide Events

State Executive Committee Meeting

Date, time and location to be announced

Washington Citizens for Proportional Representation

Mon, Feb. 24 and March 24, 6-8 PM
Where: University Branch of the Seattle Public Library, NE 50th and Roosevelt Way. Notes: For more information, Washington@FairVote.net or 206-285-2460, or JanetRAnderson@msn.com

Tax Day Protests

Monday, April 15, 2003
Currently scheduled in Seattle and Everett.
Contact Dianne Pilcher at DiannePilcher@hq.lp.org or 202-333-0008 ext. 231 to order an organizing kit. Many materials also available immediately at the LPWS headquarters, Suite 1776, University Plaza Hotel*

LPWS Annual Convention

Sat, Apr 26, 2003, 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM
University Plaza Hotel*

Success 2003 Workshop

Scheduled for Sun, Apr 27, 2003, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM, has been **cancelled**.

* The libertarian-owned **University Plaza Hotel** is the location of many LP events and the LPWS office. It is located at 400 NE 45th St. in Seattle, just west of I-5 off exit 169 (The University of Washington / NE 45th St. exit). Free parking.

Libertarian Want Ads

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Candidates: To run for local office in 2003. Contact LPWS Campaigns Chair Kelly Haughton at 253-858-7523 or kelly@LPWS.org.

Volunteer wanted to create a listing of the offices up for election in 2003, to be posted to the LPWS website. Contact Kelly Haughton at kelly@LPWS.org.

Help maintain trails on public land with volunteer labor. Trails Club events every 1st Sunday, 3rd Saturday. Enjoy nature, get fit, see results! Details: SSemans@aol.com

Wanted: Liberty-loving musicians for musical promo of libertarian ideals using Open Audio License. Contact the founder of the Open Music Registry: www.openmusicregistry.org

Writers and editors wanted: For the Washington Libertarian newsletter. Research and write articles. Contact Brien Bartels at director@LPWS.org.

Signature Gatherers : Needed for I-807. Contact Voters Want More Choices at 425-493-8707.

Volunteer Coordinator: Preferably King county based. Maintain lists of active volunteers and contact them as needed for state or local party projects. Contact Brien Bartels as listed above.

Free want ads for Libertarians

Deadline: Mar 15 for April issue. Limit 25 words, no commercial advertising. other restrictions apply.

E-mail ads to wantads@LPWS.org or mail to: LPWS Newsletter Want Ads
400 NE 45th St. Suite 1776
Seattle WA 98105

Commercial advertisers please contact the director regarding display ads.