



A New Dawn for Freedom

Social and Activism Events

August 2005

29 Monday 7PM Harvard Square Pizza Uno's. Campaign Committee Meeting for Bill Hees.

September 2005

4 Sunday Potluck BBQ & Pool Party for the LP and the Bilerica Taxpayers Association Swim 2 PM Eat 4 PM At the home of Art Torrey (978) 663-0241 atorrey@cybercom.net
RSVP For directions and location

10 Monson, MA Liberty for Massachusetts Board Meeting (2 PM) and Social Afternoon (3-6 PM; Potluck) at the home of Carol McMahon, 221 Bumstead, Monson 413 250 6608 for directions.

14-Springfield 6:30PM Pioneer Valley Libertarian Association Monthly Meeting tentatively at the Hu Ke Lau Restaurant Just off Mass Pike Exit 5 413 250 6608 for information

17 Boston, MA Noon-6PM 16th Annual Freedom Rally on the Boston Common, sponsored by Mass Cann Liberty for Massachusetts Outreach at the Pioneer Valley Libertarian Association Booth

17 Quincy, MA Morning, Constitution Rally at Faxon Field on Route 3A. Sponsored by the Gun Owners Action League and the National Rifle Association

18 Worcester, MA 6PM Worcester County Libertarian Association monthly meeting, Tweed's Restaurant on Grove Street.

25 Amherst, MA Noon-5PM Rally to End the War On Iraq, the Amherst Common, Amherst MA. An event actually run by Liberty for Massachusetts.

27 Lowell, Massachusetts Lowell Area Liberty Association, monthly meeting, Outback Steakhouse, Reiss Street off the Lowell Connector. RSVP to Art Torrey (978) 663-0241 atorrey@cybercom.net

LfM State Committee Meets

Present were McMahon, Phillis, Power, and See; Lombardi was present for most of the meeting. Phillis reported that Drobnis and Roscoe had already indicated they were unable to attend, but that a quorum (1/3) of the committee was present.

Per Bylaws, Phillis acted as chair.

Power presented the Treasurer's report. Counting recent deposits, we have \$295.71 cash on hand. This agrees to the penny with the bank statement. Income in April, May, June, and July was \$379, \$156, \$449, and \$135. We now have 19 members, counting SOC members who now need to pay dues. Five members receive paper issues of the newsletter.

The SOC was sent a significant question. What would be our response if someone were to file for partisan office and list 'Liberty for Massachusetts' as the ballot line? Is there an interest

[State Committee Meets] (Continued on page 2)

Rally for September!

This September, **Liberty for Massachusetts** and its friends, cooperative libertarian groups including **Outright Libertarians**, the **Free State Project**, the **Pioneer Valley Libertarian Association**, and the **Worcester County Libertarian Association** will be campaigning for liberty at major rallies across Massachusetts. These are huge events, far larger than can be covered by a couple of people sitting at a table. **Please attend and help Liberty for Massachusetts broadcast the Libertarian Message. Write outreach@LibertyForMassachusetts.org if you can appear and help.** September 17 is the Boston Freedom Rally on the Boston Common, with 50,000 or 70,000 spectators listening to bands, speeches, and political messages urging the re-legalization of marijuana. Our booths will be their to run OPH quizzes and broadcast the libertarian message of small government, low taxes, civil liberties, and equality before the law. September 25 is the Rally to End the War On Iraq, staged on the Amherst Common in Amherst, MA by LfM and the PVLA.

Liberty for Massachusetts

Published by the Liberty for Massachusetts Outreach Committee, (outreach@libertyformassachusetts.org) Papermail Subscriptions are \$20/year, checks payable Liberty for Massachusetts, sent to Liberty for Massachusetts, 30 East Chestnut Street, Sharon MA 02067. To join Liberty for Massachusetts, see Page Three.

(Continued from page 1) [State Committee Meets]

in protecting our name? We could do some of this by incorporating, but the reporting requirements following incorporation are unfortunate. We could register our Logo the name superposed on the sunrise. That only protects the logo. A trademark is also not effective.

It was recalled that if LfM were a major party or party designation, which we are not, then only registered voters enrolled as Liberty for Massachusetts voters would be allowed to run as 'Liberty for Massachusetts', and for them it would be mandatory. However, at the present time, a person who was registered as an Unenrolled voter would be entitled to put any three words they wished (with minor restrictions) down as their ballot line, and 'Liberty for Massachusetts' is three words.

It was proposed that our objective is to fix the State Libertarian Party. Where will we be in five years? Will this matter? The Libertarian Party has name recognition that we do not. On the other hand, there are assertions that weak candidates have made 'Libertarian' a ballot line drag. Discussion suggested that if someone did this there could be possible annoying consequences. For example, if they ran for statewide office and got 3% of the vote, we would instantly become the Commonwealth's third major party.

Anyone registered as "Libertarian" must run as "Libertarian". However, many dues-paying members of the National Party are registered as Democrats, Greens, Republicans, or Unenrolled. An Unenrolled voter could run as "Liberty for Massachusetts". Indeed, in the same district we could have two candidates, say running as left libertarian and right libertarian in policies, which should create some press attention. Running candidates is indeed one way to advertise our existence. After considerable discussion, it was unclear if it would be good or bad if someone ran under our name. It was not clear that it would do any good. Our conclusion was 'we can't stop you, but we don't yet see the point.'

Phillies noted that there is a re-legalization rally on the Boston Common on September 17, and we are sponsoring an antiwar rally on September 25 on the Amherst Common. The PVLA tent will appear at each one. LfM will share the PVLA tent. Outright Libertarians was invited to join us if they didn't want to set up their own tent. The Free State Project is also welcome to share, though they may instead have their own tent. The LPMA has historically had a booth at the Boston Freedom Rally, but not at the Extraganja (Amherst, spring) or other similar events.

We need a banner for LfM. There was artistic design discussion. The banner will be white vinyl, 1'x10' with metal grommets. Liberty for Massachusetts will be in blue, covering much of the width of the banner, with a red stripe 1" or so tall above and below it. The dot in

the "l" will also be red. We will try to use the LfM rising sun logo as the corner piece, and will try to include email addresses in small type below the name. Phillies will send Power a copy of the rising sun. The cost with grommets is \$88.93, and this amount was appropriated. Discussion included an alternative: blue field with white letters. However, manufacture is by inkjet printer, and a 1/4" edge will be white.

We also need handouts for the two events, one on re-legalization and one on anti-intervention. The format of the GLBTPL flier will be followed, with the Outreach Committee circulating new text to the Organizing Committee. Noting the rate at which we distributed fliers at the Pride rally, 500 of each of two fliers appeared to be a good choice. Money for this printing was appropriated.

Rob Power indicated that he will launch a new Cambridge liberty group, "Drinking Freely", to meet monthly in a local Cambridge bar. The objective is to have a group so large it cannot meet in his apartment, which seats 20 and stands twice that number. Meeting substantially ended as guests arrived for the LfM social.

Supplemental: The web site has had 130 unique visits in August, so far. Excluding state conventions, monthly income of LfM and affiliates is now appreciably larger than income of the LP State committee.

Run Lots of Candidates – 1997 Results

It worked in Pennsylvania! So reported Libertarian Penn, newsletter of the Pennsylvania Libertarian Party in the Party's 1998 experience. A few years ago, the Pennsylvania Libertarian Party ran 62 candidates for partisan political office. Most of these were relatively minor offices, but they were offices. 25 of the 62 candidates for office were elected. This gave Pennsylvania 25 of the 215 Libertarians then holding office in the United States. In many cases, Party candidates did far better than implied by the number of registered Libertarians in their district. Berks County Treasurer, supported by 1112 registered Libertarians, received five times that number of votes. Adams County Jury Commissioner candidate Kurt Natter, supported by only 136 registered Libertarians, got 13.6% of the vote.

This increase in elected Libertarians in Pennsylvania has been mirrored by an increase in the number of registered Libertarian voters in Pennsylvania. In 1998 Pennsylvania had almost 19,000 registered Libertarians, an increase of 15% in just six months having been observed. In 1995-1997, starting immediately after the 1994 Senate election, the number of registered Libertarians in Pennsylvania increased almost five fold. The same tactic can be put to work in Massachusetts, except the opportunities for Libertarian gain are far larger in Massachusetts than in Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania has a functioning two-party system; in most races, a Libertarian candidate must run both against a Republican and against a Democratic candidate. In Philadelphia Libertarian Leon Williams did this, getting 14% of the vote for City District Attorney.

In Massachusetts, life is much simpler for Libertarian candidates. Massachusetts has one fully-functional political party, the Democratic Party. In previous state-wide state elections, of the eight Governor's Council races, the Republicans rarely challenged

[Run Lots of Candidates](Continued on page 4)

Who We Are
Liberty for Massachusetts
State Organizing Committee

Steve Drobnis-LfM Chair Stoughton; former member Libertarian Party State Committee, ran for Governor’s Council. Successful entrepreneur. Community activist in Masons, Shriners, and Knights of Pythias.

Carol McMahon-PVLA Local Representative Monson; Treasurer for Libertarian Party of Massachusetts and Pioneer Valley Libertarian Association, ran for State Senate. Accountant, does taxes.

Doug Krick-WCLA Local Group Representative Worcester Founder, Pink Pistols (Gay/Lesbian gun owners association); ran for state legislature.

Jonathan Lombardi-LfM Recording Secretary Webmaster themodernamerican.com.

George Phillis-LfM Political Facilitator and Editor Worcester. Author, Stand Up for Liberty!, Editor, Let Freedom Ring!, Chair-Worcester Libertarians.

Rob Power-LfM Treasurer Cambridge, National Chair of Outright Libertarians. Past Vice-Chair of the Libertarian Party of San Francisco.

Rick Rajter-LfM Webmaster Cambridge, Graduate Student, MIT.

David W. Roscoe Chelmsford, past member LAMA State Committee; Project Media Matrix; LPMA Membership Secretary.

Peter Sheinfeld Cambridge. Transportation con-

sultant, school bus company partner, First President, Cambridge Small Property Owners Association

Alvin See-LfM Membership Secretary Westfield, Flood Control Commission; past member, LPMA State Committee; ran for City Council. .

Robert Underwood Springfield computer programmer, translator, Web Master, city council candidate, Spanish Translator for libertarians.
Shirley Underwood Springfield, Activist, Underwood and McMahon campaign volunteer, American Sign Language translator.

How To Join

Mail your name, address, and dues to:

Liberty for Massachusetts, 30 East Chestnut Street, Sharon MA 02067. Dues are \$20/year (\$10/year if you agree to receive publications electronically and send us a valid email address).

Massachusetts Residents: Please indicate if your want to be a **Voting Member** (your address is available to other voting members) or an **Associate Member** (we keep confidential the address data you send us.)

People who live outside Massachusetts become **Corresponding Members**.

We’re here to help each other help everyone. Please indicate activities, events, and working groups for which you would like to volunteer. Liberty for Massachusetts will succeed if you, not your neighbors or *friends but you, invests in the political process.*

.....
Cut off and mail to Liberty for Massachusetts, 30 East Chestnut Street, Sharon MA 02067

Join Liberty for Massachusetts

Liberty for Massachusetts dues are only \$20 per year (\$10 per year if you agree to receive communications electronically).

Your Name:

Your Volunteer Political Activism Interests:

Voting Address (You do not have to be a voter):

Mailing **Address** for LfM (or say ‘same’):

(Optional) Other Contact data:

Phones, Fax

Email (Not optional if you want the \$10 Dues Discount):

Dues: \$20 for Membership

-\$10 Discount if you agree to receive communications electronically and give us your valid email address.

Mail to Liberty for Massachusetts, 30 East Chestnut Street, Sharon MA 02067

September 10 Monson, MA
State Organizing Committee Meeting (2 PM)
Social Afternoon (3-6 PM; Potluck)

at the home of Carol McMahon, 221 Bumstead, Monson 413 250 6608

some extent successfully with the other major parties.

(Continued from page 2) [\[Run Many Candidates\]](#)

in one. And of the 200 races for the Great and General Court, the State Senate and State House, in 2000 the Republicans challenged in slightly more than 80 races. The Conservative, Libertarian, and Independent candidates challenged in a few more. Next year, it is by no means clear that the Republicans will be able to field a full slate of six statewide candidates: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of the Commonwealth, Auditor General, and State Treasurer.

In addition to these officers, Massachusetts presently has 10 Congressmen. The Republicans do not always challenge every Democrat; many Democratic Congressmen have regularly gone unchallenged. At the Congressional level, the Republican Party has marginal chances of carrying no districts. Across Massachusetts, Libertarian Congressional candidates have significant chances of running only against a Democrat for Congress.

Numerically, a Libertarian candidate in a two candidate race should be able to get between 14% and one third of the total vote, depending on the race, the local voters, and the perceived importance of the office to the voters, even without running a serious full-power campaign. In principle, **there is therefore a huge opportunity for the Massachusetts Libertarian Party.** If the Massachusetts Libertarian Party were able to field a full slate of partisan candidates for state office, namely the six state constitutional officers, a Senator, 10 Congressmen, 8 candidates for Governor's Council, and close to the allowable 200 candidates for the Great and General Court, **it is marginally numerically possible for the Libertarian Party to outpoll the Republican Party in Massachusetts.** No "third" party has outpolling one of the two major parties on an all-office count in a very long time, perhaps not since the Republicans were emerging as the new "second" party in the 1850s.

Admittedly, beating a political party that only has 13 % of the Registered Voters is not an overwhelming achievement. The Democrats do this every two years. However, this would be a unique achievement for the Libertarian party in the United States, because we would have established that we are in some sense the Second Party in at least one state. Given the socially-conservative stance of the national Republican party, which wants to criminalize abortion, censor the Internet, and make it impossible for citizens to have truly private telephone or EMail conversations -- all positions repugnant to most residents of Massachusetts-- it would not be at all surprising if Massachusetts were the first state in the Union to turn its back on one of the two major parties. (If we were in Utah, I would be making the same argument, but I would be talking about outpolling the Democrats.) It would certainly establish that the Libertarian Party is capable of competing to

Also, it might be possible to use this momentum to elect at least a few state legislators. Even a single Libertarian State Senator and a single Libertarian State Representative would be more effective than the current Republican delegations in the state house.

A true full slate is not an objective that the Massachusetts Libertarian Party is likely to reach next year. Counting the U. S. Senator, one would need to run 225 candidates, who would between them need 74000* valid signatures to get on the ballots. In the 1996 election the Party actually got 2 candidates on the ballot. Running all these candidates is merely a step toward an end. **The end is to become the majority party,** controlling the State House and the Governor's office. Running candidates is the first step; electing them is the next step.

*10000 for statewide office, 8000 for the Governor's Council, 20000 for Congress, 12000 for the State Senate, and 24000 for the State Representatives.

Attachments

With the electronic edition of Liberty for Massachusetts we are circulating color PDFs of the new Liberty for Massachusetts trifold on the War On Iraq, and the publicity poster for the [Liberty for Massachusetts Rally For Ending the War On Iraq.](#) (They are on the web at <http://www.LibertyForMassachusetts.com> and .org)

The color poster and trifold make clear where we stand, and where the Democratic-Republican parties are clearly missing in action. Our objective is not to criticize the military. Our objective is to remind Americans that the War on Iraq makes no sense, the War On Iraq is wrong, and the War On Iraq should end.

In the long run, how will we achieve our objectives? How will we create a situation in which our country moves in the libertarian political directions?

We will move the country in Libertarian Directions when we do politics, when we are seen to do politics, and when our political deeds are seen to benefit the electorate. We will move the country in Libertarian Directions after our fellow Americans have heard of us, heard of our objectives, and are willing to vote for us.

The attached PDFs give you a tool to advance Liberty for Massachusetts. They put our name before the public. They show that we actually do political things to move America in a direction that most Americans support. The PDFs are a first step.

Please Print Them and Circulate Them Widely