



Provocative Speaker Lineup for LPI's "Sweet Land of Liberty" Convention

By Jeff Jones, OVL Chair/Convention Publicity

The Libertarian Party of Illinois is pleased to announce an exciting speaker line up for the 2006 "Sweet Land of Liberty" Convention. Attendees will be treated to the insights of Thomas DiLorenzo, Wendy McElroy, Jonathon Bean, and Lloyd Sloan the weekend of September 15-17, in our state capitol, Springfield.

Thomas DiLorenzo is a professor of economics at Loyola College in Maryland. He is also a senior faculty member at the Ludwig von Mises Institute. Dr. DiLorenzo has authored a number of books, including *"The Real Lincoln"* and *"How Capitalism Saved America"*. DiLorenzo is widely published, from the *American Economics Review* to the *Wall Street Journal* and *Reader's Digest*. He is a columnist for the web site LewRockwell.com and has appeared on hundreds of talk shows as well as CNN, Fox, and MSNBC. His book on Lincoln is at least controversial if not shocking to those of us who were taught as children to revere Lincoln as a secular icon.

Wendy McElroy is research fellow at the Independent Institute, and contributing editor to *Ideas on Liberty*, *The New Libertarian*, *Free Inquiry*, and *Liberty* magazines. Ms. McElroy is the author of many books including *"Sexual Correctness: The Gender-Feminist Attack on Women"* and *"The Reasonable Woman: A Guide to Intellectual Survival"*. McElroy has also compiled *"Index to Liberty: 1881-1908"* and her next book is titled *"The Debates of Liberty"*. She is a weekly columnist for FoxNews.com and has also been published in periodicals as diverse as *National Review*, *Marie Claire*, and *Penthouse*. Her assertions on women and freedom regularly stun both the left and the right.

Jonathan Bean is Professor of History at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale and is regularly confronted by the Leftist/Socialist climate of today's college campuses. Professor Bean is the author of the award-winning book *"Beyond the Broker State: Federal Policies Toward Small Business"* and is currently working on another book titled *"Right on Race: Forgotten Voices for Racial Freedom"*, which he tells us will be a real eye-opener. He is also

a member of the LPI and faculty sponsor of the SIU's Campus Libertarian Group: Students for a Libertarian Society.

Lloyd Sloan's fiery voice can be heard on the St. Louis radio station WGNU, where he is known as "The Sloan Ranger." This daring and resourceful debater is known to lead the fight "against taxes & boredom" via the airwaves. A graduate of Harvard College, Mr. Sloan has created a hypertext application of *"The Writings of Thomas Jefferson"*, taught college mathematics, published a newspaper, and ran a rousing campaign for Congress.

Whether you agree or disagree with any of our speakers' positions, there is no doubt this is a line up you won't want to miss! So, if you haven't marked your calendar yet, do it now for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, September 15, 16, and 17.

If you've never been to a convention before, this is the perfect time to discuss libertarian philosophy, current events, and politics with like-minded people. It is also a great opportunity to make friends, network with Libertarians statewide and learn more about our great heritage of freedom and about the political process itself. You'll see first hand how politics works—your vote counts and will make a difference in the direction that our Party takes!

Keep an eye on LPI Announce (groups.yahoo.com/group/LPI-announce/), the LPI website (www.LPIIllinois.org) and our newsletter (the *Libertarian Current*) for information on Convention packages, prices, workshops, and more. We'll be publishing more details as soon as they are finalized.

The 2006 LPI "Sweet Land of Liberty" Convention Committee would like to thank the Chapters and individuals who have graciously sponsored speakers and made donations to make this upcoming convention an exciting reality. If you wish to make a donation to support the Convention or have any questions, please email Jan Stover via Director@LPIIllinois.org or call 800-735-1776.



DiLorenzo

McElroy

Bean

Sloan

Tax Day

A Little Reminder of Why We're Doing All This

By Val Vetter, State Chair

April 17th was "Tax Day" this year – it sounded strange, didn't it? We're all so used to April 15th being the grim day that we all dread. Isn't that a tragedy? That the mere mention of a date would have such negative connotations among (virtually) every wage-earning citizen who thought they were being "good Americans?" That's what most - if not all of us - were taught by our parents and teachers and employers. "It's every American's obligation, their duty, to pay his or her income tax." Sure, our parents hated the

income tax, they even taught us to hate it too, but to pay it.

Now we know that the "Income Tax" is a lie. The 16th amendment to our Constitution, "the law that never was," is a lie as well. Americans have been living as indentured servants in our "free country" for almost 100 years.

How did this happen? How did a lie become the law? In a word – vigilance, or more precisely – the lack of vigilance. Jefferson (or was it John Philpot Curran?) warned us that *"the price of freedom is eternal vigilance."*

We haven't been vigilant – neither have our parents – or even our grandparents. The price of freedom wasn't paid, and as a result, much of our freedom has been repossessed. Continued Page 3

Libertarian Mothering Passion and Principles for the Next Generation

By Jan Stover, Executive Director

Following the LPI Convention in February 2005, several convention attendees stayed on in Springfield to participate in Michael Badnarik's Constitution Class. Those of us attending the class had the good fortune to share a little conversation with Michael over lunch. While we talked, the subject turned to the low ratio of women to men in the Libertarian Party and what the LP might do in an effort to motivate women 1) to become members of the LP and 2) to become active in our quest for liberty. We floated a few ideas around the table, but arrived at no real conclusions.

I returned home still thinking of possible viable solutions when the idea of "Mothers for Liberty" came to me. Who better to care about our Liberties than mothers wanting the best for their children? Who better to promote our cause and guarantee that it be carried on to the next generation than the women actually *raising* the next generation? AND perhaps more to the point, what better way to introduce a specific group of women to the Libertarian Party?!


After discussing the idea of "Mothers for Liberty" with family and friends, I decided to start a Yahoo! group for libertarian thinking mothers - not knowing what to expect, but hopeful it would strike a cord with many! I put the definition of the group out on a few message boards: "*Mothers for Liberty is a discussion group dedicated to the ideas and practices of raising libertarian children and actions best taken to guarantee liberty for the next generation. We hope to encourage a dialogue among mothers (and women of all ages and stages) which will in turn promote liberty for all*". I also contacted people directly and even invited Michael Badnarik, his staff AND of course his mother, Elaine, to join the group. (Who better to have a dialogue with mothers raising libertarian children than a mother who actually raised a Libertarian Presidential Candidate!) They joined - as did others - and though we are not yet a large group, we are diverse and far-reaching. Our membership represents nearly 20 states throughout the U.S. and includes women who are homeschoolers, homesteaders, political activists, Libertarian Party members, small "l" libertarians

and, yes, a few brave gentlemen in the mix as well.

On several occasions I have been asked, "How would you define a Libertarian Mother?" Of course there are as many variations and nuances to that question as there are mothers striving to raise free-thinking independent children. Taking the responsibility of raising and teaching our children is a vital part of that definition. Reclaiming the right AND the responsibility to educate our children as we see fit is perhaps paramount in our quest for Liberty. Teaching them to be responsible for their actions; to understand there is no such thing as a free lunch (nor should there be); to think outside the box; and to be grounded in the knowledge of our Founding Documents (the Bill of Rights and the U.S. Constitution) are all things consistent with Libertarian Mothering.

In less lofty terms, here's what I did as a Libertarian Mother. I homeschooled my sons and let them explore, debate, question, disagree, complain, challenge and teach ME a thing or two. I involved them with our family's business endeavors so they would see free enterprise at work first hand. I wrote articles and letters to the editor so they would know the importance of a free press. I took on causes, explained my actions and stood by them as they fought their own fights. We talked politics at home, tried to live our principles and loved our children through thick and thin. Those efforts have been rewarded with two free-thinking, independent sons ... and another generation of Libertarians.

There is no doubt that the Libertarian Party can and will benefit from the dedication and passion mothers bring to the movement on behalf of their children and grandchildren.

In that same vein, the LPI is honoring a group of women recognized as "Mothers of Liberty" by their families and friends. Below is that list of 15 mothers who will be recognized in 2006 as our Mothers of Liberty ... women who have and are raising their children to understand the American principles of Liberty and Independence through their own actions, words and deeds. Thank you ladies, it is an honor to share this page with you! 

Editor's Note: For more information on Mother for Liberty visit: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MothersForLiberty/>



Libertarian Party of Illinois 2006 **MOTHERS OF LIBERTY**

We salute these outstanding women who have throughout their lives promoted the ideals of Liberty and Independence while raising their families ... providing another generation with the values and principles consistent with the Libertarian message.

In Honor of our Mothers of Liberty:

Barbara J. Barker

Eunice Pagel

Jennifer Caudell

Kathleen Polizzi

Julie Fox

Aimee Cole-Steele

Hazel Crawford Jones

Mary Pat Stoll

Kathy Kelley

Jan Jones Stover

Brenda Norton

Dorothy U. Vetter

In Memory of our Mothers of Liberty:

Fannie Storm Crawford

Bess Harding Jones

Eva M. Steele



"The Hand that Rocks the Cradle is the Hand that Rules the World" ~ William Ross Wallace



Lady Liberty Says:

“Give me your tired,
your poor, your
huddled masses
yearning to be free...”

But don't look to Government
for a hand out. The only
guarantee is the PURSUIT ...
not the entitlements!
Support the ONLY party that
really gets it!
Donate to the LPI today!

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Checks also accepted to LPI or Libertarian Party of Illinois. Please send today!!!

* The FEC requires we collect this information. Not tax deductible. Paid for by the Libertarian Party of Illinois, Debra Aaron, Treasurer.
A copy of our report is available from the Illinois State Board of Elections in Springfield and the FEC in Washington, D.C.

TAX DAY...continued from page 1

Franklin told us that we have “*a Republic, if you can keep it.*” Are we on the verge of losing our republic next? Some would say we are. I would have to agree – sadly – that if things don't turn around – and fast – we may see a dramatic change in the very nature of our government. Sure, the Constitution will stay safe and secure in the National Archives. The piece of parchment that the Bill of Rights is written on will not have actually been shredded, it will just seem as though it had been.

I usually try not to preach to the choir. Many of you know the above as well or better than I do. I do feel it's important to bring this to your attention again because every so often we need a reminder of why we're doing all this “Libertarian stuff.” This is especially true for at least two reasons: First and foremost is because times like this – tax day – are excellent times to reach out to those who have not yet learned or accepted that the government formed to protect our freedoms has betrayed them and become our master.

Perhaps just as important is that these times and the related activities give us a chance to reexamine our own motivations to restore our freedoms. By reaching out to others, we strengthen our own resolve and renew our desire to turn things around.

The lack of vigilance that led to our loss of freedom is largely because we have all become “too busy” living lives, advancing careers, raising families, and enjoying our freedom, to make the time required to protect that same freedom. We were content to let our government protect our freedom. Big mistake, but it's easy to understand how it happens – even for dedicated Libertarians.

This is why things like “Tax day” are a good thing. It's one of those few days when people are reminded that Uncle Sam has one hand in our pocket – and the other on our throat – and that we're the only political party that wants to change things.

That's why we “keep on keepin' on,” even when things aren't moving as fast or as smoothly as we'd like. We do it with a skeleton crew, shoestring budget, and fighting against well-funded, organized, and underhanded opponents.

That's why we need more of the people reading this to get involved: attend affiliate meetings, help form an affiliate if there is none near you, or organize an “Operation Politically Homeless” table at a local event.

Heck, you could even donate 10% of that tax “refund” to the LPI.

Honor Our Fathers

For the Values and Principles by Which They Live

This Father's Day, we Libertarians have the opportunity to honor the men in our lives who have led their families by example, promoting Freedom and Independence ... the values and principles for which our Founding Fathers lived and died.

With a donation of \$20 to the LPI, your father's name will be included on our special “*Fathers of Freedom*” page in the June issue of the *Libertarian Current* as well as permanently recorded on a 2006 “*Fathers of Freedom*” Plaque that will be prominently displayed at this year's LPI Convention. Fathers will also receive a special Father's Day Card informing them they are recipients of this special honor.

If you would like to recognize your Father (living or deceased) or perhaps your husband, son or friend - any man who has promoted the Libertarian ideals while raising a family - now is the perfect opportunity to do so! Simply fill out the form below, return it to the LPI office at 515 W. Main, Greenville, IL 62246 along with your \$20 donation by May 20th and your father's name will be included in this special recognition.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our Executive Director, Jan Stover, at 800-735-1776.

“FATHERS of FREEDOM”

Recipient's Name: _____

Check one:

Living (In Honor of) ____ Deceased: (In Memory of) ____

Name of Contributor: _____

Relationship to Recipient: _____

Name and address where card is to be sent: (if recipient is deceased and contributor would like to receive an “In Memory of” card, please check here ____)

Name _____

Address: _____

City and State _____

Zip Code _____

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Email director@lpillinois.org for more information.

Where's My Local Chapter?

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www.lpchicago.org

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www.mel-lp.org

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wstephens@fvlp.org 847-551-1930
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