



Be Involved in the Future of the LPI!

By Val Vetter, State Chair

If you've been receiving your *Libertarian Current* for the past few months, you know that September 15-17 is the LP-Illinois Annual Convention. You are probably also aware that we will be choosing LPI officers for the next two-year term as well as voting on bylaw amendments at the business meeting.


I hope you will be a part of these important decisions.

But it's not enough to just *choose* officers to run the Party; we also need some of our members to *BE* those officers we choose. Are you one of those members who will lead the LP-Illinois to the 2008 elections and beyond? I hope you'll consider it.

What does it take to be a state officer? It takes a couple of hours a week, a meeting every two or three months, and a desire to help the Party grow and succeed. It also takes the ability to work together with other officers and members.

Certain positions – like Webmaster or Treasurer – take some specialized knowledge and experience – but not a huge amount. As with most jobs, the key to succeeding is to show up with the right attitude. The rest of the positions can be learned “on the job.” The key to the LPI's progress these past months has been volunteers and officers who are optimistic, dynamic, involved, and play well with others. Enthusiastic people with ambitious ideas are especially needed.

If you've read through the proposed bylaw amendments, you'll notice that the caucus of members who put their heads together to write them feel a strong need for more officers to lead and work for the Party. Though we Libertarians hate “bureaucracy”, we realize that getting more done takes more people. (Since all of the officers are volunteers, “bigger government” is not a problem in this case!) I feel strongly about the need for more workers and leaders to make this Party grow so we'll be ready for 2008 and beyond. If you have comments, questions, or concerns about the proposed officer positions, I hope you'll give me a call at 877-LPC-VOTE to discuss them. I also hope you'll agree with us on these changes and support these bylaw amendments at the business meeting. (To review the current LPI bylaws and proposed amendments visit: <http://www.lpillinois.org/bylaws.php>)

So please – look in the mirror and ask yourself: “Do I have something to offer the LP-Illinois? Am I ready to be one of the people who will take the LPI to the next level?” I hope you are one of those people – and I look forward to meeting you at the Convention to discuss the future of the LPI – and your part in it. 

All members who joined the Party before August 18, 2006 are entitled to attend and participate in the Annual Business Meeting on Sunday – whether you register for the rest of the Convention or not. If you absolutely, positively can't make it to the business meeting on Sunday, you can send your “proxy” with a member who is attending. Whoever you choose will be voting in your name, so make sure this person knows your desires! Voting members attending the business meeting are allowed to carry 2 proxies for non-attending members. Be sure to bring/send a signed proxy for each non-attending member! (A simple form with your name saying “I name John Doe as my proxy for the September 17, 2006, LPI business meeting” with your signature will suffice.)

Remember also that registering for the Convention is not the same as being “credentialed” for the business meeting! Anyone can register for the Convention and attend, but you must be an Illinois LP member and check in with the Secretary before you may participate in the business meeting. Arrive early as credentialing begins at 8 am with the business meeting starting at 9.



Mark McCoy

Due to unforeseen circumstances, Professor Jonathan Bean will be unable to speak at the upcoming LPI Convention. However, the Convention Committee has found an outstanding replacement in Mark McCoy. Mark is a long-time rights defender, who has successfully challenged the city of Collinsville, Illinois, on business license law and other

ordinances. He is the St. Clair County Coordinator for the *We the People Foundation for Constitutional Education* (GiveMeLiberty.org), Illinois State Contact for the *Fully Informed Jury Association* (FIJA.org), and creator of *MunicipalTyranny.org*, a website designed to teach people how to defend themselves from government abuse.

Mark is a member of the Libertarian Party of Illinois, former

Treasurer of the Metro East Libertarians and has been studying law and the Constitution for over 10 years. He is currently working towards a paralegal degree.

Mark will be speaking Saturday on “You CAN fight City Hall: Confronting Big Brother's Bratty Siblings.” More last minute Convention updates and reminders can be found on page 2.



The Libertarian Current

The publication of the Libertarian Party of Illinois
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Don Stover - VC Campaigns, Ken Prazak - VC Media
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LPI 2006 Convention

Just Days Away



Libertarians from around the state will gather and celebrate our "Sweet Land of Liberty" September 15-17. Our Convention is packed with top-notch speakers, educational opportunities, networking, and libertarian fun.

Convention News...

- Five current and future Libertarian candidates will speak at our Candidates Forum on Saturday afternoon. This will be a great chance to hear new political voices for liberty from across the state.
- We have fantastic items donated for our silent and live auctions, including Lynn Tinsley's Campaign Button Collection, a framed artist's rendition of the US Constitution, certificates for Heartland Institute's 22nd Anniversary Benefit Dinner, the ever-popular Liberty Basket packed with items for Liberty Lovers, autographed copies of Libertarian books and much more!
- With all the "Outreach Tables" just about sold out, attendees will be able to peruse a wide selection of interesting groups including the Free State Project, Fair Tax, and Heartland Institute. Individual authors and businesses will be among the vendors as well.
- Want to sit with either Tom DiLorenzo or Wendy McElroy, our Keynote Speakers, at Saturday Night's Banquet? There are a few Platinum Packages remaining -- if you want one, register quickly or let us know that you want an upgrade.

To get more information about the Convention or to register, call us at (800) 735-1776 or visit our website, LPillinois.org. If you haven't reserved your room at the Route 66 Hotel & Conference Center, call the hotel toll-free at (888) 707-8366. Don't wait, rooms are filling up fast!

LPI Chapters Active in Many Summer Venues

LPI members from Chapters throughout the state have spent the summer participating in county fairs, parades and other venues promoting the Libertarian Party of Illinois and the ideals of Liberty. Chapter members from DuPage, Fox Valley, LP-Chicago, Cook County-Northwest, Metro East and Okaw Valley have represented the Party at such events as the Bond County Fair, Chicago Gay Pride Parade, Downers Grove Heritage Fest, DuPage County Fair, Custer Street Fair, Fayette County Fair, Illinois Renewable Energy Fair, and the McHenry County Fair. These events have proven successful bringing in new members as well as opportunities for coalition-building with other like-minded organizations.

WHY I'M A MONTHLY PLEDGER

"Everybody knows that 'money is the mother's milk of politics' - but at the same time, no one likes fundraising. Pledging makes it routine. The Party could do more if most of us gave as little as \$10.00 a month. Almost everyone can afford that, and a lot of us can afford much more!"

~ Kathy Kelley, Chair Rockford Area Libertarians

"I pledge because those who would like to control my life are well-organized, well-financed, and ruthless. Only through a continual stream of funds and hard work will we build a free society."

~ Crystal Jurczynski, Chair DuPage Libertarians

"Since becoming involved with the LPI, I've often said that if everybody in the Party gave \$10 a month (or more), we would be able to build a Party that could succeed!"

~ Chris Stoll, LPI Member



There's still time to register for the LPI 2006 Convention. Mail or fax this form, call us, or register online.

Number of Attendees _____ x Package _____ + Donation _____ = Total \$ _____

Banquet meal choice(s) ___ Herbed Chicken Breast ___ Marinated Pork Chop ___ Vegetable Lasagna

Workshop choices: 9am: ___ Libertarian Answers to Tough Questions OR ___ Growing Chapter Membership

10:20am: ___ Freedom is NOT Free: Fundraising Strategies OR ___ Activism: A View from the Trenches

Name(s) _____ Phone _____ Email _____

_____ Address _____ City _____ ST ___ Zip _____

Employer* _____ Occupation* _____

Payment ___ Check ___ Visa ___ MC ___ Discover _____ - _____ - _____ Exp _____ Verification# _____

Signature _____

CAN'T ATTEND THE CONVENTION, BUT STILL WANT TO SUPPORT THE LPI?

YES, I WANT TO SUPPORT THE LPI! ENCLOSED IS MY DONATION FOR \$ _____

YES, I'd like to become a Monthly Pledger to the LPI - Pledge Per Month: _____

(Please use my credit card information above for my Pledge)

Send your registration form and/or donation to: the LPI Office at 515 W. Main, Greenville, IL 62246

On September 17, during Sunday's business meeting, the Libertarian Party of Illinois will be electing Party officers. Please review the summaries below, take stock of your time and talents and consider running for the office that interests you most. To discuss LPI officers' duties in more detail, please contact our State Chair Val Vetter or our Executive Director Jan Stover.

Current LPI Offices:

State Chair - functions as chief executive of the LPI and runs LPI meetings

Vice Chair Membership - promotes membership growth and administers member data

Vice Chair Communications - promotes the Party mainly through announcements and press releases

Vice Chair Campaigns - promotes campaign activity and provides campaign resources

Treasurer - accounts for Party funds and files reports with the FEC

Secretary - takes minutes at Party meetings and handles official correspondence

Proposed Offices: (in addition to Current Officers)

Fundraising Chair - develops and coordinates fundraising activities

Activism Chair - coordinates Party involvement and activity in statewide and regional events

Legislative Chair - monitors and informs membership of state legislative activity

Public Relations Chair - this title would replace the position of VC Communications

Newsletter Editor - edits and distributes the LPI Newsletter

Webmaster - edits and enhances the LPI Website

We need our members to help grow the LPI! How will YOU contribute? Call us at 800-735-1776.

Slow and Steady Wins the Race

by Jan Stover, Executive Director

I want my great-grandchildren to live in an America that reflects the Founders' vision.

I want my grandchildren to live in an America that understands the Founders' intent.

I want my children to live in an America that embraces the Founders' words.

And I want to live in an America that leaves this remarkable legacy to those heirs.

Nothing successful happens overnight. And the undertaking I've proposed above will only happen with careful planning orchestrated by dedicated people working together under the unifying banner of Liberty.

We can begin that planning today. Join us as the Libertarian Party of Illinois sets the stage for a future America that our Founders would be proud to call their own. Join us at the "Sweet Land of Liberty" Convention. Place your hat in the ring for an LPI office so that your voice and the voice of Liberty will be heard! If elected, bring to that office a sense of dedication that survives conflict, frustration and personalities and always remember the goal is Liberty - for our nation's children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Yes, slow and steady wins the race ... join us for the first step in that race we'll run together. 🇺🇸

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

An Interview with Anthony Williams

by Don Stover, Editor

This editor recently had the opportunity to talk with Anthony W. Williams. He is running as a Libertarian for Congress in the Second Congressional District in Chicago's south suburbs.

Mr. Williams, although only a one year veteran of the LPI, has stirred some tremendous interest from the African-American community about the Libertarian Party. Mr. Williams said, "The Libertarian Party has caused me to re-examine my citizenship, and re-examine what it means to be an American". He sees his campaign as an "opportunity for the LP to reach out to persons seeking other options than just the R's and D's. I see so much disenchantment with the two party system."

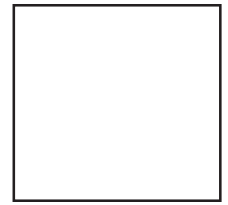
When asked about bringing more African-Americans to the Libertarian Party, Mr. Williams said, "The opportunity lies in my race against Jesse Jackson Jr. (D. C2). The two party system has no interest in the condition of the African-American community. It believes that it has gotten all it can from this community."

Williams believes the LP is not only ready for diversity, but what he calls liberation. He went on to say, "Liberation is a code word among African-Americans, which stands for not only freedom, but rights of the individual and limited government as well. My race against Jackson is an opportunity for the doors of liberation to swing wide open".

Mr. Williams, his wife and four children, make their home in Dolton, Illinois.

Editor's Note: Williams will be one of the individuals speaking at the Convention's Candidates Forum on Saturday September 16th. 🇺🇸

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Where Does My Local Chapter Meet?

Your Guide to “Where and When” Libertarians meet throughout the State!

DuPage Libertarians meet at Alberto’s in the Holiday Inn on the SW corner of North and Gary Avenues in Carol Stream. Socializing starts at 6:30 and the meeting runs from 7 - 8:30pm. For more information, call 630-876-1935 or visit: www.DuPageLibertarians.org.

Fox Valley Libertarian Party (FVLP) meets at Barone’s Pizza & Restaurant (3 Lakewood Plaza) in Carpentersville the last Wednesday of each month. Social hour begins at 7:00pm with optional dinner, followed by the business meeting at 8pm. For more information call 847-551-1930 or visit: www.fvlp.org

Libertarian Party of Chicago (LPC) meets at Goose Island Brewing Co. at 1800 N. Clybourn in Chicago on the second Tuesday of each month (5:30pm socialize and 6pm business meeting). For more information call 877-LPC-VOTE or 312-409-2223 or visit: www.lpchicago.org

Libertarian Party of Cook County-Northwest meets at the Silver Stallion Restaurant at 1275 Lee St. in Des Plaines on the second Sunday of each month (6:30pm/dinner optional, meeting at 7pm). For more info call 708-865-9170

Libertarian Party of Lake County (LPLC) Meeting Dates and Location TBA For more information call 847-438-7776 or visit lake.il.lp.org

Metro East Libertarians (MEL) meet at Southwestern Illinois College Belleville Campus in Conference Room 2260 located in the Main Complex, upstairs across from the Theater. Meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm. For more information call 618-580-8779 or visit: www.mel-lp.org

Okaw Valley Libertarians (OVL) meet at Jay’s Restaurant Vandalia. (730 W. Gochenour St) the second Thursday of each month at 6:30pm. For more information call 618-283-0888 or visit: www.okawvalleylibertarians.com

Southern Illinois Libertarians (SIL) meet in the Carbondale Civic Center, 200 South Illinois Avenue in Carbondale on the 3rd Sunday of every month at 2pm . For more information, call 618-303-1997 or visit: <http://sil.lpillinois.org>

Rockford Area Libertarians meet at Villa Di Roma Restaurant at Harrison Ave. and 11th Street in Rockford. Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 7th at 7pm. For more information call 815-874-6345 or visit: lprockford.8m.com

NEW Chapters to be Affiliated

Pending SOC Confirmation:

Capital Area Libertarians (CAL) meet in the Lincoln Library’s Bicentennial Room in Springfield. Meetings begin at 6pm and are held the second Wednesday of each month. For more information, call 217-529-6753 or email blacknight_80751@yahoo.com

Champaign County Libertarian Party meets at the Urbana Free Library in Urbana. Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month For more information call 217-721-4002 or email warden@nupaper.com.

Another Chapter is forming:

Tazewell County Libertarians meet at the Morton Public Library in Morton (Pekin/ Pekin area) on the third Wednesday of each month from 6pm-9pm. For more information call 309-202-5843 or email dzd_mad1982@hotmail.com