



LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF ILLINOIS

Libertarian Party of Illinois News

October 4, 2009

Wanted: State-wide Candidates

Per Illinois election law, we must fill all of the 6 "state slate" positions to run any candidates for Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General, Comptroller, Secretary of State, or Treasurer. Thanks to George Ryan and Rod Blagojevich, November 2010 may be the best opportunity to make the biggest impact on Illinois politics that we may ever see.

You can help us fill the slate with the best candidates Illinois has ever seen. Here's how:

- Run for an office yourself. You believe in liberty. Sell it for the betterment of everyone in Illinois. Look on our website for additional ideas on [why you should run for public office](#).
- Recruit someone you know to run. Could be a friend, neighbor, relative, co-worker, or community leader. Volunteer to be their Campaign Manager, Treasurer, Media Contact, etc.
- Talk up the opportunity at every meeting or party you attend. You can be the catalyst for a great candidate to decide to run.
- Post invitations to run on Facebook, Linked In, or other online discussion lists. The broader our reach, the more opportunities we have to find the best candidates.

Illinoisans deserve a chance to vote for freedom in 2010. Please email Campaigns Chair [Lupe Diaz](#) if you would like to talk about any election campaign, whether local, state, or federal or if you know someone who should run.

LP Illinois members will elect its candidates for the state slate as well as US Senate during the business meeting portion of the [LP Illinois Convention](#), only 3 weeks away. Please take action if you want Illinois to be able to vote Libertarian in 2010.

If Libertarians can take 5% or more of the vote, we become an "established" Party in Illinois. This would reduce the number of signatures we need to get on the ballot by 80%! What a tremendous boost this would be to future Libertarians campaigns. Let's make the year 2010 the year the Libertarian Party of Illinois makes history.

Attention Libertarian Candidates for Governor

The Midwest Liberty Fest will be next weekend in DuQuoin. Our friends with Free & Equal are hosting a gubernatorial debate there on October 9th. To date, we have 0 Libertarian candidates who are participating in this event.

If you would like to represent the Libertarian viewpoint, please contact Campaigns Chair [Lupe Diaz](#).



Wanted: Libertarian Party of Illinois Officers

The following offices will be up for election at the LP Illinois Convention: State Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Activism, Campaigns, Fundraiser, Legislative, Newsletter Editor, and Webmaster.

You can take a leadership role in the liberty movement by becoming an LP Illinois Party officer. No experience is necessary, only a thirst for liberty and the will to make it happen. Experienced officers stand ready to help newcomers be successful in their roles.

For more information about what the Party officers do, [visit our website](#) and call 800-735-1776 to express your interest.

Wanted: Convention Attendees, Auction Items, and Award Nominees

Saturday night at the LP Illinois Convention is always exciting, starting with a cocktail hour, both silent and live auctions, the banquet and headline presenter (Sharon Harris, President of the *Advocates for Self-Government*), as well as awards for outstanding Party volunteers.

Our Convention auctions are one of the main ways the Party raises money for day-to-day operations as well as major activities like the upcoming petition drive to put our candidates on the ballot. If you have an auction item to donate (can be any product or service) or would like to nominate an individual for an award, contact Val Vetter at 800-735-1776. Past auction items have included everything from baked goods to gold coins—all contributions are appreciated!

The Libertarian Party of Illinois Convention this year is in Collinsville (near St. Louis) October 23-25. See our website (LPillinois.org/convention) for all the Convention details and to register. All the Platinum Convention packages have been sold out, but you can still register for a Gold or Bronze Convention Package. See you there!

Calling Libertarian Students and Educators

The Wheaton College *Students for Free Markets and Free Minds* will present **Libertarianism 101** on October 12th at 7:30 p.m. at Wheaton College, Blanchard Hall, Room 339 ([map](#)). Dr. P. J. Hill, Professor of Economics at Wheaton College, will explain what it means to be a Christian Libertarian and how to apply these abstract principles in our contemporary world. Following the lecture will be an extended Q & A session with Dr. Hill so bring your questions.

We also encourage students to attend the upcoming [Midwest Liberty Conference](#) in Chicago on Saturday, October 17th. The University of Chicago *Students for a Free Society* is hosting and the LP Illinois will have an outreach table at this event. If you can help us staff the table, please email Activism Chair [Mike Fogelsanger](#).



Libertarians Champion the Right to Self-Protection

People have the inherent right to protect themselves, their families, and others from violence. The founders were wary that this right would be violated by the federal government. So the 2nd Amendment to the US Constitution was added to ensure "the right of the People to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed."

Sadly, the fundamental right to self-protection has been repeatedly violated by all levels of government, particularly here in Illinois, one of only 2 states where it is prohibited to carry guns. Even after the *Heller* decision, where the Supreme Court clarified that gun ownership was an **individual** right, Chicago and Oak Park continue to ban the possession of all handguns, even within people's homes.

But there is hope that freedom will prevail. The US Supreme Court just announced that it will take up the *McDonald vs. Chicago* case. This case will determine whether state and local gun ordinances can be struck down because they violate the 2nd Amendment. Arguments will be heard in February.

The Libertarian Party of Illinois is reaching out to those who understand that our inalienable rights include self-protection. We are running half-page ads in *The Illinois Shooter*, showing the World's Smallest Political Quiz and encouraging those who find themselves in the Libertarian quadrant to contact us. [Download the ad](#) (pdf). If you believe we should continue this type of advertising campaign, please [donate to the Party](#) and demonstrate your support.

Freedom Night Recap

The Freedom Night event in Bloomington on September 18 was expected to draw 50 or 60 people. They ended up with 150. The McLean County Libertarian Party hosted a table there with the World's Smallest Political Quiz to attract people to join our Party.

Terry Noel, Professor of Austrian Economics at Illinois State University, spoke. He is the advisor to the ISU Libertarian Campus Chapter and has written a book titled "Empty Nest Egg, Why you must start your own business NOW." Following Terry was 2004 Libertarian Presidential Candidate Michael Badnarik. Both speakers received rave reviews. Michael offered his US Constitution class the following day and had 32 students join him. If you ever have a chance to take one of Michael's classes, they are highly recommended.

New Libertarian Angle Published

An Op Ed titled "Which End of the Leash Do We Prefer" was published in the Orange County Register. Check it out: <http://www.ocregister.com/articles/dog-own-doesn-2589930-leash-one>.



A Tale of Two Tales

Old version

Ant works hard all summer long, building his house and laying up supplies for the winter. Grasshopper thinks Ant is a fool and laughs and plays the summer away.

Come winter, Ant is warm and well fed. Grasshopper has no food or shelter. He begs Ant for help. Ant generously gives Grasshopper the opportunity to sing for his supper, enjoying the music while teaching Grasshopper how he can work for a living.

Moral of the story: The value of hard work and self-sufficiency.

Modern version

Ant works hard all summer long, building his house and laying up supplies for the winter. Grasshopper thinks Ant is a fool and laughs and plays the summer away.

Come winter, Grasshopper calls a press conference and demands to know why Ant should be allowed to be warm and well fed while others like him are cold and starving. The major networks broadcast live video of the shivering Grasshopper outside Ant's comfortable home.

America is stunned by the contrast. How can this be, that in a country of such wealth, that poor Grasshopper is allowed to suffer so? The cause is obvious: capitalism. Multi-millionaire capitalist Michael Moore sells a movie on the evils of capitalism, demonizing Ant and decrying how he has gotten rich off the back of poor Grasshopper.

The "Economic Equity Act" is passed to force Ant to pay a "fair share" of his wealth to Grasshopper. Ant decides to leave, so his hard work will never be unfair to Grasshopper again. His home is confiscated by the government for non-payment of taxes and converted into subsidized housing.

Grasshopper visits his local Acorn office to apply for free housing. Acorn staffers help Grasshopper move into Ant's house and explain how he can deduct his "hopperettes" as dependents on his tax returns. Grasshopper is later found dead in a drug-related incident.

The house, now abandoned, is taken over by a gang of spiders who terrorize the once-peaceful neighborhood.

Moral of the story: You reap what you sow.

More about the LP Illinois News

Send news items, commentary, and feedback to our Newsletter Editor (News@LPillinois.org).

The LP Illinois News archive is located on our website at LPillinois.org/news. To subscribe, email LP-Illinois-News-subscribe@yahogroups.com. You can unsubscribe at any time.

Paper editions of the LP Illinois News are sent to Party members on an occasional basis. If you are not yet a member, visit LPillinois.org/join. There is no charge to become a member; however, [donations to support the newsletter and other Party activities](#) are much appreciated.

Please share this newsletter with others. Thank you for supporting the liberty movement.