



# LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF ILLINOIS

## Libertarian Party of Illinois News

January 28, 2010

### ***Libertarian Campaigns***

We have 2 additional Libertarian campaigns in the running for the November election: **Bill Malan** for Illinois Attorney General and **Doug Marks** for the 14<sup>th</sup> Congressional. A heart-felt thanks to Bill and Doug for stepping forward as Libertarian candidates.

★ **Vote Libertarian** ★

**Win a Free Country**

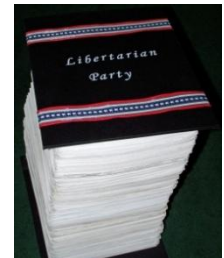
All our candidates are working hard to solidify their messages, raise money, meet voters, do interviews, and speak to organizations across the state. What they need is your help. Assistance can be provided by those who would like to serve as a campaign manager, treasurer, volunteer coordinator, fundraiser, webmaster, spokesperson, writer, researcher, event planner, graphic designer, photographer, videographer—you name it and we need it. No experience necessary, just interest in serving in a particular role and the drive to win.

Anyone interested in volunteering for campaigns, please contact Crystal at 630-876-1935 or [Campaign@LPillinois.org](mailto:Campaign@LPillinois.org).

### **Petition Drive 2010**

To get our state-wide candidates on the ballot, we need to collect **50,000 petition signatures between March 23 and June 18**. That's a huge number of signatures in a very short amount of time.

We need you and every Libertarian to help us make it happen. Please begin thinking about where you can collect signatures in your area, whether going door to door, in front of your post office or library, or an event like a parade or a gun show. Every signature that volunteers like you can collect is exceedingly valuable to the success of our drive.



For those who are unable to be directly involved with collecting signatures, we have other ways you may help this effort. One such method is by contributing financially to assure the hiring of paid contractors. Please donate TODAY, so we may begin lining up contractors to supplement our volunteer effort. We are offering \$1 per signature, so your \$100 donation will support the collection of 100 vital signatures for our petition drive. Please [send your most generous gift today](#) and move our drive forward. Checks for the petition drive can be sent to LP Illinois, P O Box 6 Bloomington IL 61702-0006

In addition to our petition volunteers and donors, our Petition Drive Manager, David Davies, wants to hear from you if you:

- **Have successful petitioning experience?** We are looking for mentors who can take newbies out and show them the ropes.



- **Are a notary public?** We need people who can notarize petitions for circulators in every area of the state.
- **Can visit downtown Springfield or Chicago during business hours?** We can verify signatures against voter registration records as they are being collected and help to pre-empt a challenge.
- **Are willing to be a petition collection point?** We need locations across the state where circulators can turn in their petitions and have them forwarded for assembly.

If you would like to pledge to collect signatures or volunteer for the drive, please contact David at 815-990-8843 or [PDM@LPillinois.org](mailto:PDM@LPillinois.org).

### Libertarian Candidate Forums

As a group, our state-wide candidates have visited Schaumburg, Wheaton, Naperville, Rockford, and DeKalb, reaching out to voters in these areas.

Activism Director Mike Foglesanger and Public Relations Director Kent McMillen have been working hard to organize these events and get press attention. Our January Forums were picked up by USA Today.com and DeKalbCountyOnline.com.



### Activism at the Primaries February 2<sup>nd</sup>

Many Illinois residents will be going to the polls to vote in the primary election on Tuesday. Libertarians can take the opportunity to remind voters that there is a better alternative to “politics-as-usual” in Illinois.

All you have to do is print a batch of [Libertarian Party of Illinois flyers](#) and head over to your local polling place anytime between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. Be sure to keep more than 100 feet away from the doors—it’s illegal to politick closer. (Look for cones or flags designating the exact distance.)



Smile and ask people if they are interested in learning about an alternative to the major parties. Provide a flyer and ask them to visit our website, [LPillinois.org](http://LPillinois.org), for more information. If you are interested in starting or growing a local chapter, you can also take a signup sheet and collect people’s names, email addresses, and phone numbers.

If you have any questions or want to share your experiences, contact Mike Foglesanger ([Activism@LPillinois.org](mailto:Activism@LPillinois.org)).

Speaking of the primaries, if you are considering a run for office, do NOT take a partisan ballot on Tuesday. If there is a referendum you wish to vote for/against, ask for a non-partisan ballot. Taking a Democrat, Green, or Republican ballot will open your campaign to a legal challenge that you are not a Libertarian.



## Campaign Workshops

We are planning 3 training workshops in 2010 for candidates, future candidates, and those interested in campaign management. On March 20, the workshop will be in the northern third of the state; July 10th, the southern third of the state; and September 18 or 25, in Springfield during the Illinois Convention.



Each workshop will be 3 hours and cover: Preparing to run; Building a team; Developing a strategy; Marketing a candidate; Fundraising, Spending, and Disclosing funds; Getting on the ballot; and Leveraging resources.

If you are interested in attending a Campaign Workshop, please email [Campaign@LPillinois.org](mailto:Campaign@LPillinois.org). We need to know how many people to expect, so we can select an appropriately-sized and centrally-located facility. Seating will also be limited, so write today and reserve your place at the head of the class.

## Legislative News: Medical Marijuana Update

The Illinois House of Representatives has begun the second half of its 2009-2010 session, and one of the items on this year's legislative agenda is **SB 1381**, the Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program Act.

Let's make Illinois the 15th state to protect medical cannabis patients from arrest and prosecution. Contact your State Representative and tell them to support **SB 1381**. If you don't know how to contact your Representative go to [ILga.gov](http://ILga.gov).

## Volunteers Needed

After the primaries, there will be followers of Democrats, Greens and Republican candidates who feel lost. If you are on Facebook please invite friends to check out our candidates.

## News for Libertarian Student Groups

The [Advocates for Self-Government](#) are offering FREE OPH KITS FOR LIBERTARIAN STUDENT GROUPS.

They are giving their acclaimed [OPH \(Operation Politically Homeless\) outreach kits](#) to libertarian student groups FREE -- if they simply promise to use them a minimum of three times a year and send photos documenting OPH activity. OPH -- praised as the best recruiting tool in the libertarian movement -- normally sells for \$50.00. Contact [info@TheAdvocates.org](mailto:info@TheAdvocates.org) for information to get your free OPH kit.



## Donations Needed

Be a generator of change! **Help** foster true liberty in your community! **Donate** to the Libertarian Party of Illinois.

A choice to run for office affects your whole life - your family - your work. Our Candidates need all the support we can give them.

One way you can help is to **donate** to the Libertarian Party of Illinois so that we can help to support them during their campaign. An example of how we do this is the **2010 Petition Drive Fundraiser**.

Jennifer Hawk is our new Fundraiser Director --she is hard at work raising contributions for Liberty.

Everyone can help, either with donations, or assisting with phone calls, and mailing. Please email Jennifer if you want to volunteer. [Fundraising@LPillinois.org](mailto:Fundraising@LPillinois.org)  
**Help support liberty! Give Illinois an honest choice! Donate today** at [www.LPillinois.org](http://www.LPillinois.org)

## Candidates Corner



### Our Candidate for Governor of the State of Illinois is Lex Green.

Lex has been a citizen of Illinois all of his life. He and his wife Karen have three children, Jeffrey, Tera and Matt.

Lex graduated from Bloomington High School as a member of the National Honor Society. He earned a degree in Electronic Technology at Illinois Central College.

He is a member of the Bloomington Area 912 Project, the McLean County Campaign for Liberty, and the founder of the McLean County Freedom Coalition. He is also the secretary of the McLean County Libertarian Party and a member of the Libertarian Party of Illinois.

Lex wants to bring integrity and common sense back to Illinois government. He feels he can have a positive impact on Illinois politics with his principles of honesty, limited constitutional government and protection of individual liberties.

You can contact Lex by email: [lex@electlex.com](mailto:lex@electlex.com), phone: (309) 828-9212 or visit his web site, [www.electlex.com](http://www.electlex.com) or also find Lex on Facebook.



## PRESS RELEASE

### LP ILLINOIS SUPPORTS PUT-BACK AMENDMENT

At a regular meeting of the State Organizing Committee held on January 17, 2010, the Libertarian Party of Illinois (“LP Illinois”) voted to support the Bambenek Put-Back Amendment, which would amend Article IV of the Illinois Constitution and which is named for John Bambenek of Champaign, political director of Main Street Campaigns and the principal author of the amendment. The amendment is a “good government” measure which would affect numerous reforms, such as:

- The legislature would become a unicameral body, consisting of 59 senate districts, each with three senators.
- We would return to bullet voting, in which a voter would have three votes which could all be given to one candidate or evenly divided among three candidates.
- Redistricting maps would be solicited from the public. To be chosen, a map’s districts must be compact, substantially equal in population, reflect minority voting strengths, promote competitive elections and consider political boundaries.
- Legislators would be limited to no more than four two-year terms. No legislator would be able to hold the same leadership position for more than two years.
- The requirements to be listed on the ballot for election as Senator would be the same regardless of political affiliation or non-affiliation. It would also be harder to be removed from the ballot for spurious reasons.
- All legislation must be available for public viewing at least seven days before the final vote.

“This is meant to put the people back in charge of Springfield by reducing the power of the legislative leaders and making legislators more independent and able to represent their districts”, said Dianna Visek, Chair of the Champaign County Libertarian Party, who researched the issue and presented it to the party for endorsement. “It is time we level the playing field for third-party candidates, independents and minorities,” she added.

Petitions for the amendment are currently circulating and approximately 280,000 signatures must be turned in by May 2, 2010 to be on the November, 2010 ballot. Bambenek is aiming for 500,000 signatures by April 1. For more information, please go to [www.putbackamendment.com](http://www.putbackamendment.com).



## Editor Notes

We stand together strong, as Libertarians. History is in our grasp; let's send a message to Libertarians everywhere that we are united.

Unite within your chapters. Use your communities to spread our word of Liberty.

This is our time to stand out and be proud, to say I'm a libertarian. Remember to have pride and passion in who we are and where we are going in 2010.

Let's give hope to Libertarians in other states, to push forward and achieve their goals, while we, as the Illinois Libertarians achieve ours.

We can do this. It's our time. It's our year. Are you with us?

Let us know what you are doing to achieve your liberty goals. E-mail [news@LPillinois.org](mailto:news@LPillinois.org)

