



LP ILLINOIS NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2007

Post-Thanksgiving Thoughts

It's easy to become discouraged when you are a friend of freedom. Examples of government power growing and people willing to sell their liberty for a mirage of security can seem to surround us.

But with a broader perspective, we have much to be thankful for. As Indur M. Goklany tells us in *The Improving State of the World – Why We're Living Longer, Healthier, More Comfortable Lives on a Cleaner Planet*:

"Human well-being has improved and continues to improve for the vast majority of the world's population. Because of a combination of economic growth and technological change, compared to a half century ago, today's average person lives longer and is less hungry. They are also healthier, more educated, and more likely to have children in a schoolroom than in the workplace."

Get the book if you would like to see the uplifting statistics that illuminate how every major measure of quality of life is up around the world.

We can all be thankful that we live at a time where economic and personal freedoms are stronger and improving life more than ever before in human history.

Ron Paul Introduces The American Freedom Agenda Act



Speaking of things to be thankful for, U.S. Congressman Ron Paul (R-TX) has introduced *The American Freedom Agenda Act of 2007*.

The purpose of H.R. 3835 is "to restore the Constitution's checks and balances and protections against government abuses as envisioned by the Founding Fathers."

This bill includes reclaiming our right to habeas corpus, stopping warrantless spying on Americans, and prohibits torture and secret renditions.

Our friends at DownsizeDC have a web page where you can learn more about the American Freedom Agenda Act of 2007 and send an email to your congressional representatives urging them to support this and other libertarian legislation. You can find it at: Action.DownsizeDC.org.

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Libertarian Election Activity

Congratulations to all our Libertarian Party candidates in the November 6 election.

We won 14 races in 7 states, including mayoral, city council and judgeship positions. (If you are interested in the details, you can read more on the National LP website, LP.org.)

The next election activity for LP Illinois is getting our President and Senate candidates on the ballot. If we are going to make that happen, we'll need a ton of volunteers and donations to collect the 40,000-50,000 petition signatures required.

We're forming a 2008 Ballot Access Committee to manage this effort. If you would like to volunteer to be on the Committee or let us know you will support the effort by donating or petitioning, please call the office at 800-735-1776.

It's only with your help that you'll have Libertarian candidates to vote for next November.

Atlas Shrugged Movie Update

We mentioned in a previous edition that the long-awaited movie based on the famous Ayn Rand novel "Atlas Shrugged" is in production.

More details about the movie and thoughts of the director and producers can be found at www.TheAtlasphere.com/columns/071013-bidinotto-atlas-shrugged-movie.php.

Do It Yourself Dentistry in Great Britain

The Chicago Tribune reported recently that 45% of dentists surveyed in Great Britain no longer accept any National Health Service patients. That has led some of the taxpayers who pay for their "universal healthcare" system resorting to super gluing their crowns back on and pulling teeth with pliers.

This story cuts to the main problem with so-called "free" health care: it doesn't exist. Doctors and dentists don't work for free. Medications and treatment facilities cost money. The more you replace a market system with a government system, the more broken it gets.

(With our government paying 44% of our healthcare and regulating the rest, we're more than half broken.)

There's no such thing as a free lunch or free dentistry. British families are finding that out. Let's all work to ensure that "free" healthcare doesn't happen to us.



Thank You

This newsletter and our other liberty-promoting activities are only possible because of your support.

Opportunity to Shape the National LP Bylaws

As one of the top 10 states in National LP membership, Illinois can appoint a representative to the National Bylaws Committee. This Committee works collaboratively to propose bylaw amendments to the National Convention.

Our appointee would work with the Committee primarily by phone and email, but would also attend the Bylaws Committee meeting in Las Vegas on February 15-17 and the National Convention in Denver on May 22-26. If you are interested in this appointment, please call our office (800-735-1776).

This opportunity as well as other positions available for both volunteers and profiteers are listed on our website (LPillinois.org) in the About Us area under State Officials.



Illinois Constitutional Convention

For those of you who missed Bruno Behrend's presentation at the Illinois Convention, your ballot in 2008 will contain a referendum for an Illinois Constitutional Convention. If it passes, the delegates elected will be empowered to craft an entirely new Constitution for our state.

With the right delegates, a new Constitution could include:

- fair ballot access for all political parties
- the power to recall elected officials
- the power to create ballot initiatives
- an end to gerrymandering
- a freedom of information act with penalties for non-compliance

The key is getting the right delegates elected. (The wrong delegates could create an even more socialist state than we already have.)

If you would like to get involved, check the website that has been started at www.IllinoisCitizensCoalition.com or email Bruno@ExtremeWisdom.com.

Bruno is willing to speak to any libertarian organization in the state regarding this issue, so let him know if you would like to arrange a presentation.

Favorite Quote

"Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom, must, like men, undergo the fatigue of supporting it."

- Thomas Paine

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Badnarik Constitution Class and LP Chicago Holiday Party

Michael Badnarik, the highly acclaimed Constitutional scholar, Presidential candidate, and author will be in Chicago on Saturday, December 8th to present Introduction to the Constitution, a course he has taught throughout the country.

Michael's informal and engaging 8-hour class will be held at the Tavern Club, 333 N. Michigan Avenue, 25th floor, starting at 9 a.m. A light breakfast is included, but lunch is up to you (most will choose from the menu provided).

The cost for the course is \$100. In just one day Michael will cover far more than you learned in years of high school or college, in a way you'll never forget. To sign up for the class, go to www.ConstitutionPreservation.org.

Following Michael's class at about 6:30 p.m., LP Chicago will host its annual Holiday Party, also at the Tavern Club. There will be a buffet dinner and cash bar, along with pool tournaments, a silent auction, and much more.

To RSVP for the party, email Ed at EKRutledge@yahoo.com. The party cost is \$30 per person. Payment for the party can be made by cash, check, or charge at the door.

Join the fun and celebrate with libertarian friends, old and new.

