



# NEW MEXICO LIBERTY

## “Let Freedom Ring”



The Official Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of New Mexico

May 2008

[lpnm.us](http://lpnm.us)

v.2.1 #17

### Table of Contents

Page 1

- Notes from the Editor
- The LPNM's Candidates to Date

Page 2 – Field Reports / Calendar

Page 3 – Voice of the Chair

Page 4 – The 2008 LPNM Road-To-Freedom Motorcycle Raffle

Page 5

- The Problem of Overregulation
- The Unanimous Consent Challenge
- Bush and Neocons: President is King

Page 6 – 2008 State Convention Report

Page 7 – Administrivia

Page 8 – Contacts / Internet Resources

Page 9 – LPNM Enrollment / Renewal / Donations

Page 10 – Authorization for Automated Transfers

== == == == == ==

### Notes from the Editor

by Mike Blessing [ [kcufmedia@gmail.com](mailto:kcufmedia@gmail.com) ]

#### New Website is Active

Congratulations to Mike Moss for getting the new LPNM Official Site – [lpnm.us](http://lpnm.us) – up and running. The old one – [libertarian-party-nm.org](http://libertarian-party-nm.org) [ short URLs – [lp-nm.org](http://lp-nm.org) and [nmlp.org](http://nmlp.org) ] – is still up, but we have no idea how long that situation will last. I have set up a Yahoo!-hosted replacement email list for the Forum currently hosted at the “long name” site, as we have no idea when that one will quit operating on us. The URL for the new list on Yahoo! is as follows –

[groups.yahoo.com/group/lpnm-forum](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/lpnm-forum)

#### CNM Libertarians

I've recently registered for classes at Central New Mexico Community College [CNM] here in Albuquerque. While I'm there, I see no reason why I can't hang out a shingle for a CNM Libertarian group. At present, that shingle is only a virtual one – [groups.myspace.com/cnmlibertarians](http://groups.myspace.com/cnmlibertarians). At press time, there are two others signed up there, and I have yet to attend any classes.

#### MORE CANDIDATES NEEDED!

Hey, folks, it's that time again – Election Season! The LPNM needs candidates for public office, as political campaigns are one of the ways that we can get the libertarian message out to the public.

Specifically, I'm calling for everyone who can to run for State Representative or Senator. State Legislature races are the easiest for which to get your name listed on the ballot – at most, you would need to turn in 300 signatures for either a House or Senate candidacy, as compared to 800 for county commissioner, 2500 for U.S. Congress, and 8000 for U.S. Senate.

While at this year's State Convention, I was told that there were prospective candidates for county commissioner races in San Juan and Santa Fe Counties. I look forward to seeing their names on the LPNM's slate, alongside myself and Mark Curtis.

### The LPNM's Candidates to Date

#### President of the United States

Jim Burns – [jimburnsforpresident.com](http://jimburnsforpresident.com)  
 John Finan – [johnmfinan.com](http://johnmfinan.com)  
 Barry Hess – [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barry\\_Hess](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barry_Hess)  
 Mike Gravel – [gravel2008.us](http://gravel2008.us)  
 Dave Hollist – [ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/constitution](http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/constitution)  
 Daniel Imperato – [imperato2008.com](http://imperato2008.com)  
 Bob Jackson – [bobjackson.org](http://bobjackson.org)  
 Michael Jingoian – [resetamerica.com](http://resetamerica.com)  
 Steve Kubby – [kubby2008.com](http://kubby2008.com)  
 Alden Link – [link-for-pres.org](http://link-for-pres.org)  
 George Phillies – [phillies2008.org](http://phillies2008.org)  
 Wayne Allyn Root – [rootforamerica.com](http://rootforamerica.com)  
 Mary Ruwart – [votemary2008.com](http://votemary2008.com)  
 Christine Smith – [christinesmithforpresident.com](http://christinesmithforpresident.com)  
 Daniel Williams – [thenewlibertarian.org](http://thenewlibertarian.org)

#### Vice-President of the United States

Chris Bennett – [chrisbennett2008.blogspot.com](http://chrisbennett2008.blogspot.com)  
 Greg Raymer (?) – [tinyurl.com/2bb2hx](http://tinyurl.com/2bb2hx)

#### State Legislature

Mike Blessing – State House District 16 – [myspace.com/mikewbnmh16](http://myspace.com/mikewbnmh16)  
 Mark Curtis – State House District 19

**YOUR ADVERTISING  
HERE?**

**CONTACT THE EDITOR OR  
SEE PAGE 9 FOR DETAILS  
or EMAIL**

[kcufmedia@gmail.com](mailto:kcufmedia@gmail.com)

## Field Reports

From County Contacts

**Bernalillo** – The BCLP is hosting two meetings per month. For more information, see the BCLP website – [libertarian-party-nm.org/bernalillo](http://libertarian-party-nm.org/bernalillo). *The Weekly Sediton* will resume on 2 April 2008, on Albuquerque Comcast Channel 27, and *New Mexico's Consumer Advocate* will resume on 2 July 2008. See [myspace.com/weeklysediton](http://myspace.com/weeklysediton) and [myspace.com/nmconsumers](http://myspace.com/nmconsumers) for more information.

Jay Vandersloot continues to be active in staffing at table at blade and gun shows at the State Fairgrounds in Albuquerque and could use some help at the shows – any assistance would be welcome, even if it is only for a couple of hours. Anyone interested in helping at the table at the gun show, providing literature to hand out, loaning us an LP banner, or a projection screen should contact Jay at either [yprocrastinate-emailme@yahoo.com](mailto:yprocrastinate-emailme@yahoo.com) or call 505-362-1733.

Paul Gessing and the staff of the Rio Grande Foundation have been getting columns and letters to the editor printed in the local newspapers, including the Albuquerque Journal, on a regular basis. Some of those have been printed here in *New Mexico Liberty*. Others are available at the RGF's website – [riograndefoundation.org](http://riograndefoundation.org).

Mike Blessing recently founded the CNM Libertarians at Central New Mexico Community College. At present, it exists only on the internet, but Mike hopes to start having physical meetings soon. For more information, see the group's website – [groups.myspace.com/cnmlibertarians](http://groups.myspace.com/cnmlibertarians).

**Dona Ana** – The LPDAC Central Committee has been having monthly meetings, as well as an information table at the Las Cruces Farmer's Market. See the LPDAC website for details – [libertarian-party-nm.org/dona-ana](http://libertarian-party-nm.org/dona-ana).

The Dona Ana County Convention took place on 16 February 2008, in the Dresp Room of the Branigan Library.

**Otero** – The Otero County LP was recently organized by Dr. Gilberto Heredia. Their first two meetings were attended by 13 people and garnered coverage by the *Alamogordo Daily News* – see page 6 for more information..

**San Juan** – The SJCLP has been having monthly meetings, and has added a monthly, no-charge, open-to-the-public movie showing on the same night as the county meeting. For more information, see the events page on the SJCLP site – [sjclp.org/events.htm](http://sjclp.org/events.htm).

**Sandoval** – The LPSC is having its monthly meetings on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

**Santa Fe** – Ed Nagel is working on organizing an LPNM county affiliate for Santa Fe County. Contact him at [ed123nagel@aol.com](mailto:ed123nagel@aol.com) or call him at 505-471-6928. He'd appreciate any help he can get.

### TV Shows – Channel 27 in Albuquerque

(not necessarily endorsed by LPNM)

*The Weekly Sediton* – Wednesdays at 8PM  
[myspace.com/weeklysediton](http://myspace.com/weeklysediton)

*Hemp TV* – Tuesdays at 7PM  
[myspace.com/nmhemptv](http://myspace.com/nmhemptv)

*The One Party State* – Wednesdays at 11PM  
Contact Lance Klafeta [ [lklafeta@yahoo.com](mailto:lklafeta@yahoo.com) ] for details

*Reeferhead* – Saturdays at 6PM  
[myspace.com/reeferheadtv](http://myspace.com/reeferheadtv)

*The Fringe Element*  
[thefringeelement.net](http://thefringeelement.net) / [postpubco.com](http://postpubco.com)

## Calendar

### Special Events

#### LP 2008 National Convention

The LP's 2008 National Convention will take place at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Denver on Memorial Day weekend (23-26 May 2008). Speakers, business sessions and the presidential nomination are on the agenda. Contact Jay Vandersloot if you're interested in being a delegate from the LPNM.

See [lpconvention.org](http://lpconvention.org) and [denverlpcon.com](http://denverlpcon.com) for details as they develop.

#### LPNM Central Committee Meeting and Special Convention

The LPNM's Central Committee will have its regularly scheduled meeting on Sunday, 8 June 2008, at the St. Clair Winery & Bistro, located at 901 Rio Grande Blvd (Map – [tinyurl.com/52x2pe](http://tinyurl.com/52x2pe)). No host lunch 12:00 PM, meeting at 1:00 PM. **County and Campus Contacts encouraged to attend!**

Concurrent with the Central Committee meeting will be a Special State Convention to nominate presidential electors for the 15 December 2008 Electoral College in Santa Fe.

#### Road-To-Freedom Motorcycle Raffle

The LPNM's latest fundraiser involves raffling off a new, limited-edition Harley Davidson motorcycle for \$100 per ticket, with a maximum of 399 tickets available. More information on the motorcycle raffle is available at the following pages – [tinyurl.com/2fu72e](http://tinyurl.com/2fu72e), [tinyurl.com/22z3yp](http://tinyurl.com/22z3yp) or [sjclp.org/Rocker\\_raffle.htm](http://sjclp.org/Rocker_raffle.htm).

#### 2009 Annual State Convention

The 2009 LPNM State Convention is tentatively scheduled for the weekend of 10-12 April 2009 for the Alamogordo area.

#### Regular Events

Thursday, 1 May and 15 May – Bernalillo County Liberty Forum meets in Albuquerque, 6:00 to 7:00 PM at Fiesta's Restaurant & Lounge (Carlisle & Montgomery NE). Contact Mike Blessing for details [ [lpbcnm@gmail.com](mailto:lpbcnm@gmail.com) / 505-918-6567].

Wednesday, 7 May – Otero County LP meeting. Contact Dr. Gilberto Heredia for more information [ [thrill@zianet.com](mailto:thrill@zianet.com) / 575-439-8234 ].

Saturday, 10 May – The (official) monthly San Juan County LP meeting in Farmington will be cancelled in favor of the 2008 Annual San Juan LP County Convention at the Farmington Civic Center at 5:00 PM (Map – [tinyurl.com/xyy84m](http://tinyurl.com/xyy84m)). We are seeking Libertarian candidates for elections. NOTE: All Libertarians registered in San Juan County are eligible to run for office and to participate in this convention.

SJCLP Movie Night follows at 7:00 PM (Same room) Film will be *No End in Sight*, a retelling of events following the fall of Baghdad in 2003, produced and directed by Charles Ferguson. Run time, 1 hour, 42 min. Admission is free. Everyone is invited to attend! Check [sjclp.org](http://sjclp.org) or email Bob Zeismer for updates.

Tuesday, 13 May – The Santa Fe County LP meets at the LaFarge Library (between St. Michaels and Siringo). Contact Ed Nagel for details [ [ed123nagel@aol.com](mailto:ed123nagel@aol.com) / 505-471-6928 ].

Wednesday, 14 May – The Dona Ana County Libertarians will meet. Those interested are invited to attend and to contact Siebert Ickler [ [lpdac@peoplepc.com](mailto:lpdac@peoplepc.com) / 505-541-9079 ] for information on location and time.

Tuesday, 27 May – The Sandoval County Libertarian Party will meet – contact Ron Bjornstad [ [rbjornstad@earthlink.net](mailto:rbjornstad@earthlink.net) / 505-288-4228 ] for details

## What are You Guys (the LP) All About?

The closer it gets to Election Day, the more questions I am asked about who our candidate is for President. Naturally, I explain that the Libertarian Party's nominating convention is not until Memorial Day weekend, and that right now we have around 16 candidate hopefuls vying for the nomination.

Naturally, one thing leads to another and they start asking questions about the Libertarian Party and what we stand for. The more we discuss it, the more it becomes evident that there are a lot of misconceptions out there concerning what the LP stands for.

The perception is that the Libertarian Party promotes guns, and the use of marijuana, and other controlled and illegal drugs. Sometimes they also mention that they understand the LP is in favor of prostitution. Therein is the problem. Perceptions mean more in the minds of the voters than actual facts. Because of their perceptions, they see the LP as a bunch of fringe kooks.

Let's set the record straight! While the LP is perceived as the Party of promoting guns, drugs, and prostitution, in fact, the LP does **NOT** promote guns, drugs, or prostitution. I'll explain in a moment.

All too often we let others control the direction of the conversation. They ask for the LP position on a single issue, or a couple of issues, and the way we usually answer results in them going away with the perception that the LP is a Party of "Gun Totie, Druggie, Prostitute Advocates." We need to start taking more control of the conversations and set the record straight.

When asked the LP position on guns, tell them that **THE LP IS NOT IN FAVOR OF OR PROMOTE GUNS**. Yes, that's right. Tell them that what the LP promotes is the **FREEDOM** of the individual to decide whether he or she wants to own a weapon. Tell that that this is a right recognized in the Bill of Rights, under the Second Amendment, and the LP believes in getting back to and following the U.S. Constitution.

When asked the LP position on the use of marijuana and other controlled or "so called" illegal drugs, tell them that **THE LP IS NOT IN FAVOR OF MARIJUANA OR OTHER CONTROLLED OR ILLEGAL DRUGS**. Explain that what the LP is in favor of is the **FREEDOM** of the individual to decide what one will do with one's own body, and what one will choose to put in, or not put in one's own body. Don't forget to add that that at the same time, the LP promotes personal responsibility for one's own actions, including both the responsibility for what happens to one's own body as a result of those decisions, and the responsibility to not let their own actions result in harm being caused to others' person or property.

When asked the LP position on prostitution, tell them that **THE LP DOES NOT ADVOCATE PROSTITUTION**. Rather, what the LP is in favor of is the **FREEDOM** of the individual to decide what to do with one's own body. When prostitution is based on consensual participation there is no victim. Where there is no victim (and the State is not a victim, only another person can be a victim), where is the crime?

We believe in the non initiation of force but do we bring that concept into the conversation when we are talking to others about what the LP stands for on these and other issues? When any question of what the LP stands for on any issue is asked I consistently tell them that the LP position on all the issues boils down to the following.

"We hold that all individuals have the right to exercise sole dominion over their own lives, and have the right to live in whatever manner they choose, so long as they do not forcibly interfere with the equal right of others to live in whatever manner they choose."

and that,

"We believe in the U.S. Constitution and we need to get back to it and follow it. That especially includes the Federal Government, which needs to stop imposing laws in areas where the Constitution does not give the Federal Government authority to act."

That includes the issue of healthcare. We need to get back to and follow the Constitution in that area, also. The 10th Amendment restricts the federal government to being authorized to do **ONLY** that which is stated under the Constitution. I find **NOWHERE** in the Constitution that authorized the federal government to be involved in any way, whatsoever, in **ANY** aspect of healthcare (including abortion). Therefore, all laws whereby the federal government purports to control healthcare are in violation of the U.S. Constitution. Someone needs to get the word out to the D and R candidates.

The LP is the Party of Liberty, of Freedom, of the rights of the individual. We need to work on changing the perceptions of others, so that they stop seeing the LP as a cult of fringe kooks. No, don't compromise your principles. Instead, find a better way of expressing those principles in such a way that others understand what we are really all about.

Think it through ahead of time. Know what you will say when confronted with questions on the issues. You don't have to know the answer on every specific issue. What you need to know is the underlying principle, that the LP stands for Liberty, Freedom, and the right of the individual to "exercise sole dominion over their own lives, and have the right to live in whatever manner they choose, so long as they do not forcibly interfere with the equal right of others to live in whatever manner they choose." In reality, that covers how the positions are derived on all the issues.

**BY THE WAY: I find the thought of ANY of the three Major party candidates who are still in the running being elected to be a scary thought. The way I see it, the only viable option is to vote your conscience. For me, that means voting Libertarian.**

### LPNM Special Convention and Central Committee Meeting

The LPNM will hold a Special Convention in conjunction with the CenCom meeting on Sunday, June 8, 2008. The purpose of this special convention is to select electors for the upcoming election.

This convention and meeting will be at St. Clair's Winery and Bistro at 901 Rio Grande Blvd, about one block south of I-40 (exit 157). Pay-as-you-go lunch at Noon, with the Special Convention at 1PM, followed by the CenCom meeting immediately following it.

For details and directions, contact Jay Vandersloot, 505-362-1733, email [yprocrastinate-emailme@yahoo.com](mailto:yprocrastinate-emailme@yahoo.com) or Mike Blessing, 505-918-6567, email [kcufmedia@gmail.com](mailto:kcufmedia@gmail.com).

**Quotes from Ralph Waldo Emerson, American Writer, Essayist, Poet**

**"A friend is one before whom I may think aloud."**

**"Beware when the great God lets loose a thinker on this planet."**

**"Democracy becomes a government of bullies . . ."**

**"Every great and commanding moment in the annals of the world is the triumph of some enthusiasm."**



## Libertarian Party of New Mexico 2008 Road-to-Freedom Motorcycle Raffle



### 2008 Harley-Davidson Softail Rocker

- 96 cubic inches! • 6-speed! • Lowest solo saddle on a production motorcycle!
- Fat 240mm rear tire! • 5-spoke wheels! • Stretched 5-gallon tank!

**ONLY 399 CHANCES OFFERED**

The Libertarian Party of New Mexico encourages motorcyclists to consider the use of helmets and other safety equipment. However, we believe those who ride should decide and we oppose mandatory helmet laws for motorcyclists.

Odds depend on the actual number of chances sold, but no more than 399 chances will be available. Drawing will be at approximately 8:00 PM, on Bill of Rights Day, Monday December 15, 2008 at the Farmington Civic Center, in Farmington, New Mexico. The Libertarian Party of New Mexico (LPNM) reserves the right to draw prior to this date in the event all chances are sold early. In the event of an early drawing, notice will be posted at [lpnm.us](http://lpnm.us) at least two weeks prior to the drawing. LPNM will make every effort to notify the winner using the contact information provided. In the event the winner cannot be contacted within 30 days of the drawing, the prize will be awarded to a backup winner. Winner is responsible for tax, title and license fees.

For Raffle Tickets, send \$100 per ticket and your contact information, including name, mailing addresses, phone numbers and e-mail address to

LPNM c/o Ron Bjornstad  
918 Ivory Road SE  
Rio Rancho, NM 87124  
[rbjornstad@earthlink.net](mailto:rbjornstad@earthlink.net)

OR you can purchase your ticket(s) over the internet using PayPal – [sjclp.org/paypal.htm](http://sjclp.org/paypal.htm)

The official raffle page – [sjclp.org/Rocker\\_affle.htm](http://sjclp.org/Rocker_affle.htm)  
For more details about the motorcycle, see [tinyurl.com/22z3yp](http://tinyurl.com/22z3yp) or [tinyurl.com/2fu72e](http://tinyurl.com/2fu72e)

## The Problem of Overregulation

by Paul Gessing [ [pgessing@riograndefoundation.org](mailto:pgessing@riograndefoundation.org) ]

13 April 2008

[riograndefoundation.org/new/articles/?EC=ReadArticle&ArticleID=216](http://riograndefoundation.org/new/articles/?EC=ReadArticle&ArticleID=216)

Imagine if your corner gas station had to obtain government approval every time it raised or lowered the price of a gallon of unleaded. While that may seem like a great way to keep gas prices low, in reality, such policies, enacted as a result of OPEC's embargo, caused the long gas lines of the 1970s. Thus, a situation that would have seen price increases and subsequent conservation on the part of consumers instead resulted in gas not being available at all.

Indeed, as Nobel Award-winning economist Friedrich A. Hayek pointed out decades ago, government-run economies are doomed to failure because governments don't have enough information to make pricing decisions in a marketplace.

The situation relating to PNM and its recent difficulty in obtaining rate increases from the Public Regulation Commission is not altogether different. Energy prices have risen dramatically in recent years while at the same time PNM has been forced to invest in wind and solar in order to fulfill state-mandated renewable energy standards 10 percent of our electricity must come from these "renewables" by 2011. But rates have not risen for 20 years.

The Rio Grande Foundation is by no means a shill for PNM, though. In fact, the organization does not take a position one way or another on PNM's proposed 14.7 percent base rate increase or any other change in the rates charged by the utility. Instead, we'd like to see a competitive marketplace in which PNM is just one of many utilities competing to provide the best service at the lowest price.

Unfortunately, until New Mexico deregulates its utilities to the point that consumers can choose their utility and utilities can adjust their rates without the approval of the government, this will not occur.

While painted as a boon for utilities, true deregulation would actually be most beneficial for consumers. For starters, it would encourage more efficient pricing, thus leading to lower prices in the long term. Building new power plants costs millions and even a billion or more dollars depending on the type. Yet, much of this power is necessary only when electricity usage rises to "peak" levels on hot days when businesses and homes are running their air conditioning and otherwise using maximum power.

PNM has begun to address this issue with its "Power Saver program," which offers financial incentives for consumers to cut back electricity usage at peak times. This program is one market-friendly way to cut costs by eliminating the need for future power plants. Of course, this is also good for the environment. While PNM is finally rolling this program out, other utilities have gone far beyond it in terms of improving efficiency and cutting costs.

Among the most innovative utilities operating in the deregulated state of Maryland, Baltimore Gas and Electric recently began an efficiency/conservation program that will generate \$42 million in revenue for the utility over the next three years by enabling the company to identify outages more quickly and bill customers based on more accurate information. Ultimately, the utility hopes to avoid having to invest in additional power plants until absolutely necessary.

Dynamic pricing expands on PNM's "Power Saver Program" by allowing the utility to raise prices during peak times and reducing prices during off-peak times. Through the use of market incentives, consumers would be encouraged to shift their energy usage to those days and hours when prices are lowest. Since power plants run 24 hours a day with off-peak power often going to waste, using incentives to shift usage is good for consumers, utilities, and the environment.

At this point, there is no way to tell if PNM's rate hike request is economically justified because the utility is not operating in anything resembling a market. However, it is clear that we'd all be better off if the political process were replaced with economic decisions made by utility customers. Only then will we know if rate hikes are justified or the result of poor management.

*Paul Gessing is President of the Rio Grande Foundation – [riograndefoundation.org](http://riograndefoundation.org) – a non-partisan, tax-exempt research and educational organization dedicated to promoting prosperity for New Mexico based on principles of limited government, economic freedom and individual responsibility.*

## THE UNANIMOUS CONSENT CHALLENGE

### CASH Ø10,000 PRIZE

To the first person to write a logical and documented essay showing one of the following to be compatible with the Declaration of Independence:

Sherman Anti-Trust Act of 1890  
Pure Food and Drug Act of 1906  
Federal Communications Act of 1934  
National Firearms Act of 1934  
Banking Act of 1935  
The Internal Revenue Code  
Controlled Substances Act of 1970  
RICO Act of 1970  
Federal Elections Act of 1970  
Plumbing Products Efficiency Act of 1992  
Anti-Money Laundering Act of 1992  
USA PATRIOT Act of 2001  
Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002

This challenge is also on the web at [tinyurl.com/hn982](http://tinyurl.com/hn982)

To claim your prize, contact  
Mike Blessing at 505-918-6567 or  
send an email to [kucfmedia@gmail.com](mailto:kucfmedia@gmail.com)

### Bush and Neocons: President is King

By Stewart Rhodes [ [stewart-rhodes.blogspot.com](http://stewart-rhodes.blogspot.com) ]  
[jpfo.org/filegen-n-z/sr-presidentking.htm](http://jpfo.org/filegen-n-z/sr-presidentking.htm)

re: "Bush shuns Patriot Act requirement In addendum to law, he says oversight rules are not binding" – The Boston Globe, 3/24/06 [ [tinyurl.com/s4bst](http://tinyurl.com/s4bst) ]

With Bush's approval ratings hovering around 35% and Republican candidates running from him as quickly as they can, the neocons, who pull this lame duck's strings, are conducting a constitutional scorched earth policy. This policy is driven by the neocons' perverse fetish for unlimited unitary executive power, even if it means handing over such unlimited power to a Democrat in 2008 (Heil Hillary! anyone?).

Why would the neocons do that? Because neocon loyalty is not to party or even ideas or principles. They loyalty is to power. The neocon dream legacy is to fully destroy the Founders' Constitution and to insert the Fuhrer Principle into the American system of government. Period.

They don't give a damn about our republic or whether the president is a Republican or Democrat, so long as the power itself is expanded and then preserved. Neocons are the modern version of monarchists, and for them, the presidency is our monarchy (just to be nice, I won't use the other more obvious and recent historical analogy). Neocons couldn't care less about which political party controls our "parliament" and ultimately don't care who is The Leader, so long as we have one. To them, any king is better than no king.

P.S. These signing statements are the equivalent of writing "N/A" across the front of the bill and then spiffy little arrow pointing to Bush's signature, letting the world know he has exempted himself from the law.

This year's convention, held at the Radisson Hotel Albuquerque, well . . . *could have gone better.*

First, let's get the bad parts out of the way.

- We were expecting thirty to forty people to show up, and only twenty actually showed up. As a result, the LPNM lost about \$1500 on the con package.
- We were promised internet access by the hotel management, and the service was sporadic at best. I'm not sure how much of a stink the LPNM wants to raise over this, but it doesn't hurt to mention it.
- Three of the scheduled speakers (including the banquet speaker) cancelled at the last minute (within a week of the convention weekend, actually).

On to the good parts –

Paul Gessing of the Rio Grande Foundation talked with us Friday night about how the LPNM can work with the RGF and other non-profits, specifically how the LPNM's candidates can help out. He reported that the RGF will be focusing on the issues of education, taxes and state spending. He added that he would like to see a non-profit, non-partisan issue advocacy group such as a taxpayers' organization get started in New Mexico.

Bill Koehler started off Saturday morning with a rousing speech similar to his banquet speech in 2006 – this one was titled *Socialism is Perfect.*



Bill Koehler addressing the Convention

Bill illustrated that socialism is the “perfect” economic system, in that it has a 100-percent track record of failure every time it's been tried. Bill added that there are two types of markets – free and unfree. The free (unregulated, untaxed) market is the type that libertarians advocate to the general public. The unfree market occurs when regulators at various levels of government stick their noses into the economic affairs of private citizens.

Representing the George Phillies campaign was Carolyn Marbry, who gave a very good accounting of herself and Mr. Phillies. The other presidential candidate represented at this year's convention was Wayne Allyn Root of Las Vegas, who had sent an hour-long DVD to myself to be played at the convention.

While not on the program, “newcomer” Bob Finch gave demonstrations to myself, Bill and others of an Linux operating system that he's working on that is stored on and boots up from a USB memory stick, and bypasses a computer's hard drive. VERY interesting idea there!

Jay Vandersloot gave the Die Hard Breakfast address about how things aren't as bad as they seem.



As for the Business Session, we nominated delegates to the National Convention. The LPNM is allotted nine (9) primary delegates, and fifty (50) alternates.

The primary delegates are as follows:

Jay Vandersloot	Joseph Knight	Allen Cogbill
Bob Finch	Ed Nagel	Mary Warner
Mark Curtis	Martin Lewitt	Bob Ziesmer

The alternate delegates are as follows:

Gilberto Heredia	Garry Archer
Jason Archer	Theodore Berthelote
Eric Lentz	Ann Ziesmer
Siebert Ickler	Mike Blessing
Larry Shuster	Martha Gose
Mario Torres	

The delegation chair also has the power to nominate other LPNM members in good standing who show up in Denver for the National Convention

The assembled conventioners then asked the delegates to the National Convention to consider the following presidential candidates, in this order:

Mary Ruwart  
Christine Smith  
Steve Kubby  
George Phillies

(The full minutes of the Business Session will be posted online.)

One good thing to say about the Radisson's service is that the food was excellent – the Italian buffet we had for the banquet was fantastic, as was the following Sunday morning's breakfast buffet.

Following the Convention, we had a short Central Committee meeting, as we always do. There, we decided to appoint Mike Moss of Farmington as the new webmaster, as the LPNM leadership hadn't been able to contact the previous webmaster since the last CentCom meeting (December 2007). We decided that we would prefer to use the acronym “LPNM” when referring to the Libertarian Party of New Mexico, and that Mike Moss should be authorized to set up a PayPal account for the LPNM.

## Administrivia

by Mike Blessing, Editor

If you have news, interesting stories, op-ed pieces, a letter to the editor, or timely information that you think belongs in the newsletter, please send it along. I can be contacted at 505-918-6567, or just send it to email address [kcufmedia@gmail.com](mailto:kcufmedia@gmail.com).

When sending your submission as an MS Word (or Open Office Text) file, send it single-spaced in 9-pt Arial – like this is. Margins should be quarter-inch (0.25") around, with no headers or footers. If you send it in a text-only format, make it clear to me if you want anything in **bold type**, underlined, *in italics*, ~~struck-through~~, **different colors**, etc. I'm not telepathic here, so help me out. And NO Wordperfect files – I can't open those.

Graphics (pictures, cartoons, etc.) – send the highest quality graphics you can – email them to me at the address above, and I'll do what I can to get them in the next issue. In particular, what I want are pictures of YOU the LPNM members, either at LPNM-sponsored events or at other peoples' events.

Submission deadline for each issue – midnight, third Tuesday of the month.

### Articles

As for writing your article, It should be concise (no longer than a full page) and topical. A bit of humor helps, especially for op-ed pieces.

What I'm really looking for in the way of articles is what's going on in the LPNM – what YOU the membership are up to in spreading the message. For example, an article about the stupidity, insanity and evil of the UN might get put in, depending on available space and the quality of the article. A group of LPNM members counter-protesting the raising of a UN flag by the city council WILL get put in, and probably will get first priority.

### Editorial Viewpoint

The basis for libertarian thought is the Zero Aggression Principle [ZAP] –

A libertarian is someone who believes that no human being has the right – under any circumstances – to initiate force against another human being, nor to threaten, incite or delegate its initiation.

*New Mexico Liberty* holds that Libertarian candidates, officeholders or appointed spokespersons at all levels of government or the Party should refrain from advocating new or more restrictive laws, new or more expensive spending programs, or new or higher taxes. To paraphrase from the medical profession, "First, do no harm."

### Submissions Policy

The editor reserves the right to refuse service to anyone for any reason. The editor will most often be willing to explain any such reasons. Appeals of the editor's refusal to post an advertisement, article, letter to editor, or anything else can be made to the LPNM's State Chair, Central Committee and/or Judicial Council.

### Copyright

Copyright © 2003–2008 Libertarian Party of New Mexico. All rights reserved.

Permission is explicitly granted for subscribers to recopy New Mexico Liberty for non-commercial purposes, specifically as use as an outreach tool, provided that New Mexico Liberty is copied in its entirety. Use your imagination here.

### Websites

[xanga.com/nmliberty](http://xanga.com/nmliberty)  
[groups.google.com/group/nmliberty](http://groups.google.com/group/nmliberty)

## Subscriptions and Correspondence

To subscribe, send a blank email to

[nmliberty-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:nmliberty-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

Or go to [groups.yahoo.com/group/nmliberty/join](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/nmliberty/join)

To UNsubscribe: send a blank email message to

[nmliberty-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:nmliberty-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com)

For a print subscription, contact Ron Bjornstad for details.

Finally, New Mexico Liberty will be posted to the web, in PDF format, to the Files sections of the Google group I've set up for it –

<http://groups.google.com/group/nmliberty>

The various articles, columns and other bits of each issue shall also be posted in blog format to Xanga.com – [xanga.com/nmliberty](http://xanga.com/nmliberty)

If you are moving or change your mailing address, please use keep us in the loop so we can keep your *New Mexico Liberty* coming to you – contact Ron Bjornstad [ [rbjornstad@earthlink.net](mailto:rbjornstad@earthlink.net) ] if you're a print version subscriber. Otherwise, contact the editor.

### Advertising in New Mexico Liberty

Current rates for year-long spots

Full page	Ø60.00
Half page	Ø30.00
Quarter page	Ø15.00
Business card	Ø 8.00

Rates are subject to change at the discretion of the editor. The editor will do his best to make any such changes only when absolutely necessary.

**Inserts** – For an insert into the PDF version that goes out over the internet, contact the editor at email address [nmliberty-owner@yahoogroups.com](mailto:nmliberty-owner@yahoogroups.com). For an insert into the print edition, contact Ron Bjornstad at email address [rbjornstad@earthlink.net](mailto:rbjornstad@earthlink.net) or phone number 505-288-4228.

Ø – The symbol for Federal Reserve Note(s), as used by Boston T. Party in his books. In plain-text message traffic (such as email), the acronym "FRN" will be used by the editor. See [www.javelinpress.com](http://www.javelinpress.com) for more information. Also see the Wikipedia page for "Federal Reserve Note" – [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federal\\_Reserve\\_Note](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federal_Reserve_Note).

### THE LPNM OFFICIAL WEBSITE

[lpnm.us](http://lpnm.us)

### LPNM OFFICIAL MAILING ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER

918 Ivory Road SE  
Rio Rancho, NM 87124  
505-288-4228

**If the date on your mailing label reads before 06/01/08, it's time to renew your LPNM membership.**

## LPNM Central Committee

### Chair

Jay Vandersloot  
505-362-1733 / [yprocrastinate-emailme@yahoo.com](mailto:yprocrastinate-emailme@yahoo.com)

### Vice Chair

Ron Bjornstad – 505-891-4541 / [rbjornstad@earthlink.net](mailto:rbjornstad@earthlink.net)

### Secretary

Mike Blessing – 505-918-6567 / [kcufmedia@gmail.com](mailto:kcufmedia@gmail.com)

### Treasurer

Richard Oberfell – 505-378-8025 / [lplcnm@valornet.com](mailto:lplcnm@valornet.com)

### At-Large Representative, Seat A

Joseph Knight – 505-330-7713 / [nm\\_libertarian@yahoo.com](mailto:nm_libertarian@yahoo.com)

### At-Large Representative, Seat B

Allen Cogbill – 505-662-7833 / [acogbill@geopotential.com](mailto:acogbill@geopotential.com)

### District 1 Representative, Seat A

John Pfersich – 505-301-2601 / [neoconsuck@att.net](mailto:neoconsuck@att.net)

### District 1 Representative, Seat B

Mark Curtis – 505-256-1993 / [macurtis@webtv.net](mailto:macurtis@webtv.net)

### District 2 Representative, Seat A

Siebert Ickler – 575-541-9079 / [lpdac@peoplepc.com](mailto:lpdac@peoplepc.com)

### District 2 Representative, Seat B

VACANT

### District 3 Representative, Seat A

Bob Ziesmer – 505-327-6681 / [nm\\_bob@hotmail.com](mailto:nm_bob@hotmail.com)

### District 3 Representative, Seat B

Mike Moss – 505-564-4905 / [mmoss@plumbersoft.com](mailto:mmoss@plumbersoft.com)

### Press Secretary

Bill Koehler – 505-264-0835 / [bkoehler8@comcast.net](mailto:bkoehler8@comcast.net)

## Campus Contacts

### Central New Mexico Community College

[groups.myspace.com/cnmlibertarians](http://groups.myspace.com/cnmlibertarians)  
Mike Blessing – 505-918-6567 / [cnmliberty@gmail.com](mailto:cnmliberty@gmail.com)

## Internet Resources

Official Website – [lpmn.us](http://lpmn.us)

LPNM Forum – [groups.yahoo.com/group/lpmn-forum](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/lpmn-forum)

LPNM Blog – [lpofnm.blogspot.com](http://lpofnm.blogspot.com)

LPNM Discussion – [groups.yahoo.com/lpmn-discuss](http://groups.yahoo.com/lpmn-discuss)

LPNM Activists – [tinyurl.com/z7ug5](http://tinyurl.com/z7ug5)

Myspace.com – [groups.myspace.com/lpmn](http://groups.myspace.com/lpmn)

The SW Region LNC list – [tinyurl.com/e8khh](http://tinyurl.com/e8khh)

### PAID ADVERTISEMENT



**Commentary and Opinion  
for the Undamaged Mind**

**Brought to you by KCUF Media  
[xanga.com/kcufmedia](http://xanga.com/kcufmedia)**

**The Best Shows on ABQ Comcast Ch.27  
Wednesdays at 8 PM**

**The Weekly Sediton  
Rational Anarchy and Capitalism for the Masses**

**New Mexico's Consumer Advocate  
The Consumer Pays ALL Costs**

## County Contacts

### Bernalillo – [lpmn.us/bernalillo](http://lpmn.us/bernalillo)

Mike Blessing – 505-918-6567 / [lpbcnm@gmail.com](mailto:lpbcnm@gmail.com)

### Colfax

Richard Moore – 505-377-6849 / [myliberty@mail.com](mailto:myliberty@mail.com)

### Dona Ana – [lpmn.us/dona-ana](http://lpmn.us/dona-ana)

Siebert Ickler – 505-541-9079 / [lpdacnm@peoplepc.com](mailto:lpdacnm@peoplepc.com)

### Lea

Christina Groth – 505-397-9366

### Lincoln

Richard Oberfell – 505-378-8025 / [lplcnm@valornet.com](mailto:lplcnm@valornet.com)

### Los Alamos

Allen Cogbill – 505-662-7833 / [acogbill@geopotential.com](mailto:acogbill@geopotential.com)

### Luna

Marilyn Steffen – 505-531-2556 / [b\\_lamont5@hotmail.com](mailto:b_lamont5@hotmail.com)

### Otero

Gilberto Heredia – 575-439-8234 / [thrill@zianet.com](mailto:thrill@zianet.com)

### Roosevelt

Ken Sanders – 505-749-2085

### San Juan – [sjclp.org](http://sjclp.org)

Gary Wood – [zang5775@msn.com](mailto:zang5775@msn.com)

### Sandoval

Ron Bjornstad – 505-288-4228 / [rbjornstad@earthlink.net](mailto:rbjornstad@earthlink.net)

### Santa Fe

Ed Nagel – 505-471-6928 / [ed123nagel@aol.com](mailto:ed123nagel@aol.com)

### Valencia

Abran Gabaldon – 505-864-6870 / [abran\\_d@yahoo.com](mailto:abran_d@yahoo.com)

## LPNM Vacancies

### Central Committee (2)

District 2 Representative, Seat A

District 2 Representative, Seat B

### County Contacts (20)

Catron / Chaves / Cibola / Curry / De Baca / Eddy / Grant  
Guadalupe / Harding / Hidalgo / McKinley / Mora / Quay  
Rio Arriba / San Miguel / Sierra / Socorro / Taos / Torrance / Union

### College Contacts (3)

Eastern New Mexico University (Portales)  
New Mexico State University (Las Cruces)  
New Mexico Tech (Socorro)  
University of New Mexico (Various Campuses)  
Western New Mexico University (Silver City)

**Contact the state chair if you're interested in filling a slot.**

**If you don't, who will?**

**Libertarian Party of New Mexico**  
**Enrollment / Renewal / Donation Coupon**

*(Please print in all areas)*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

I am registered to vote as "Libertarian" in the State of New Mexico and wish to  join or  renew as a caucus member. I am paying \$25 annual dues. I will receive a one year (12 issues) subscription to the LPNM state newsletter "New Mexico Liberty" (the national "LP NEWS" IS NOT included) and I will have delegate status at state conventions. I oppose the initiation of force to achieve social or political goals:

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

I am not registered to vote as "Libertarian" in the State of New Mexico **and/or**  I do not wish to sign the statement opposing the initiation of force to achieve social or political goals. I am paying \$25.00 for a one year (12 issues) subscription to the LPNM state newsletter "New Mexico Liberty" (the national "LP NEWS" IS NOT included). I understand that I will receive no other benefits.

I am making a DONATION to the LPNM in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to be applied as follows:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ General Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman's Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Major Player Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Win One Fund

TOTAL of DUES or SUBSCRIPTION plus DONATION \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to be paid as follows:

by enclosed CHECK payable to "LPNM" (Sorry, we cannot accept corporate checks)

by CREDIT CARD (circle one): VISA / MASTERCARD

Number: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Expires: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Government mandated notices:

- The US Postal Service requires us to notify you that the annual New Mexico Liberty subscription cost is included in your LPNM membership dues of \$25.00.
- The Internal Revenue Service requires us to print "political contributions are not tax deductible" on all fundraising appeals.
- The Federal Election Commission requires us to ask for the employer and occupation of each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year.

The preceding notices alone should be enough reason to join the Libertarian Party, the only political party working to increase your freedom.

**COPY OR PRINT, FILL OUT, AND SEND TO:**

**LPNM c/o Ron Bjornstad  
918 IVORY RD SE  
RIO RANCHO NM 87124**

**AUTHORIZATION FOR AUTOMATED TRANSFERS**

Charter Bank:

I authorize Charter Bank to initiate an electronic transfer via the Automated Clearing House (ACH) as noted below:

Customer Name (on account, please print): \_\_\_\_\_

DEBIT (charge) Financial Institution Name: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Routing Number / ABA: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please include a deposit slip or voided check)

CREDIT (deposit) Charter Bank, to the account of LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEW MEXICO, account number 0092040302

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ LPNM General Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Chair's Contingency Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Major Player Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Win One Fund

TOTAL AMOUNT of electronic transfer \$ \_\_\_\_\_ MONTHLY on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of each month starting \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

I understand this authority is to remain in full force and effect until Charter Bank has received notification from me regarding termination in such time and in such manner as to afford Charter Bank a reasonable opportunity to act on it. I also understand this transfer is not immediate and could take up to two business days.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_

BANK USE ONLY Bank Employee: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorization processed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternately, if you prefer not to have our bank initiate an electronic transfer, you may have your bank initiate the transfer to Charter Bank, Routing Number 307072427, to the account of LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEW MEXICO, account number 0092040302. Also, please fill out the info section below, allocate your contribution on the "Funds" line above, and mail this form to LPNM.

**MONTHLY CREDIT CARD PLEDGE**

I authorize the Treasurer of the Libertarian Party of New Mexico to charge my credit card MONTHLY as indicated below:

CARD TYPE (circle one): VISA / MASTERCARD

Number: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Expires: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of each month beginning on \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ to be used as follows:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ LPNM General Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Chair's Contingency Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Major Player Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Win One Fund

I understand that this agreement remains in effect until I notify the Treasurer of the Libertarian Party of New Mexico, in writing, to cancel or alter this agreement.

NAME (on card, please print): \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**FEDERAL INFO REQUIREMENTS, DISCLAIMERS, ETC.**

Federal law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, occupation and employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. Political contributions are not tax deductible. Your contribution may be used to fund federal election activity.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (h): \_\_\_\_\_ (w): \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

This form is for monthly pledges only. Please pay dues and one time donations separately. Complete the AUTOMATED TRANSFER section or the CREDIT CARD section and the INFO section. Mail the entire form to the address below. Thank You !!

**LPNM c/o Ron Bjornstad  
918 IVORY RD SE  
RIO RANCHO NM 87124**