



# NEW MEXICO LIBERTY

## “Let Freedom Ring”

The Official Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of New Mexico



February 2009

<http://lpm.us>

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### Notes from the Editor

by Mike Blessing [ [mikewb1971@gmail.com](mailto:mikewb1971@gmail.com) ]



### 2009 Annual State Convention

This year's State Convention will be hosted by the Otero County LP in Alamogordo at the Holiday Inn Express. The schedule will include speakers, the banquet and the Saturday afternoon business session, including but not limited to election of officers and the Central Committee. The new Central Committee will have its first meeting immediately following the Die-Hard Breakfast speaker on Sunday morning.

### A Proposal for the Business Session

It's been noted in the past that the LPNM doesn't have an actual platform. My proposal is to change that. Basically, it would be added to Article I of the LPNM State Constitution and Bylaws –

#### 1.6 – PLATFORM

a) The LPNM's platform is as follows:

The Libertarian Party of New Mexico supports reducing the size, scope and power of government at all levels and on all issues, and opposes increasing the size, scope and power of government at any level, for any purpose.

b) Notwithstanding any other or subsequent provisions for amendment to these bylaws, the LPNM's platform, and the entirety of this article, shall be perpetual and unmodifiable.

### Richardson's Future Still Up in the Air?

Governor Richardson, yep, that's right, King Bill, or as I like to refer to him, Sir Spend-It-All or Wild Bill, is currently the subject of a federal grand jury investigation headed by the FBI. The reason for the probe? It seems that a company named CDR Financial that made about \$100,000 worth of donations to the King's aborted 2008 presidential campaign received a juicy deal or two from State government.

To date, it's already derailed his nomination to be Commerce Secretary to The Barack, our new God-Emperor in Washington D.C. So for the time being, we're stuck with him. If he should be indicted by the Ferals, that would leave us with Dipstick Denish as our new First Crook. Which would be a net good for New Mexico – while she's a true believer in the “progressive” ideals espoused by the Democrat Party, i.e. FDR's “New Deal” and Lyndon Johnson's “Great Society,” she isn't nearly as plugged in as Wild Bill is, meaning that she won't be able to “get things done” like Richardson can. We'll have much less of a chance of getting garbage such as “universal health care” under a Denish Administration than we would under a continued Richardson Administration.

And should Richardson end up being convicted of corruption charges like Manny Aragon was, chances are that he won't end up in the same sort of cell block that houses the likes of *La eMe* or *Nuestra Familia* – either he'll end up with a commuted sentence or “at worst,” he'll get a year or so at one of the “Club Fed” –type prisons. Either way, he'll have a chance to work on his memoirs.

### YOUR ADVERTISING HERE?

**CONTACT THE EDITOR OR  
SEE PAGE 9 FOR DETAILS  
or EMAIL  
[mikewb1971@gmail.com](mailto:mikewb1971@gmail.com)**

**Field Reports**  
From County Contacts

**Bernalillo** – The BCLP is hosting two meetings per month. For more information, see the BCLP website – [lpm.us/bernalillo](http://lpm.us/bernalillo). See [xanga.com/kcufmedia](http://xanga.com/kcufmedia) for more information concerning *The Weekly Sedition* and *New Mexico's Consumer Advocate*.

Paul Gessing and Rio Grande Foundation have just established a social-networking site for small-I libertarians called New Mexico Liberty – [newmexicoliberty.com](http://newmexicoliberty.com) is the URL. This is in addition to other activities, which can be found at the RGF's site – [riograndefoundation.org](http://riograndefoundation.org). Paul Gessing and Jim Scarantino have launched a radio show on JOY 1550 AM, along the lines of the libertarian-oriented show that Bob Finch was seeking sponsors for.

Mark Curtis has taken over manning a table at the NMGCA gun shows at the Manuel Lujan Building at the State Fairgrounds.

**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 – [lpm.us/dona-ana](http://lpm.us/dona-ana).

**Otero** – The Otero County LP recently established its website – [lpm.us/otero](http://lpm.us/otero) – and will be hosting this year's state convention in April.

**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.

**Calendar**

**Special Events**

**2009 Annual State Convention**

The 2009 LPNM State Convention is scheduled for the weekend of 17-19 April 2009 for the Alamogordo area at the Holiday Inn Express. See page 5 for more.

**LPNM Central Committee Meeting – 12 April 2009**

The LPNM's Central Committee will have its regularly scheduled meeting on Sunday, 19 April 2009, following the Annual State Convention. **County and Campus Contacts encouraged to attend!**

**Regular Events**

Wednesday, 4 February – Otero County LP meeting. Contact Dr. Gilberto Heredia for more information [ [thrill@zianet.com](mailto:thrill@zianet.com) / 575-439-8234 ].

Thursday, 5 February and 19 February – 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 [ [mikewb1971@gmail.com](mailto:mikewb1971@gmail.com) / 505-918-6567].

Monday, 9 February – The Santa Fe County LP meets at the South Library at 6:30 PM. Contact Ed Nagel for details [ [ed123nagel@aol.com](mailto:ed123nagel@aol.com) / 505-474-0300 ].

Ed specified these directions for the South Library –

Although the mailing address is on Jaguar St, the best way to get there is to turn south off Airport Rd onto Country Club Rd (by the golf course), proceed 6 tenths of a mile to Valentine Way, and make a left (heading east), and an immediate right into the parking lot of the South Library.

Wednesday, 11 February – The Dona Ana County Libertarians will meet. Those interested are invited to attend and to contact Siebert Ickler [ [lpdacnm@lpm.us](mailto:lpdacnm@lpm.us) / 575-541-9079 ] for information on location and time.

Tuesday, 24 February – The Sandoval County Libertarian Party will meet – contact Ron Bjornstad [ [rbjornstad@earthlink.net](mailto:rbjornstad@earthlink.net) / 505-288-4228 ] for details.

**TV Shows – Channel 27 in Albuquerque**  
(not necessarily endorsed by LPNM)

*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)

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***The LPNM Chair has relinquished the space for his column in order to republish the following article from Alan Woodruff***

### **A CALL FOR ACTION – AND HELP**

We, the members of the Libertarian Party of New Mexico, face some critical choices. We did not do well enough in the 2008 elections to remain a “qualified” minor party so, pursuant to NMSA §1-7-2, we technically no longer have access to the ballot and will have to re-qualify. The question is, do we want to? And if so, why?

We can, if we want to, continue to exist merely as a gathering place for like-minded souls. But if that is all we want to do, we might just as well be a drinking club. The only real reason for a political party to exist is to make a difference in the voting booth – by electing people who will try to reform government in line with our vision and our philosophy. If that is what we want to do – and it is what I want to do – we must face some basic truths.

**FIRST:** Without candidates for office, we are nothing. There is little value in re-qualifying the Libertarian Party for ballot access if we do not have anyone who is willing to run for office.

**SECOND:** Running for office is nothing more than an exercise in vanity if there is no reasonable chance of winning. None of us can ask our friends and neighbor to contribute to a campaign that is little more than a hobby.

**THIRD:** Our candidates will have no chance of winning any campaign unless we can “package” our message in a way that will have broad appeal. Simply having a philosophy that is appealing to voters will not be enough to win an election if our action agenda is not sufficiently realistic to convince a broad spectrum of voters that we can actually achieve any of our objectives.

#### **Starting from the bottom.**

The Libertarian Party stands for many things that are appealing to many voters. In fact, most of the Libertarian Platform will have broad appeal. But on some issues we continue to be seen as the “lunatic fringe.” No one in his right mind believes that we will ever abolish the Internal Revenue Code. And in the wake of the financial crisis that began last year, no one will accept the proposition that business (especially financial institutions) can be allowed to go completely unregulated. Advocating a rational approach regulation and taxation will sell. Running on a platform that advocates the total elimination of all regulation and all taxes will doom any campaign. We do not have to surrender any of our principles to be seen as a viable alternative to the dominant political parties. But we do have to present an agenda in the form of a rational plan of action – limited and focused regulation, rational and feasible tax reform, a reasoned approach to government spending, a workable balance between government and private administration of essential services, etc.

If any of our candidates are going to have any chance of winning, we are going to have to offer an agenda that appeals to a broad spectrum of voters – a lot of them. However strongly we may feel about individual issues, we live in a democracy where other views have equal value and where majority rules. An absolutist agenda that does not accommodate this reality and stands only for action that is entirely contrary to view and desires of a majority of the voters will get us nowhere on election day. Our candidates can win election. But we cannot win on philosophy alone. The voters are concerned about individual issues – jobs, education, the economy, the environment. These are not topics on which our candidates can attract support based on a philosophy, and our candidates are going to have to do more than rant about issues. Republican and Democratic candidates can get away with that because there are plenty of voters who vote their Party and not the candidate or the issues. We don’t have that to fall back on. Our candidates are going to have to demonstrate an understanding of specific problems and offer a reasoned and responsible agenda for addressing them.

And we have to build a Party identity. Individual candidates are necessary. But isolated candidacies are not enough to build the kind of Party identity that will attract supporters. We need to demonstrate that we are a serious Party, and a serious alternative.

#### **So what do I propose?**

I intend to run for the United States House of Representatives for the First Congressional District in 2010 – and I need a cast of supporting candidates for local offices. I admit it. I have a self-interest. In an off-year election, voters are more likely to turn out on Election Day to vote on issues of local importance. I need the help of candidates – preferably a slate of candidates – who can help turn out the vote and whose presence on the ballot will enhance the visibility of the Libertarian Party as a real choice. And I am ready to return the favor.

For starters, I believe that it is possible for Libertarian Party candidates to gain access to the ballot without having to comply with the burdensome nominating signature requirements established by the State of New Mexico. I know how difficult getting those signatures can be, and I understand that getting your help will depend on my success in avoiding those requirements. But let’s assume I can.

As the basis for my own campaign, I have spent the past year preparing detailed campaign Issues Papers on education and jobs training, the economy and jobs development, energy, the environment, health care reform, tax reform, welfare reform and social security reform – all of which are available to anyone interested in them. The core theme of my own campaign is “Making Government Responsible,” with a focus on getting the federal government out of things (like education) that are none of its business and reducing the absurdly wasteful duplication of programs and administrative agencies. Underlying each of these efforts is the need to address problems in fiscally and administratively responsible ways – and it is here that my candidacy interfaces with candidacies for local offices.

Increasingly, as efforts to “downsize” the federal government move forward, responsibility for functions previously performed by the federal government is being shifted to the states and localities. But these shifts in responsibility have not all been accompanied by the money needed to carry them out. Likewise, the federal government is making increasing use of “grants” to promote certain activities by state and local agencies. These grants do not cover the full cost of the intended activities, but many state and local agencies are willing to redirect their own funds to the federal programs merely because federal money is made available. Libertarian candidates for a broad spectrum of offices can jump on these practices by advocating fiscally sound local decisions that use local money only for things that are needed by the local citizens.

I propose, or would like to be able, to offer a slate of candidates whose campaigns reflect a common issue and whose agendas integrate the requirements of the various offices being sought with what needs to be done to address the “problem” reflected in this common issue – and a plan for addressing this “problem” through actions that reflect the Libertarian philosophy. I am prepared to assist anyone interested in participating in such a campaign with issues papers and campaign assistance – and we will help each other with joint appearances and joint fundraising.

Since my first campaign is to win YOUR support, I offer a few words about my own credentials: undergraduate and graduate in chemical engineering, Harvard doctorate in administration, law degree, post-graduate degree in tax law, consultant on finance policy to state and federal agencies, director of multiple evaluations of federal social programs, Congressional testimony on education policy, author of multiple legal reference books and three novels.

Anyone interested? Please call me at 505-508-3421, or e-mail me at [erisa1974@comcast.net](mailto:erisa1974@comcast.net).

## Memo from your boss. Economics 101.

Author Unknown

Forwarded by Jay Vandersloot

To All My Valued Employees,

There have been some rumblings around the office about the future of this company, and more specifically, your job. As you know, the economy has changed for the worse and presents many challenges. However, the good news is this: The economy doesn't pose a threat to your job. What does threaten your job however, is the changing political landscape in this country.

However, let me tell you some little tidbits of fact which might help you decide what is in your best interests.

First, while it is easy to spew rhetoric that casts employers against employees, you have to understand that for every business owner there is a back story. This back story is often neglected and overshadowed by what you see and hear. Sure, you see me park my Mercedes outside. You've seen my big home at last years Christmas party. I'm sure all these flashy icons of luxury conjure up some idealized thoughts about my life.

However, what you don't see is the back story.

I started this company 28 years ago. At that time, I lived in a 300 square foot studio apartment for 3 years. My entire living apartment was converted into an office so I could put forth 100% effort into building a company, which by the way, would eventually employ you.

My diet consisted of Ramen Pride noodles because every dollar I spent went back into this company. I drove a rusty Toyota Corolla with a defective transmission. I didn't have time to date. Often times, I stayed home on weekends, while my friends went out drinking and partying. In fact, I was married to my business -- hard work, discipline, and sacrifice.

Meanwhile, my friends got jobs. They worked 40 hours a week and made a modest \$50K a year and spent every dime they earned. They drove flashy cars and lived in expensive homes and wore fancy designer clothes. Instead of hitting the Nordstrom's for the latest hot fashion item, I was trolling through the discount store extracting any clothing item that didn't look like it was birthed in the 70's. My friends refinanced their mortgages and lived a life of luxury. I, however, did not. I put my time, my money, and my life into a business with a vision that eventually, some day, I too, will be able to afford these luxuries my friends supposedly had.

So, while you physically arrive at the office at 9am, mentally check in at about noon, and then leave at 5pm, I don't. There is no "off" button for me. When you leave the office, you are done and you have a weekend all to yourself. I unfortunately do not have the freedom. I eat, and breathe this company every minute of the day. There is no rest. There is no weekend. There is no happy hour. Every day this business is attached to my hip like a 1 year old special-needs child.

You, of course, only see the fruits of that garden -- the nice house, the Mercedes, the vacations . . . you never realize the back story and the sacrifices I've made.

Now, the economy is falling apart and I, the guy that made all the right decisions and saved his money, have to bail-out all the people who didn't. The people that overspent their paychecks suddenly feel entitled to the same luxuries that I earned and sacrificed a decade of my life for.

Yes, business ownership has its benefits but the price I've paid is steep and not without wounds.

Unfortunately, the cost of running this business, and employing you, is starting to eclipse the threshold of marginal benefit and let me tell you why:

I am being taxed to death and the government thinks I don't pay enough. I have state taxes. Federal taxes. Property taxes. Sales and use taxes. Payroll taxes. Workers compensation taxes. Unemployment taxes. Taxes on taxes. I have to hire a tax man to manage all these taxes and then guess what? I have to pay taxes for employing him. Government mandates and regulations and all the accounting that goes with it, now occupy most of my time. On Oct 15th, I wrote a check to the US Treasury for \$288,000 for quarterly taxes. You know what my "stimulus" check was? Zero. Nada. Zilch.

The question I have is this: Who is stimulating the economy? Me, the guy who has provided 14 people good paying jobs and serves over 2,200,000 people per year with a flourishing business? Or, the single mother sitting at home pregnant with her fourth child waiting for her next welfare check? Obviously, government feels the latter is the economic stimulus of this country.

The fact is, if I deducted (Read: Stole) 50% of your paycheck you'd quit and you wouldn't work here. I mean, why should you? That's nuts. Who wants to get rewarded only 50% of their hard work? Well, I agree which is why your job is in jeopardy.

Here is what many of you don't understand . . . to stimulate the economy you need to stimulate what runs the economy. Had suddenly government mandated to me that I didn't need to pay taxes, guess what? Instead of depositing that \$288,000 into the Washington black-hole, I would have spent it, hired more employees, and generated substantial economic growth. My employees would have enjoyed the wealth of that tax cut in the form of promotions and better salaries. But you can forget it now.

When you have a comatose man on the verge of death, you don't defibrillate and shock his thumb thinking that will bring him back to life, do you? Or, do you defibrillate his heart? Business is at the heart of America and always has been. To restart it, you must stimulate it, not kill it. Suddenly, the power brokers in Washington believe the poor of America are the essential drivers of the American economic engine. Nothing could be further from the truth and this is the type of change you can keep.

So where am I going with all this?

It's quite simple.

If any new taxes are levied on me, or my company, my reaction will be swift and simple. I fire you. I fire your co-workers. You can then plead with the government to pay for your mortgage, your SUV, and your child's future. Frankly, it isn't my problem any more . . .

Then, I will close this company down, move to another country, and retire. You see, I'm done. I'm done with a country that penalizes the productive and gives to the unproductive. My motivation to work and to provide jobs will be destroyed, and with it, will be my citizenship.

So, if you lose your job, it won't be at the hands of the economy; it will be at the hands of a political hurricane that swept through this country, steamrolled the Constitution, and will have changed its landscape forever. If that happens, you can find me sitting on a beach, retired, and with no employees to worry about . . .

Signed,  
Your boss

**Libertarian Party of New Mexico**  
**2009 Annual State Convention**  
Alamogordo, New Mexico  
Friday, 17 April – Sunday, 19 April

Please begin planning now to attend our LPNM 2009 State Convention, to be held at the Holiday Inn Express in sunny Alamogordo, located at 100 Kerry Ave [ Mapquest link – [tinyurl.com/lpnm2009stcon](http://tinyurl.com/lpnm2009stcon) ]. 575-434-9773 is their phone number.

The following convention program is tentative, and should be finalized by the time of the April newsletter.

FRIDAY EVENING

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM      No-Host Cocktails and Networking

7:00 PM – 9:30 PM      Welcome Program  
Opening Address: State Chariman Jay Vandersloot

SATURDAY

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM      Registration, Coffee & Rolls, Networking

9:00 AM – 11:30 PM     Speaker / Panel (to be determined)

1:00 PM – 2:30 PM      LPNM Annual Business Meeting (open to the public, but only LPNM caucus members may make motions or vote)

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM      Speaker / Panel (to be determined)

4:30 PM – 5:30 PM      Speaker / Panel (to be determined)

7:00 PM – 10:00 PM     Banquet  
Keynote Address –  
Fund Raiser Auction

SUNDAY MORNING

8:00 AM – 9:30 AM      Diehard Breakfast Buffet (scrambled eggs, meats, fruit, rolls, coffee, juice)  
Closing Address (Speaker to be determined)  
Adjourn the Convention

10:00 AM – 10:30 AM    State Central Committee Meeting



### Government Transparency Will Put Teeth in Ethics Reform

Paul Gessing [ [pgessing@riograndefoundation.org](mailto:pgessing@riograndefoundation.org) ]  
29 January 2009  
[tinyurl.com/d9ck95](http://tinyurl.com/d9ck95)

With political corruption in New Mexico making national news in recent months, legislators in Santa Fe will again be asked to support a wide variety of "ethics" proposals which include everything from taxpayer financing of campaigns to strict limits on donations those doing business with the state can make to public officials. Some of these proposals are better than others, but none are a silver bullet when it comes to stopping corruption. Sadly, there are no simple solutions when it comes to creating more ethical human beings.

To some, that may sound like a cop out or surrender to those who refuse to even attempt to improve New Mexico's governing institutions. That is not the case. In fact, limiting the ability of those doing business with the state to donate to politicians is eminently sensible. But there are even better and simpler ways to improve ethics. Simply put, sunshine is the best disinfectant.

Ironically, while the sun shines more than 300 days each year in New Mexico, it rarely penetrates the walls of our state government. For starters, we are one of only three states in the nation that does not broadcast its floor sessions on web cam or television. Last year the Senate passed a resolution that would have allowed cameras to record floor activities in that body, but leadership of both parties recently pulled the plug on the initiative.

The House, on the other hand, remains unwilling to embrace even the most basic of transparency measures. Floor votes in the House are not posted online and the only initiative that would enable cameras to shed some light on the House's activities are the guerrilla-style filming of legislative activities by Rep. Janice Arnold-Jones using her own equipment. New Mexico needs to step into the 20th Century, let alone the 21st!

In addition to enabling citizens of Las Cruces, Farmington, Carlsbad, and Albuquerque to see for themselves what is going on in their Legislature in Santa Fe without having to make the trek in person, several other transparency initiatives, if adopted, would give citizens a better idea what is happening in Santa Fe. First and foremost, there is an effort underway including legislation sponsored by a bi-partisan group of legislators that would create a searchable, online database of government spending.

Similar legislation, which was championed by then Sen. Barack Obama in Congress, has resulted in the creation of a database of federal spending. Seventeen states have created similar databases with many other states now considering similar legislation.

Enabling average citizens to log on to their computers to find out where their money is going and to whom will not only enhance government transparency, it will allow each of us to become our own government spending watchdog, thus making sure that government is spending taxpayers' money appropriately and effectively.

While these reforms focus on the state level where ethics have become a hot topic and transparency efforts should begin, transparency is the best policy for all levels of New Mexico government from the Public Regulation Commission to city council and school boards.

Ultimately, government belongs to each of us, the citizens' of New Mexico. Legislators and public officials throughout the state work for us and, while we may have differences of opinion on how resources are allocated and what government does on a daily basis, we all deserve to be empowered to know what is being done on our behalf. And, to make sure that such actions are undertaken in an honest manner that holds up to public scrutiny.

Reforming ethics may raise the standards by which our leaders are judged, but only by giving the public the tools can enhanced ethics mean better government.

*Paul Gessing is president of the Rio Grande Foundation, 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.*

### Betting on Victory

by Bill Koehler [ [valenitnemichaelsmith.wordpress.com](http://valenitnemichaelsmith.wordpress.com) ]

When I was a kid if some one said something we disagreed with we would challenge them by saying, "wanna bet?"

About 1990 Julian Simon did this to those who said we would run out of things. He won every bet.

My modest proposal –

The LP should run a full page advertisement in the national paper or on national TV offering to bet everything we can raise that the stimulus will fail. Every time they propose something stupid, get on the air and offer to bet them on the outcome. If we put our money where our mouths are we may never win, but we can't lose.

### Another explanation of the bail out!

Forwarded by Jay Vandersloot

Once upon a time a man appeared in a village and announced to the villagers that he would buy monkeys for \$10 each.

The villagers, seeing that there were many monkeys around, went out to the forest and started catching them.

The man bought thousands at \$10 and, as supply started to diminish, the villagers stopped their effort. He next announced that he would now buy monkeys at \$20 each. This renewed the efforts of the villagers and they started catching monkeys again.

Soon the supply diminished even further and people started going back to their farms. The offer increased to \$25 each and the supply of monkeys became so scarce it was an effort to even find a monkey, let alone catch it!

The man now announced that he would buy monkeys at \$50 each! However, since he had to go to the city on some business, his assistant would buy on his behalf. In the absence of the man, the assistant told the villagers: "Look at all these monkeys in the big cage that the man has already collected. I will sell them to you at \$35 and when the man returns from the city, you can sell them to him for \$50 each."

The villagers rounded up all their savings and bought all the monkeys for 700 billion dollars.

They never saw the man or his assistant again, only lots and lots of monkeys!

Now you have a better understanding of how the WALL STREET BAILOUT PLAN WILL WORK !!!

## LPNM Central Committee

### Chair

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VACANT

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## Campus Contacts

### Central New Mexico Community College [CNM]

[groups.myspace.com/cnmlibertarians](http://groups.myspace.com/cnmlibertarians)  
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### College of Santa Fe

Morgan Wells – [mwells109@gmail.com](mailto:mwells109@gmail.com)

## Internet Resources

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

LPNM Forum – [groups.yahoo.com/group/lplnm-forum](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/lplnm-forum)  
Caucus membership required, per the Central Committee

LPNM Discussion – [groups.yahoo.com/lplnm-discuss](http://groups.yahoo.com/lplnm-discuss)  
Open forum (unmoderated for the most part)

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

Facebook group  
[new.facebook.com/group.php?gid=20233114967](http://new.facebook.com/group.php?gid=20233114967)

Ning.com social utility – [lplofnm.ning.com](http://lplofnm.ning.com)

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

## County Contacts

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

Mike Blessing – 505-918-6567 / [mikewb1971@gmail.com](mailto:mikewb1971@gmail.com)

### Colfax

Richard Moore – 575-377-6849 / [myliberty@mail.com](mailto:myliberty@mail.com)

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

Siebert Ickler – 575-541-9079 / [lpldacnm@lplnm.us](mailto:lpldacnm@lplnm.us)

### Lea

Christina Groth – 575-397-9366

### Lincoln

Richard Oberfell – 575-378-8025 / [lplcnm@valornet.com](mailto:lplcnm@valornet.com)

### Los Alamos

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

### Luna

Marilyn Steffen – 575-531-2556 / [b\\_lamont5@hotmail.com](mailto:b_lamont5@hotmail.com)

### Otero – [lplnm.us/otero](http://lplnm.us/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 3 Representative, Seat A

### 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?**

## 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 [mikewb1971@gmail.com](mailto:mikewb1971@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

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## Subscriptions and Correspondence

For a print subscription, contact Ron Bjornstad for details. *New Mexico Liberty* will be posted to the web, in PDF format, to the Files section of the Google group I've set up for it –

[groups.google.com/group/nmliberty](http://groups.google.com/group/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 . 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 [javelinpress.com](http://javelinpress.com) for more information. Also see the Wikipedia page for "Federal Reserve Note" – [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federal\\_Reserve\\_Note](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federal_Reserve_Note).

### THE LPNM OFFICIAL WEBSITE – [lpm.us](http://lpm.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 10/01/08, it's time to renew your LPNM membership.**

### 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 [mikewb1971@gmail.com](mailto:mikewb1971@gmail.com)

**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**

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