



# NEW MEXICO LIBERTY

## *“Giving Freedom A Voice”*

The Official Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of New Mexico ~

[lpnm.us](http://lpnm.us) [lpofnm.blogspot.com](http://lpofnm.blogspot.com)

March 2016 Edition

**A note about New Mexico Liberty-**

If you are reading the electronic edition, the blue text means that it is a clickable link. I use the text of the link so that if you have a print copy instead, you can type the URL text into your browser's address bar. I hope this is helpful

Copyright © 2015, 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. Use your imagination here.



**Saturday April 16th 10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.**

**Keynote Speaker: Lily Tang Williams**

A Chinese immigrant grew up under Mao's regime who is outspoken against Communism, Socialism, Common Core and Gun Control, etc, fights for freedom with passion. Libertarian Candidate for U.S. Senate

**Speakers: Jay Carroll and David Walker**

Both excellent speakers on the topic of the Convention of States.

**University of New Mexico Law Library  
1117 Stanford NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87131**

[Central Committee meeting immediately following convention which will include delegate selection for the National Convention to be held May 27 - 30 in Orlando, FL.](#)

**Suggested Donation: \$25.00**

**Free Parking**

**Table of Contents**

**Page 1: From Our State Chair ~ Marty Swinney**

**Page 2: From the Echoes of 1776: A Monetary Revolution Is Coming ~Stefan Gleason**

**Page 3: Upcoming Events Roster**

**Page 4: Enrollment, Renewal, Donation Form**

**From Our State Chair Marty Swinney**



We have a couple of important issues coming up rapidly, as well as two important events. The first is our convention on April 16; the second is the national LP's Presidential Nominating Convention the following month in Orlando, Florida.  
*(Continued on Page 2)*

At our convention, we will be selecting delegates and endorsing candidates. If you are interested in helping to choose our candidate for President, you must be named as a delegate *prior to* the national convention, and you must be a member of the national Libertarian Party. We here in New Mexico are allocated up to 13 delegates from our state, and it is my firm hope that we can attend that convention with a full delegation. My wife, Weng, and I are planning to attend, so that leaves 11 more slots to fill. Be sure to attend our convention on Saturday, April 16, 2016, at the UNM law library if you would like to be considered as a nominating delegate for this watershed convention.

Which brings me to the second reason to attend the UNM convention: *your* endorsement as a candidate for the November election! Yes, that's right, YOU can be a Libertarian candidate for office here in the Land of Enchantment!

But you have to act fast if you'd like to run for office! The nominating period, during which you will have to gather nominating signatures, will be opening around the first week of April. Signature petitions must be filled out and turned in no later than mid-June to qualify your name to be placed on the ballot. Voters are hungry for fresh faces and new ideas---and we Libertarians just happen to have both! Poll after poll has revealed that there are now more independent voters than there are Republican or Democrat registrants.

The time is ripe for a Libertarian sweep at the voting booth, but we cannot spread Liberty without candidates. No one has ever been elected to office without *running* for that office, and voters cannot vote for a Libertarian candidate if there are not any on their ballots. In order to run as a Libertarian candidate, all you need is to be registered Libertarian and live in the District. In order to gain the LPNM's endorsement on April 16, you must also (per our bylaws) be a dues-paying caucus member. Other qualifications may be required by law for each specific office. The Secretary of State for New Mexico will have more information for you in this regard. You can either call the SoS directly, or get more information from the State website.

Speaking of websites, as the time grows shorter, I will be posting additional information on these issues as they become available. Visit our website and our Facebook group often!

Lastly, I will be available to the membership and candidates from now until the November election to answer any questions and/or give suggestions to candidates on an individualized basis. Contact me via telephone, Facebook, email, or snail-mail; if you are in the Carrizozo area, stop by for a visit. My contact information is available on page 3 of this newsletter in the roster section or can be found on our website.

**Candidates: Start your engines!**



## **From the Echoes of 1776: A Monetary Revolution Is Coming ~Stefan Gleason**

Is America on the cusp of a revolution that will usher in a new monetary order? The lessons of history tell us that no fiat currency retains its value for long or lasts forever. And as Shakespeare noted, "what's past is prologue."

Major episodes in monetary history often stem from political revolutions. Just as there are boom-bust economic cycles, there are cycles of optimism pessimism that drive cultural, geopolitical, and war cycles. American history reflects the ebbs and flows in social sentiment.

The Founders wrote gold and silver into the Constitution as legal tender. They did so not because the American Revolution was financed with sound money – quite the opposite. The Founders were keenly aware of the dangers of unbacked paper money because the Continental Congress printed huge volumes of it to pay for the Revolutionary war.

The currency was known as the "continental," and its hyperinflationary collapse toward worthlessness birthed the phrase "not worth a continental."

The great champion of American independence, Thomas Jefferson, hoped that the newly independent country would never repeat its experiment in fiat currency. Jefferson wrote in 1813, "*Paper money is liable to be abused, has been, is, and forever will be abused, in every country in which it is permitted.*"

Unfortunately, that lesson of history never seems to stick. The temptation to abandon sound money always proves too great for those in power to resist, especially during a time of crisis.

### **Debasement of Our Money Accelerated during Civil War**

Abraham Lincoln financed the Civil War in part by debasing the currency. By 1863, inflation ran rampant in the North and in the Confederacy. The Confederate States of America dollar was backed by nothing but the hope that it would retain its value in the event of a Southern victory. Today, Confederate dollars aren't worth anything except their historical value to collectors – another in a long line of fiat currencies that failed.

In the aftermath of the carnage wrought by the Civil War, America entered into an extended period of economic ascent marked by stable price levels. The U.S. dollar, backed by gold, became King Dollar. Not until World War I did high rates of inflation return.

But instead of returning to sound money in the decades that followed, the U.S. dollar went through a series of progressive debasements. A new "Progressive" revolution was taking hold in America.

In 1913, Congress authorized the Federal Reserve to be the nation's banker and in 1916 imposed a national income tax. The tax stayed and the Fed's power only grew after the First World War.

The New Deal era ushered in an expansive new government role in the economy and a welfare state. After the Supreme Court had struck down some of FDR's New Deal programs, Roosevelt infamously threatened to pack the Court with additional nominees. It was only a matter of time before the Supreme Court relented to the new zeitgeist.

At that point, the Progressive agenda was fully cemented. Its three major tenets – a powerful central bank, a progressive income tax, and an unlimited welfare state – represent a stealth revolution in America that overturned many of its founding principles. The revolution wasn't formally declared or fought by soldiers, but it was every bit as consequential for America's trajectory as 1776 and 1861-1865.

It would not have been possible for the government to accrue more than \$200 trillion in unfunded liabilities without the twofold of a central bank and a fiat currency. The U.S. dollar didn't become fully fiat until 1971, when President Nixon suspended gold redeemability. That's when growth in the national debt became completely unconstrained.

### Lack of Gold/Silver Backing Led to Explosive Growth in Debt

Today, U.S. debt is so enormous, and the long-term projections so unworkable, that a debt crisis is unavoidable. The only question is what form it will take – default or hyperinflation?

History shows that unpayable sovereign debts denominated in fiat currencies tend to be inflated away rather than defaulted on outright. There are some exceptions, of course. The recent \$1.7 billion Greek debt default owes to the fact that Greece is on the euro and can't print its own euros.

The U.S., on the other hand, owns its own printing press. As former Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan explained, "The United States can pay any debt it has because we can always print money to do that."

When that happens, and when the public loses confidence in the dollar, a revolution for the restoration of sound money may commence.

At present, the modern-day Progressives have another revolution in mind. Their agenda is focused more on overturning the culture rather than the economy. Hence, they've been dubbed "Cultural Marxists." Their strategy is to strike at the root of American identity by denigrating its history and its people.

The culture wars won't ever end, because demonizing people for holding ideas that were socially acceptable in the recent past is how the hard left makes advances. But what could set the Cultural Marxists back is the bankruptcy of the government.

The coming debt crisis will set the nation on a new monetary course. It just might spark a political revolution, too, against the failed tenets of Progressivism that caused the crisis.

*Stefan Gleason is President of the Sound Money Defense League, a national grassroots lobbying organization working to restore gold & silver to their historical role as America's constitutional money. He also leads Money Metals Exchange, a national precious metals dealer with over 50,000 customers. Gleason has frequently appeared on national television networks such as CNN, FoxNews, & CNBC, & his writings have appeared in hundreds of publications such as the Wall Street Journal, TheStreet.com, Seeking Alpha, Detroit News, Washington Times, & National Review.*

### Calendar of Upcoming Events

**March 13, 2016 at 1:00 PM** Central Committee Meeting  
UNM Law Library

**April 16, 2016 at 10:00 AM** New Mexico Libertarian Party State Convention, Central Committee Meeting and Delegate Selection for LP National Convention  
UNM Law Library

**May 27 – 30, 2016** Libertarian Party National Convention  
Presidential Candidate Selection  
Orlando Florida More Information available at:  
<https://www.lp.org/event/lp-2016-national-convention>

**2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month At 6:00 PM** Liberty Forum - open discussion for liberty minded individuals  
Frontier Restaurant in Albuquerque

### Roster: LPNM Central Committee Members

#### Central Committee

<b>Chair</b>	<b>Marty Swinney</b>	<b>575-648-4240</b>
<b>Vice Chair</b>	<b>Elizabeth Honce</b>	<b>505-410-3861</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Allen Cogbill</b>	<b>505-216-1611</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Sherry Heim</b>	<b>505-312-4891</b>
<b>District 1 Rep.</b>	<b>Mike Blessing</b>	<b>505-448-9976</b>
<b>District 2 Rep.</b>	<b>Kat Hodgkinson</b>	
<b>District 3 Rep.</b>	<b>Ron Bjornstad</b>	<b>505-235-4287</b>

<b>At-Large Rep – Seat A</b>	<b>Elisheva Levin</b>	<b>575-773-4209</b>
<b>At-Large Rep – Seat B</b>	<b>Bruce Levin</b>	<b>575-773-4209</b>
<b>At-Large Rep - Seat C</b>	<b>Vacant</b>	

Or go to: <http://lpnm.us/contact.html>

**Libertarian Party of New Mexico**  
**Enrollment / Renewal / Donation Coupon**  
*(Please print in all areas)*

**Note: The date on the envelope of your newsletter is the date which your membership expires. If there is no date, we would really appreciate if you would renew your membership or join the Libertarian Party of New Mexico. Together we can give liberty a voice.**

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 (4 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 certify that I do not advocate the initiation of force to achieve political or social 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 (4 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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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 / DISCOVER / AMERICAN EXPRESS

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

CVV# \_\_\_\_\_ (3 digit number on the back of your card)

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**

*New Mexico Liberty*