



Alabama Liberty



Vol: XXIV No: 1

October/November 2005

Badnarik to Speak at LPA Convention

The Libertarian Party of Alabama Convention 2005 will be featuring Michael Badnarik and several other interesting guest speakers!



Where: Pickwick Conference Center – Savannah Room — (back of Pickwick Hotel)
Hotel: Pickwick Hotel features \$89.00 for a standard room and \$109 for a Suite (King size or two double beds) 205-933-9555 1023 20th Street South, Birmingham, AL 35205. Parking fee: \$2 for all day.

How much: We will be charging \$40 per person and \$75 per couple to participate in the non-business part of the convention. Tables are available for \$1000.00

When: October 22, 2005
Time: 10-6

Other guest speakers include Dr. Walter Block. He is a professor of economics at Loyola University New Orleans. Currently he is the Steven Berger Visiting Professor at the Ludwig von Mises Institute. He is the author of "Defending the Undefendable."



Additionally we will also be hearing about the state of libertarian affairs up north (way up north in Canada)! Our guest speaker is Michael Cust. He is an M.A. candidate in political science at the University of Waterloo in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, where he studies with libertarian political philosopher Jan Narveson. He holds a B.A. in philosophy from the University of Alberta. His passion for liberty has seen him take several positions of principle. He twice served with the British Columbia Marijuana Party, first in 2001 as leader's tour director and second in 2002 as communications director. In the summer of 2003, Michael interned at the Cato Institute in Washington, D.C. Most recently, he was a summer 2005 intern at the free-market Fraser Institute in Vancouver, British Columbia. Lastly, each year Michael helps his friend Peter Jaworski organize the Liberty Summer Seminar conference in Orono, Ontario.

There will also be a couple of surprise speakers to make this a memorable convention for everyone.

Simply send a check to the LPA with CONVENTION written in the memo of the check and we will reserve a good spot for you. Our address is 2330 Highland Ave South, Birmingham, AL 35205.

An unarmed citizenry that say that a tyranny cannot happen here have not read their history books.

Legislative Action of the LPA

The Libertarian Party of Alabama has decided that the best method of changing ballot access restrictions is through the organization Independent Alabama, a coalition of Libertarian Party, Green Party, Nader supporters, Republicans, Democrats, and Independents.

We introduced a voter reform package called "Make Every Vote Count." in the last session. The purpose of this package was to improve the fairness of Alabama laws irrespective of political affiliation and to empower Alabama voters. House Bills 214 –HB 223 were introduced. House Bills 218 and 222 were successfully passed out of committee.

Although these bills and most all the bills subsequently died due to political shenanigans, we are emboldened to continue building contacts through this avenue.

If you are interested in getting involved check out:

www.IndependentAlabama.org

Why They Hate Us...

"It's not difficult to understand why somebody might pick up an AK-47 against us. Maybe we killed his father in the first Gulf War, maybe in this Gulf War, maybe he's just a dick."--Sgt. Reginald Abram, with the Third Armored Cavalry Regiment in western Iraq, quoted in the Asia Times, Oct. 24, 2003.

Alabama Liberty is published by the Libertarian Party of Alabama.

Editor: Mike Rster

Co-editor: Available

To submit articles for consideration, please contact us via email or telephone:

Email: Gallatin76@aol.com

Tel: 205-328-8683

The Activist

We still have about 400 envelopes that need to be stuffed. Any help would be appreciated. Please contact me at the office. Gallatin76@aol.com or 205-328-8683

Problem: Fighting Alabama Tyranny

What is a Libertarian to do? Everyday we read about the legislature increasing the size and scope of government.

Everyday the power of the individual is eroded away.

Here are some interesting facts to counter these violations of our rights and this part doesn't cost a thing:

We have discovered a real secret about Alabama politics. It is how few letters and calls our Alabama legislators receive. **One hundred letters from Alabama voters have a serious impact on legislation.**

The LPA has decided to take advantage of the lack of participation by the rest of Alabama by doing some serious lobbying in upcoming sessions. Imagine what a constant barrage of letters from libertarians could do during this climate of apathy.

Have you heard of the LPA-Cosigner List?

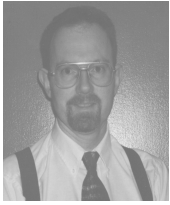
I would encourage you to get on board this very important project immediately. The Executive Committee of the Libertarian Party of Alabama would use your name in support of our efforts to either stop bad laws from being formed or to help form new good laws. The EC would use a strict libertarian standard to determine whether the LPA should support or stop a particular bill. The standard is simply – would the bill expand liberties or contract them? Your name would automatically be affixed to letters and mailed or faxed in support of our efforts.

Solution: LPA Co-Signer

We need your permission to use your name, as a cosigner (must be a registered voter) for this project. It costs you nothing and could change Alabama politics forever. Simply send an email to Gallatin76@aol.com and say I want to join the Co-signer list.

Join the LPA-Cosigner List and let's stop Montgomery in its tracks!

A Message from the Administrator



Dear friends of liberty:

“It is time to jump into the big game once again!”

If we want liberty, we'll have to win a lot of elections.

To win elections, we have to run candidates for offices high and low, local, state and national. I would invite any and all friends interested to attend our LPA Convention and step up to be a candidate.

We need to run candidates at every level. We need to run as many candidates as possible.

Be a candidate. We'll be there to help you every step of the way and we'll keep it as painless as possible.

I need to warn you though that you will need to collect petitions to have your name printed on the ballot. The number of petitions required is usually quite small in single races. The figure is 3% of the total votes cast in the particular race that you would like to run. For a typical House Seat it is usually about 300 signatures.

We need active candidates. Candidates with the time and initiative to get out there and spread the Libertarian message. And even though we are forbidden from donating money to your campaign, we can provide support in the form of assistance with filings, party and issue specific literature, non-candidate media, web pages, software, training, advice, etc. We'll do everything we can to help you out.

We need campaign managers and volunteers. Each of our candidates will need help with media, commitments, organizing and support. Please call if you are ready to get your feet wet!

We need Pledgers. Politics runs on money. Free speech costs money! Without money the best of ideas can't be heard. Without money we are silent. Please contribute what you can, support our candidates individually, and support the LPA through our pledge program. All it takes is \$10 a month. But of course, pledge what you can!

If you can help, here's what to do:

1) If you will run for a county, state, or congressional seat and will run an active race:

(a) Decide which race you want to run for from this list: <http://www.sos.state.al.us/election/2006/up2006.htm>

LPA Chairman Bodenhausen Declares for Council Seat



Birmingham -- Community activist Mark “Bo”

Bodenhausen threw his hat into the growing pool of City Council candidates, appearing today at the Jefferson County Probate Court to pay his filing fee to run for the second district's city council seat. Bodenhausen joins several other candidates in contesting the re-election of Carol Reynolds -- but he claims to bring unique qualities to the fray.

"So far, I'm the only candidate who could remotely be considered a fiscal conservative," says Bodenhausen, 42, a Birmingham native who has lived in the city's East Lake neighborhood for the last 18 years.

"My opponents uniformly advocate new ways of spending more taxpayer money. I'm all about spending -- and taxing -- less."

Bodenhausen is known for his efforts in defeating MAPS and tax increase proposals. He currently serves as the chairman of the Libertarian Party of Alabama, is a founding member of Independent Alabama, is a participant at the Center-Right Coalition, and is a member of Clay's Christian Fellowship and Doctrinal Studies Bible Church in Roebuck.

Bodenhausen's web site at www.markbodenhausen.com lists his key priorities:

Opposition to taxpayer-financed domed stadiums and rail transit, opposition to the use of eminent domain for private development, reducing city regulation and licensing requirements for business, and an adjustment of the city's street finance formula to make funding proportional to road mileage by district (the second district is the city's largest in terms of road miles).

Bodenhausen faces off against incumbent Carol Reynolds and talk radio personality Frank Matthews in the election to be held October 11th.

LPA Fiscal Crisis

"The secret is this: Strength lies solely in tenacity."-- Louis Pasteur

Please take a moment to talk about this with any libertarian friends that you have in Alabama. This information needs to get out to everybody!

Dear friends of liberty:

This is a terrible letter to write. Unfortunately, I have been given no choice.

Is the Libertarian Party of Alabama important to you? Does it serve an important function? **Is it important to have a political platform for the Libertarian movement?**

If the Libertarian Party of Alabama were to close its doors, would Alabama be poorer for it? I am certain that it would be. I am also sure that the Republican and Democratic Parties would be ecstatic.

We are in a financial crisis. It doesn't take a great deal of money for us to run our operations, but the response to our last fundraising letter was abysmal. That letter was incredibly important. It spelled out our recent activities such as the introduction of a voter reform package through Independent Alabama, of a compassionate use bill for medical marijuana, our networking with the Center Right Coalition, our Alabama Citizens Prize, and many other projects. Of course, it was also competing for your attention with other mail. Many of you might have missed it. If you did, and the LPA is important to you then take a moment to support this important cause.

With your support, the Libertarian Party of Alabama will be able to run candidates next year and continue our fight for personal liberties in the state of Alabama! Without your support, we may have to close our doors.

I have to ask again...is it important to have a political platform for the Libertarian movement?

Our monthly budget consists of:
Office rent: \$275 per month
Telephone: \$125-\$150 per month
Office supplies: \$100-\$200 per month
Postage: \$150-\$370 per month
Administration: \$600-\$800 per month (has been zero for the last 8 months)
Executive Committee support: \$0-\$300 per month (has been minimal for the last 6 months)
Misc. Projects support: \$0-\$1000 per month (has been minimal for the last 6 months)

Please ask yourself -- is it worth it?

Is it worth having the Libertarian point of view expressed in the media in Alabama? Is it worth having a political party that fights tax increases? Is it worth having a political party where fundamental principles are important?

More about principles later...

The LPA needs an immediate infusion of about \$5,000-\$10,000. I submit to our membership and friends that unless there is a response to this current plea, we are will be in big trouble in the next 60 days.

With (a hot political year) 2006 coming fast -- this is terrible. Our ideas are spreading far and wide in the political arena and our organization is financially stunted. Libertarians everywhere: It is time to take a stand and put your money where your mouth is. Most of you have donated through your \$25 National membership fee. Do you think this is enough? That money primarily goes to the National LP. The LP is involved with National issues...responding to actions on the part of Congress and the President. The LPA is fighting right here and right now -- in Alabama. Quite frankly, where I believe the odds of success are better!

Continued on page 7

We are looking for a few good men and women...

County Contacts

We are looking for folks willing to act as a local contact at a county level. We would occasionally get in touch for local information.

County Chairman

We are looking for individuals ready to form county level organizations around the state. You would be expected to hold meetings, get involved in local politics, as well as encourage folks to become candidates.

Internet Writers

These are a team of libertarians that have committed to writing at least one article for an independent news organization providing the libertarian point of view. Within the article the word libertarian or small government must be mentioned.

LTE Writers

These are a team of writers that have committed to writing at least one letter to the editor every 90 days to a newspaper in the state of Alabama. Within the article the word libertarian or small government must be mentioned.

Legislative Team

The job of the legislative team would be to keep us informed of legislative activities as well as responding to various bills. We would also work to providing a base team of letter writers to respond to the various proposed bills.

Media

Form an independent self sustaining newspaper!

Protestors

I need a group of individuals that would be willing to respond within a 24 hour to 7 day notice to protest BILL OF RIGHTS VIOLATIONS in the State of Alabama. I need at least 20 commitments.

Billboard on I-65

We are looking for financial support and a director to run a campaign to put up a billboard on I-65 that supports small government and low taxes.

Libertarian Speakers

This is a team of articulate speakers that are available for civic clubs.

FIJA Representative

In support of the Fully Informed Jury Association we are searching for an Alabama Representative.

Public Access TV Program

To put together a television program for the dissemination of Libertarian ideas on television. We will need at least three to four volunteers in one location.

Fundraising Team

To facilitate a diverse range of fundraising activities for the LPA. The initial focus will be telephone contacts.

Webmaster Team

This is a team of proficient webmasters dedicated to keeping the website ahead of the competition.

Selective Tax Breaks Team

The focus of this group is to educate the public about the selectiveness of tax breaks bestowed by local, county, and state government.

If you are interested in any of these project please contact Mike Rster at: gallatin76@aol.com or 205-328-8683.

Support SMALL GOVERNMENT in Alabama:

**\$10 a month makes a REAL
difference!**

JOIN THE LPA PLEDGE PROGRAM!

LPA Wishlist

- laptop computers for activists, Pentium 3 processor or better
- paper shredder
- reliable automobiles
- outside light at office (electrician)
- 100 copies of "Libertarianism in One Lesson"
- 4 cases of paper
- Subscriptions to Liberty and WallStreet Journal
- Copy of "Protest in the Land of Plenty"
- Economic texts from a libertarian author
- Outdoor sign for building

Constitution Preservation Class

Where: Pickwick Conference Center - Savannah Room (Birmingham) 1-800-255-7304

When: Day after LPA Convention :
(Sunday, October 23, 2005)

Time: 9-5

Cost: Best \$100 you have ever spent!

Class: Introduction To The Constitution

Instructor: **Michael Badnarik**

Does it surprise you to discover that the United States is NOT a democracy? Have you ever wondered why people have to get a concealed carry permit to exercise their right to "keep and bear arms"? Would you like to know - once and for all - what the "electoral college" is, and why we have it? And, do you understand how all of your rights derive from the right to private property? Learn from the expert, 2004 Libertarian Party Presidential candidate, Michael Badnarik.

Michael will discuss the difference between rights and privileges, and talk about how political power is distributed to create various forms of government (monarchy, oligarchy, democracy, republic). He will discuss each Article and Section of the "supreme law of the land," and well as related subjects such as the United States Code (USC), the Uniform Commercial Code (UCC), and Allodial Title. Even if you think you know the Constitution well, you'll be shocked at how much you were never taught.

In 8 hours, Michael covers far more than you learned in years of high school or college, in a way you'll never forget.

For additional details:

<http://www.constitutionpreservation.org/class.html>

Administrators message continued

Also, double check with your County Clerk for local races that aren't listed... Board of Education, Utility Commission, etc... these are often small winnable races.

(b) Fill out the Application for Nomination form:
<http://www.al.lp.org/docs/>

[Application_for_nomination%20.doc](#)

(c) Mail the form to the State Headquarters.

(d) Contact your District Representative and inform them of your intentions to run. If you are not sure who your District Representative is, please visit www.al.lp.org and click on Districts or call us.

(e) Don't forget to attend the LPA Convention scheduled for Saturday October 22, 2005.

During the course of the convention the membership will choose the final candidates for the LPA.

We are working hard to provide the LPA with multiple candidate choices. May the best candidates win!

Remember -- you can make a big difference by running. No one else shares your perspective, your priorities and your vision! I would like to borrow a quote from the Libertarian Party of California....
"If it is to be, it is up to me!"

If you have questions, feel free to call me at 1-205-328-8683. I will return your call as soon as possible. Be sure to leave your name, telephone number, time of call, and if possible email address.

Mike Rster

Administrator

PS: Don't forget we need campaign managers and workers. Call me to volunteer, and we'll match you up with candidates in your area. Or e-mail me at Gallatin76@aol.com.

PPS: Even if you can't run, you can still help. We need your emotional, inspirational, and financial support, now and throughout the coming election cycle. Your donations are always welcome, and will be put to good use. One of the easiest and most convenient means of helping us is through the Pledge Program. With a \$5, \$10 or even \$50 a month pledge you are putting your money directly into the cause of liberty. Simply call or send me an email at: Gallatin76@aol.com

PPPS Let us surprise the Republicans and the Democrats in 2006!

"All great change in America begins at the dinner table."

Ronald Reagan

Fiscal Crisis

*Which other political party stood up against the Riley tax increase from the very beginning and helped defeat it?

*Which other political party has stood against eminent domain abuse from the start?

*Which other political party has stood for compassionate use for medical marijuana since our inception?

Right now, a mere one hundred-dollar donation can make all the difference!

Are there one hundred Alabamians that believe we are worth it? This appeal will determine that.

A hundred donations of \$100 would have us ready to face the upcoming challenges.

Do you want to see the Libertarians participating in the upcoming political debate? Or not?

Please send a donation immediately to the address listed down below. If a hundred dollars is simply asking too much, how about supporting the LPA is by joining the pledge program?

It's easy and with a \$10 a month pledge you get:

- Voting membership in the Libertarian Party of Alabama and the National LP
- Complimentary issues of National LP News and Alabama Liberty
- Access to LPA Library
- Local networking along with updates on local activity
- And many other benefits!

We accept MasterCard, Visa, and PayPal through our website.

If you would rather give a one time donation of \$150 or more the above incentives will also apply.

Join us in the libertarian revolution by becoming a pledger or a volunteer today.

'Never argue with an idiot. Anyone watching may not be able to tell the difference.'

I had mentioned principles earlier. How is this for principles? We exist solely through your voluntary donations and take no tax dollars. "Your response right now makes us or breaks us."

In liberty,
Mike Rster
Administrator

PS Do you want to see the words "Alabama Loses Libertarians" or "LPA closes up shop" in the newspapers? Take an important moment to respond to this letter right now.

PPS If you have any questions or comments please don't hesitate to contact me personally.

Fiscal Crisis Update!

We are steadily approaching our \$5000 minimal fundraising goal but we have a ways to go before we reach our \$10,000 optimal goal for 2006. I hope that everyone reading this has either donated or joined our pledge program. Every single dollar takes us a bit closer. If you have never donated before, it is simple and makes you feel great! You can visit our website and click on PayPal or simply send a check to our address.

Don't forget to talk about this important issue to any friend that has called himself or herself a libertarian -- the word has to get out!

If you need another copy of the original email send a query to me at Gallatin76@aol.com.

Anonymous Donation of Silver Coins

What a unique way to help the LPA! I arrived at the office and discovered an anonymous donation of six beautiful (one ounce pure silver) coins. I have to tell you that they brought an instant smile to my face! Apparently they had been dropped off at the office, by someone that wants to support liberty!

Thank you to our big-hearted anonymous friend!

I plan on asking the EC to use these coins as prizes for those enterprising letter writers that get a letter-to-the-editor published in one of the major newspapers!

Tired of the same old radio?

Tune in to hear **Neal Boortz** on your AM dial.



Heard everywhere throughout Alabama. A diehard Libertarian's perspective on the days news and events along with not so subtle commentary. Get your daily dose of a rude awakening with the "Mouth of the South" and visit:

www.boortz.com

Wanted: Libertarian Speakers

Do you have a love for liberty and feel comfortable speaking in front of crowds? We are constantly seeking individuals to speak in front of various social groups and gatherings. If interested, please email Mike Rster at: Gallatin76@aol.com.

Libertarian Party of Alabama BEQUESTS

To ENSURE that the ideas of liberty will brighten future generations of Alabama even after you are gone please consider the joining the LPA Bequest Program. You do not have to write an entirely new will, you can add a codicil to an existing will.

**For more information please call.
1-205-328-8683**

Libertarians behind Landmark Compassionate Use Act Bill

The Alabama legislature was surprised this past general session with the introduction of a measure that would allow seriously ill and dying patients access to medical marijuana for relief of their symptoms. The compassionate use bill, which was sponsored by Representative Laura Hall (D-Madison), would have provided patients with specific, serious illnesses access to the medicine when prescribed by a doctor.

According to a 2004 Mobile-Register/University of Alabama poll, 76% of Alabama residents think that adults should be allowed to use marijuana for medical purposes if prescribed by a doctor.

Cullman resident Laura Campbell, a 32-year-old mother of three, suffers from various debilitating diseases, including three forms of arthritis and fibromyalgia syndrome. Campbell is allergic to 95% of pain medications, and in a recent interview with the *Auburn Plainsman*, she said that marijuana was her only option for pain management. "I'm stuck being a lawbreaker, but I have no other choices," she said. "Either I can have a quality of life and be a lawbreaker or not break the law and not have a quality of life."

"I believe this is a matter of choice for individuals with terminal illnesses and chronic pain who have more pain and medical challenges than most of us could ever imagine," said Representative Laura Hall.

Dr. Michael Saag, Director of the University of Alabama at Birmingham's Center for AIDS Research, supports legalization for medicinal purposes. "Testimony to its medicinal effect is the development and approval of Marinol for those indications," he said. "I cannot imagine a logical rationale regarding why marijuana is not allowed as a prescription drug."

Unfortunately these arguments did not carry enough political momentum to overcome the political nature of Montgomery politics and the bill died after passing out of committee. LPA Vice Chairman Stephen Gordon vowed to try again.

(If you wish to support such bills please read about the LPA Co-Signer List on page 2)

OVER ONE THOUSAND FREEDOM-ORIENTED INDIVIDUALS COULD BE READING YOUR AD OR MESSAGE RIGHT NOW...

Contact us for space! 205-328-8683

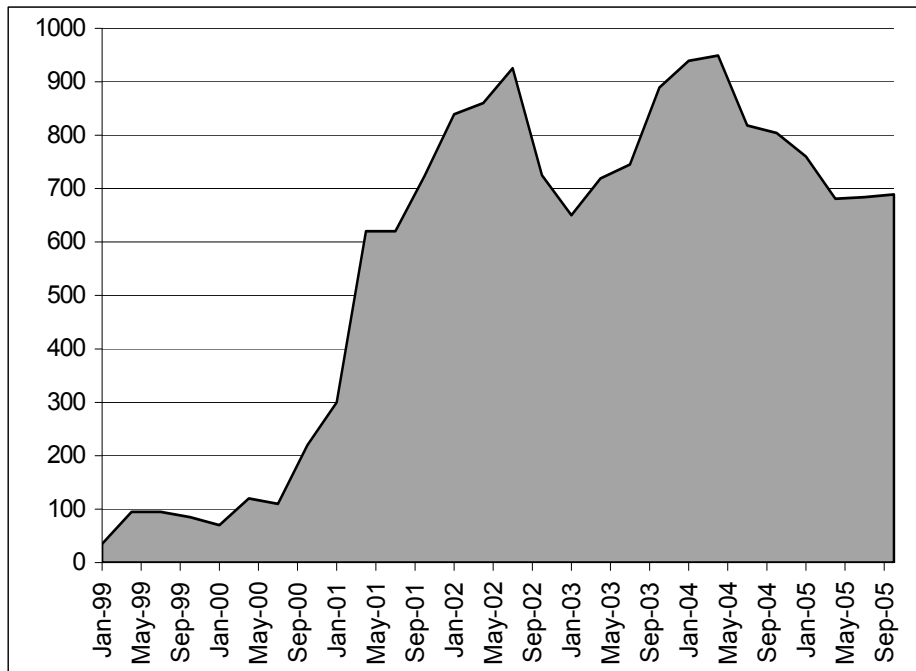
2005: You can't keep a good party down – LPA!

"I want to do my part in building a stronger, more effective party! More! More!"

JOIN THE PLEDGE PROGRAM!

(Pledgers giving \$10 or more monthly will have their National and State LP memberships automatically renewed for one year.)

January-01	300
April-01	620
July-01	620
October-01	724
January-02	839
April-02	860
July-02	925
October-02	725
January-03	650
April-03	719
July-03	745
October-03	889
January-04	939
April-04	949
July-04	818
October-04	804
January-05	760
April-05	681
July-05	684
October-05	689



2330 Highland Avenue South, Birmingham, AL 35205

Please Print:

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City/State/Zip: _____
 Phone: _____

YES! Please count me in! My contribution or pledge is enclosed (check box at right)

LPA PLEDGE PROGRAM

Voting Membership Pledge: **I do not**

believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.

Signature _____

I would like to give a monthly pledge of: _____

I'll pay by:

- e-bill (tripled for quarterly billing) I've filled in my email address below.
- Visa (monthly)
- Mastercard (monthly)

Credit Card #: _____

Expiration Date: ____ / ____

Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____

E-Mail: _____

Cubans Caught in Floating Buick

One can always determine which country is the most free between two choices by simply watching the direction that people work the hardest to move. On February 2nd the Coast Guard stopped a 1959 modified Buick about 90 miles southwest of Miami. The Buick had been modified into a boat complete with a bow. The crew consisted of Grass Rodrigues, wife, and son; Marciel Basanta, wife, and two children; and a third couple with two children. These brave individuals were seeking political asylum. They will be returned to their fates in Cuba. The Coast Guard refused to confirm the status of the car but according to an activist the ingenious mode of transportation sank. (No additional details were available)

To all those seeking a socialist paradise go South! You will discover it is very easy to go South and much more difficult for them to go North.

BIRMINGHAM VOLUNTEERS AND INTERNS

**1st MONDAY NIGHT OF THE MONTH
7 PM AT STATE OFFICES :
2330 HIGHLAND AVENUE
(205) 328-8683**

Your ad here!

**Reach over 1000 Libertarians
with your product or message.**

**For prices and further information, email us
at Gallatin76@aol.com**

Officers/Chairs

Chair: Mark Bodenhausen, 818 83rd St. S., Birmingham AL 35206
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Vice Chair: Stephen Gordon, 508 Short Street SE, Hartselle, AL 35206
Tel: 256-227-8360, Email: stephen@gordonnet.net

Secretary: Sarah Wires, Email: cleardaygirl1@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Gordon Maddox, Email: jgmad@cybrtyme.com

Administrator: Mike Rster, 2330 Highland Ave, Birmingham, AL 35205
Tel: 205-328-8683, Email: Gallatin76@aol.com

Member At Large: Matthew A Givens, 549 Gardendale Dr, Montgomery, AL 36110, 334-272-5009, MatthewGivens@Knology.net

Member At Large: Dick Clark 334-524-7223 clarkc6@auburn.edu

District Contact Information**Auburn District**

District Chair: Mike Ruff, 7045 US HWY 280 West, Auburn, AL 36830
334.703.2929; Email: MikeRuff@Charter.Net

LPA Contact: John Sophocleus; 530 Lee Road 115, Opelika, AL 36804
Tel: 334-821-5237, Email: sophocls@yahoo.com

Auburn University Libertarians: http://www.auburn.edu/student_info/libertarians/

Birmingham District

District Chair: Available

Montevallo Contact: Available

Shelby County Contact: Available

Florence District

District Chair: Available

LPA Contact: Barry Carpenter; PO Box 1153, Russellville, AL 35653, 256-810-2403, Email: bargcarp@dotplanet.com

Gadsden District

District Chair: Available

LPA Contact: Terry Bonds; 601 Pelham Rd S, Jacksonville, AL 36265, 256-435-9476, Email: tbonds@nti.net

Cleburne County Contact: Kelly Adams, PO Box 91, Edwardsville, AL 36261 256-463-4549

Calhoun County Contact: Ms. Carol Hagan, 224 Hickory Hill Drive, Jacksonville, AL 36265 256-782-2866, carolhagan@yahoo.com

Huntsville District

District Chair: Jonny Letson, 4381 HWY 231, Union Grove, AL 35175 256-603-2824, jonlet@twintronix.com

Morgan County Contact: Galen Patrick Helpingstine, P.O. Box 5745, Decatur, AL 35601, 256-355-6760, ghelpingstine1712@charter.net

Madison County Contact: Stephen Dow, 221 Evalyn St., Madison, AL 35758 256-772-0888, StephenDow@aol.com

Mobile District

LPA District Chair: James Hines, 303 Oswalt Street, Fairhope, AL 36532; Email: hine1476@bellsouth.net

LPA Contact: Dick Coffee, 1662 Government St, Mobile, AL 36604 251-479-1000, naturalchi@aol.com

Baldwin County Contact: Richard Medicus; PO Box 529, Magnolia Springs, AL 36555, 251-970-3191, Fax 251-970-3192, richardmedicus@hotmail.com

Monroe County Contact: John Egolf; 50 Louise Street, Monroeville, AL 36460, 251-743-4425, jlegolf@frontiernet.net

Montgomery District

District Chair: Available

LPA Contact: Matthew A Givens; 549 Gardendale Dr, Montgomery, AL, 36110, 334-272-5009, m3corps@earthlink.net

Selma District

District Chair: Jack K. Andrews; 459 Roundtree Dr, Selma, AL 36703, 334-874-8959, kevinandrews@mindspring.com

Tuscaloosa District

Chair: District Chair: J. Holden McAllister, 1700 37th Street NE, Tuscaloosa, AL 35406 205-758-7491, holden@dbtech.net

Hale County Contact: Perry Beasley, 1204 Tuscaloosa St., Greensboro AL 36744 334-624 1756, beasleypp@bellsouth.net

UA Libertarians: Arik Tashie, Email: tashi002@bama.ua.edu

Wiregrass District

District Chair: Available

Tax Cuts - A Simple Lesson In Economics

This is how the cookie crumbles. Please read it carefully.

Let's put tax cuts in terms everyone can understand. Suppose that every day, ten men go out for dinner. The bill for all ten comes to \$100.

If they paid their bill the way we pay our taxes, it would go something like this:

The first four men (the poorest) would pay nothing.

The fifth would pay \$1.

The sixth would pay \$3.

The seventh \$7.

The eighth \$12.

The ninth \$18.

The tenth man (the richest) would pay \$59.

So, that's what they decided to do.

The ten men ate dinner in the restaurant every day and seemed quite happy with the arrangement, until one day, the owner threw them a curve.

"Since you are all such good customers," he said, "I'm going to reduce the cost of your daily meal by \$20."

So, now dinner for the ten only cost \$80. The group still wanted to pay their bill the way we pay our taxes.

So, the first four men were unaffected. They would still eat for free. But what about the other six, the paying customers? How could they divvy up the \$20 windfall so that everyone would get his 'fair share'?

The six men realized that \$20 divided by six is \$3.33. But if they subtracted that from everybody's share, then the fifth man and the sixth man would each end up being 'PAID' to eat their meal.

So, the restaurant owner suggested that it would be fair to reduce each man's bill by roughly the same amount, and he proceeded to work out the amounts each should pay.

And so:

The fifth man, like the first four, now paid nothing (100% savings). The sixth now paid \$2 instead of \$3 (33% savings).

The seventh now paid \$5 instead of \$7 (28% savings).

The eighth now paid \$9 instead of \$12 (25% savings).

The ninth now paid \$14 instead of \$18 (22% savings).

The tenth now paid \$49 instead of \$59 (16% savings).

Each of the six was better off than before. And the first four continued to eat for free. But once outside the restaurant, the men began to compare their savings.

"I only got a dollar out of the \$20," declared the sixth man. He pointed to the tenth man "but he got \$10!"

"Yeah, that's right," exclaimed the fifth man. "I only saved a dollar, too. It's unfair that he got ten times more than me!"

"That's true!!" shouted the seventh man. "Why should he get \$10 back when I got only \$2? The wealthy get all the breaks!"

"Wait a minute," yelled the first four men in unison. "We didn't get anything at all. The system exploits the poor!" The nine men surrounded the tenth and beat him up.

The next night the tenth man didn't show up for dinner, so the nine sat down and ate without him. But when it came time to pay the bill, they discovered something important. They didn't have enough money between all of them for even half of the bill!

And that, boys and girls, journalists and college professors, is how our tax system works. The people who pay the highest taxes get the most benefit from a tax reduction. Tax them too much, attack them for being wealthy, and they just may not show up at the table anymore. There are lots of good restaurants in Europe and the Caribbean.

David R. Kamerschen, Ph.D
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Due to time constraints we were not able to include the minutes from the last LPA Executive Committee meeting. They are available to members upon request by emailing the Secretary Sarah Wires at: cleardaygirl1@yahoo.com



Private enterprise is conquering outer space!

October/November 2005

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Alabama Citizen's Prize

The Libertarian Party of Alabama has created the Alabama Citizen's Prize that will be awarded to the individual that best exposes government corruption or abuse of the past year. The prize will include a reward of \$10,000. We are currently raising the money for the prize.

The Libertarian Party of Alabama is an organization that is uniquely qualified to offer such a prize. We have rejected tax dollars our entire history. We have stayed outside the corrupting influences and have been working very hard to try to fix the system, by sticking to fundamental principles. We are utterly dedicated to small government and, ideally, self-government.

A Blue Ribbon Panel consisting of the members of the Libertarian Party of Alabama Executive Committee and selected individuals will decide the winner.

We encourage all citizens concerned with the future of Alabama to participate and to support this program by nominating a recipient, reporting instances of abuse, or by donating money for the prize. Politicians are burdening our children with massive debt and it is time that someone stepped forward to ensure that the money is being spent wisely. We ask that you also, step forward and make a real difference!

We will announce the prize to the media once the \$10,000 has been raised. Won't you help expose the millions of dollars that are being squandered every year by a bloated government? Please make checks out to the LPA, with a notation that the donation is for the Alabama Citizen's Prize. You can't afford to wait another day.