

Let Freedom Ring

CMLC Liberator

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Letters to the Editor

Editor:

Here in Springfield Mayer Albano was re-elected with 60% of the vote, running unopposed. It is reported as an improvement over the past election, but fewer people voted this election (20%[^] of registered voters voted). Karen Powell (Reform Party) ran a sticker campaign for her dog as mayor. He got about 450 votes. The big issue at present is the taking of Northgate Shopping Plaza by eminent domain to build a baseball stadium. Karen Powell quickly collected signatures to put the question on the ballot, but it is now tied up in court.

Karen Powell is struggling with the question "why did people sign the petition to stop the taking of the Plaza, then vote for Albano, the main force behind the taking of the Plaza?" Admittedly, I did not vote for many of the people who Powell endorsed. There are many reasons not to vote for Springfield incumbents.

Is it just as easy to run a sticker campaign for a person as it is for a dog. Municipal elections are "non-partisan". The names on the ballot do not carry a party designation. If we could get a slate of Libertarians running for offices we probably would not survive the primary elections. But what if we mounted a sticker campaign? We would then be in the campaign throughout the election. Instead of running Lone Ranger style, all candidates could use the same pamphlet which would have everyone's name and the office for which they would be running. Remember, to be counted the name and address must be written on the ballot, according to the Springfield Election Commission. The first question is "are there enough Libertarians in Springfield to run a full slate of candidates?"

I would like to hear what others think of the idea. I do not claim to have all the answers, but the time to start thinking of the next municipal elections is now.

Loss Of Liberty Abroad

Patricia Shaw forwards us the following:

The government of Afghanistan is waging a war upon its own women. Since the Taliban took power in 1996, women have had to wear burqua and have been beaten and stoned in public for not having the proper attire, even if this means simply not having the mesh covering in front of their eyes.

One woman was beaten to death by an angry mob of fundamentalists for accidentally exposing her arm while she was driving. Another was stoned to death for trying to leave the country with a man who was not a relative.

Women are not allowed to work or even go out in public without a male relative; professional women such as professors, translators, doctors, lawyers, artists and writers have been forced from their jobs and stuffed into their homes, so that depression is becoming so widespread that it has reached emergency levels. There no way in such an extreme Islamic

(Continued on page 2)

Stand Up for Liberty!

We continue to bring you sections from George Phillies' new book "*Stand Up for Liberty!*" Continuing from last issue...

On the other hand, helping people to become active is a good thing. I mentioned earlier the Operation Everywhere document, which presents the Membership Recruitment strategy. One of the document's very strong positive features is its appendices, which give detailed instructions for doing things. You might ask if some of those things ought to be high-priority tasks, but stylistically the document shows how to describe an task in incredible detail so that a politically-naive would-be activist can perform it.

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ties to our side. Lobbying, proving that the Libertarian Party is serious about real politics, prepares the ground for converting their elected officials to our party.

Activities That The National Party Should Make Happen

The following activities are important for the Libertarian Party. They could be performed by the national party or by someone else, but the National Committee needs to make sure that these get done.

Fifty-State Ballot Access for the Libertarian Presidential Ticket. Many of our state parties generate ballot access by themselves. For example, the Massachusetts Libertarian Party chose to seek major party status in 1998, succeeded, and therefore will put our Presidential candidate on the November 2000 ballot without further ado. In other states, local activists choose to get our Presidential candidate on the ballot and can do so by themselves. In a few states, ballot access requirements are extremely onerous. Only by focusing the resources of the entire country's Libertarians on these few states can the Party have a Presidential candidate on the ballot in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

TO BE CONTINUED

The Pioneer Valley Libertarian Association is Massachusetts' oldest local Libertarian organization, with regular meetings since 1995. The PVLA and its sister Central Massachusetts Liberty Coalition work to advance freedom across Massachusetts' 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Congressional Districts, stretching from Williamstown to Dartmouth. Read more about the PVLA and CMLC on their web sites, <http://www.wmlp.org> and <http://www.cmlc.org>.

The Pioneer Valley Libertarian Association meets monthly at Bickfords Family Restaurant, Old Boston Road, Springfield. Bickfords serves dinner, breakfast, and a full range of desserts. Meetings start at 7PM, with a working meeting at 8PM.

The PVLA and CMLC web sites are hosted by Excell.net (<http://www.excell.net>) a locally-owned, locally operated internet service provider offering solutions to people and businesses in the Pioneer Valley. Why not patronize a fellow Libertarian? See www.excell.net for excellent internet service.



First Class Mail

(Continued from page 1) (The Afghan War on Women)

society to know the suicide rate with certainty, but relief workers are estimating that the suicide rate among women, who cannot find proper medication and treatment for severe depression and would rather take their lives than live in such conditions, has increased significantly.

Homes where a woman is present must have their windows painted so that she can never be seen by outsiders. Women must wear silent shoes so that they are never heard. Women live in fear of their lives for the slightest misbehavior. Because they cannot work, those without male relatives or husbands are either starving to death or begging on the street, even if they hold Ph.D.'s.

There are almost no medical facilities available for women, and relief workers, in protest, have mostly left the country, taking medicine and psychologists and other things necessary to treat the skyrocketing level of depression among women.

At one of the rare hospitals for women, a reporter found still, nearly lifeless bodies lying motionless on top of beds, wrapped in their burqua, unwilling to speak, at, or do anything, but slowly wasting away. Others have gone mad and were seen crouched in corners, perpetually rocking or crying, most of them in fear. One doctor is considering, when what little medication that is left finally runs out, leaving these women in front of the president's residence as a form of peaceful protest. It is at the point where the term 'human rights violations' has become an understatement.

Husbands have the power of life and death over their women relatives, especially their wives, but an angry mob has just as much right to stone or beat a woman, often to death, for exposing an inch of flesh or offending them in the slightest way. Women enjoyed relative freedom, to work, dress generally as they wanted, and drive and appear in public alone until only 1996.

The rapidity of this transition is the main reason for the depression and suicide; women who were once educators or doctors or simply used to basic human freedoms are now severely restricted and treated as subhuman in the name of right-wing fundamentalist Islam. It is not their tradition or 'culture', but is alien to them, and it is extreme even for those cultures where fundamentalism is the rule.

Everyone has a right to a tolerable human existence, even if they are women in a Muslim country. If we can threaten military force in Kosovo in the name of human rights for the sake of ethnic Albanians, citizens of the world can certainly express peaceful outrage at the oppression, murder and injustice committed against women by the Taliban.

STATEMENT: In signing this, we agree that the current treatment of women in Afghanistan is completely *unacceptable* and deserves support and action by the United Nations and that the current situation overseas will not be tolerated.

Women's Rights is not a small issue anywhere and it is *unacceptable* for women in 1999 to be treated as subhuman and

PLEASE COPY this email on to a new message, sign the bottom and forward it to everyone on your distribution lists. If you receive this list with more than 200 names on it, please e-mail a copy of it to: sarabande@brandeis.edu <mailto:sarabande@brandeis.edu> (Send after every 200 names.) Even if you decide not to sign, please be considerate and do not kill the petition. Thank you. It is best to copy rather than forward the petition.

Editorial Aside: The conditions in Afghanistan are truly astonishing. The New York Times reports that Afghani women are setting up schools in secret to educate their children, since teaching women how to read is forbidden.

Unsurprisingly, since this petition is originally European, it did not occur to the authors that the conditions in Afghanistan are well into the range that justify taking up arms against the current regime, whose cruelties far exceed that evils of the former Soviet puppet state.

Libertarian News

The CMLC Liberator has confirmed that Don Gorman, former Libertarian state legislator from New Hampshire, has authorized the formation of an exploratory committee to investigate the possibility of his running for President or Vice President next year.

Exploratory Committees are legally authorized to collect money that may at a later date be used in a campaign for national office.

Gorman's running mate is reported to be a Republican state legislator from Michigan, a member of the Republican Liberty Caucus who was the only Republican legislature to endorse Andre Marrou, the 1992 Libertarian Presidential candidate.

The idea for recruiting Gorman apparently came from staff members in Congressman Ron Paul's office, working on their own time not out of the office itself. Gorman is a well known and highly popular Libertarian figure.

Apparently it has not yet been clarified in which order the team would appear on the ticket. However, expert observers say that a staunch Libertarian candidate for President could pick an RLC member for Vice President, but that a Republican RLC member would be highly unlikely to be able to win the Libertarian Presidential nomination.

One task of the exploratory committee will be to identify the important issues on which the team will campaign. The reported issues to date, States' Rights and supporting pro-liberty candidates — but only if they aren't Democrats — appear unsaleable.

Liberty Tree PAC

Liberty Tree, The Small-Government Low-Taxes Political Action Committee, has been organized by PVLA and CMLC members, with PVLA Libertarian Party member (and long-time former Holyoke Republican Committee Chair) Sally Howes as PAC chair, and PVLA/CMLC Chair George Phillies as Treasurer.

Liberty Tree is now set up and running, with its own checking account and ability to take donations. Remember, you can legally contribute up to \$100 per year to Liberty Tree, the Small-Government, Low-Taxes PAC.

Liberty Tree, an organization legally independent of the PVLA and the CMLC, exists to support pro-liberty candidates for non-Federal office. We have already had \$300 in contributions, and more are expected. Jerry Horton's near-miss loss (page 8) shows how a few dollars could have gone a long way to advance liberty here in Massachusetts. A candidate who gets 44% of the vote against an incumbent in a low-expenditure race probably could have won if the investment had been there.

A full-district mailing or two, more support for volunteers, or a larger phone bank might have been enough to turn the tide in favor of a pro-Liberty candidate.

Donations may be sent to Professor George Phillies, 87-6 Park Avenue, Worcester MA 01605. Please make checks payable to Liberty Tree PAC.

Contributions are legally limited to \$100 per person per calendar year. Please include your name, address, occupation, and employer along with your donation.

Be A Secret Agent For Liberty

Why don't *you*, yes, *YOU*, do something for the Libertarian Movement? Why not take 30 seconds to *Stand Up for Liberty!* right here in the Commonwealth.

Be a Secret Agent for Liberty! gives you a way to do that! Our new recruitment—advertising program doesn't ask you to get conspicuous. It doesn't ask you to get in a political argument. All we are asking you to do is to take the enclosed trifold, find a thumbtack, and at a convenient moment put the trifold up on a bulletin board someplace.

The enclosed trifold has our address and contact data. Put it out where people will see it: a library bulletin board, the coffee room at work,... Anyone who is ready to take another step for Liberty will find our address and contact information herein. Through the PVLA/CMLC secret agent program, you can do your bit for Liberty without risking personal confrontation.

Recipe for Local Results

...by Hardy Macia <hardy@catamount.com>

I'd like to share what I'm doing in my area of Vermont and the process by which I've done it with the list.

Recipe for Local Results

1. Come up with an idea.
2. Find others who agree with your idea and want to help.
3. Implement the idea.
4. Market the idea.
5. Show others your idea is working and incite them to try it in their area.

Here's how I'm making the above 5 steps work in Grand Isle town and the county. Hopefully, the results will encourage you to follow/copy what I've done in your hometown.

1. Come up with an idea

I thought having a town email list would be a good idea to allow more more people to know what's going on in town. I live on the south side of town and rarely go north where all of the gossip takes place. So, when I ran for Selectboard I made it an issue. Here is a snippet from my candidate profile that was printed in the local paper:

The Islander Feb 23, 1999

"...Future: I would like to see minutes of the selectboard and schoolboard meetings posted on a website or available via email. This would be a small step into keeping more people informed as to what is going on in town and allow for direct feedback by residents...."

2. Find others who agree with your idea and want to help

Marianne runs an Unofficial Grand Isle County website. I told her my idea and she liked it. She offered to give me space on her website. Finding others to help depends on the size of your project. I could have done the town email list myself, but as you bring in more people the faster the project grows.

3. Implement the idea

Because I was running the email lists for the VTLP it was easy for me to create a Grand Isle discussion list. So easy, in fact that all towns in Vermont now have a discussion list setup and ready to be used, but it will take your activism in your town for your town email list to get off the ground like the Grand Isle list.

One problem I've run into with implementing the

idea is getting the local agenda and minutes from the select board. Our town clerk is resisting the idea. She could email the minutes to me or the list (she's on it monitoring it) or she could make the minutes available via a floppy disk. To work around this some of the initial people who joined the email list offered to scan in the minutes and I've retyped several issues of the minutes. The idea is complete, but we've pushed the issue a little bit more with what I'll consider marketing.

4. Market the idea

The email list had a few members, but it needs many more to be successful. I had a three prong marketing strategy.

A. Word of mouth. The people on the list invite their friends and neighbors to join the list.

B. Letter to the editor or press release to the local paper. A new form of communication in town that brings neighbors together is news.

C. The Citizen Petition - guerilla marketing :).

i. Marianne and I worked together to create a petition and Marianne placed the petition in a couple of the local stores. The final wording we used for the petition is below. We collected 77 signatures. 39 of the signers wanted to be added to the email list which doubles the size of the email list. Marriane has placed herself on the agenda of the select board, planning commission, and school board and waiting to hear back from the DRB. She will present the petition to the various boards and we will rally a few supporters to join Marianne and myself at the meetings.

ii. Citizens circulating a petition is news. So, part two of the citizen petition was a press release that I wrote up and gave to Marianne to send to our local paper. It appeared in the paper yesterday and has generated interest in the Grand Isle list as well as a few of the surrounding towns.

Below is the press release sent to The Islander. Small papers love to have press releases written so they don't have to do anything to them and have them sound like someone did an interview. The only thing the editor changed was the title from "Grand Isle Citizens for Open Government" to "Citizens Want Grand Isle Town News on Internet". Which was a good choice because I like his title better.

5. Show others your idea is working and incite them to try it in their area:

See how easy it was? Writing down what I did I hope you will see how easy it is to move from idea to

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action. It takes about 30 minutes to print up 5 copies of the petition with your town's local info, drop it off at your local store, and send the sample press release to your local paper. The basic idea is working in Grand Isle and I think it can work in every other town in Vermont and the USA.

6. Extra

On the face of it town email discussion lists aren't a libertarian idea so why am I doing it? Planning for the future! Everyone says the Libertarian Party is the internet party, but I rarely see the LP try to use the internet to their advantage. I always hear why isn't the LP doing more on the internet by all of the couch political analysts, but rarely do any of the idea makers take the initiative to make their idea reality.

a. What town email discussion lists do is gives citizens easy access to what's going on in town. Some things the town is doing they might like, but other things they will hate. If you are on the list you'll be able to identify possible libertarians and be able to form alliances with others in towns on special issues.

b. The message trailer can be set by the moderate of the email list. Some trailers have an advertisement for the LP "List run as a public service by the Vermont Libertarian Party <http://www.catamount.com/VTLP/>". This shows the LP taking an active roll in town politics in 251 towns around the state and this is done without having members in every town.

c. As more people get on the internet, currently 47% of Vermonters have internet access either through home or work, more people will turn to the internet for their news - especially if it more timely than the local paper that is only published once a week or bi-weekly. 100 people in Grand Isle is 10% of the town. These people are more likely to vote because they are interested in town issues. If you have direct access to 10% of the town at \$0 cost it makes a good campaign outlet. You need to be careful how you use it, but you can post your press releases to the town email list and you'll know they will be carried intact without editorializing.

7. Just Do It

If you need help rewriting the petition or press release email (hardy@catamount.com) or call me 372-9512. I'd like to see 20 town email lists active by spring of 2000.

- Hardy Macia

Helping new candidates and staffers by giving expert advice is not simple. Part of expert knowledge is expertise in teaching. It is not enough to know how someone else can get on the ballot. You need to be able to tell to the candidate what the candidate needs to do, in words the candidate understands and remembers, so that the prospective candidate and her staff will do the right things and get her on the ballot.

Why do we need to incite voters? Choosing a political party is like getting married. Most people do it once or twice in their entire life. The most reliable predictor of a person's political allegiance is the allegiance of the parents. You get very few meaningful chances, perhaps none at all in their whole life, to persuade anyone to change parties and Make Liberty Happen! and Vote Libertarian! Every Party group at every level has the same obligation to keep the Party's name in front of the public. We need to make sure: When someone realizes the duopoly parties are not for her, she will find the Libertarian Party and join us in Standing Up for Liberty!

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Information is the lamp that leads us through the political darkness. Information is the construction material for sound strategy, good tactics, and solid victories. Information is the one good that becomes more valuable when it is shared. Chapter 14 considers information management: How to collect information, what to do with information, and how to get that information to everyone who might use it. Information management is a task for every Libertarian group.

Internal information management unites groups and their people. Openness and transparency permit a group to develop sound ideas and build membership confidence in how operations are conducted. There is nothing wrong with friends polishing and developing an idea before running it up the flagpole. Many people rely on first impressions, so improving a proposal privately until it makes a good first impression is just common sense. However, groups that never talk to themselves or their neighbors, that make decisions in secret for the sake of secrecy, and that try to hide every leadership dispute behind a mask of pretended unanimity are basically sick. Sick groups will never build a healthy Libertarian Party, so Libertarians should avoid supporting them. There are plenty of other parts of the Libertarian movement that will welcome your time and

energy.

OUTREACH

Outreach, going to people who are not committed Libertarians and moving them in a Libertarian direction, is the core activity for every Libertarian group. We're here to persuade other people to Vote Libertarian! time after time, not to reassure ourselves that it's OK for us to vote for ourselves. Running candidates for office is the most fundamental effective approach to outreach, but campaigning is linked to the election cycle: No election, no campaign.

Campaigns are discussed in Chapter 7. Political campaigns let us advertise libertarian positions to the body politic when they are likely to be listening. Campaigns let us do external outreach, going to people who are not Libertarian and convincing them that we are the political party they would prefer to support. Campaigns also let us do internal outreach. Through internal outreach, we go to Libertarians who vote but are not active in the party and persuade them to become activists.

Identifying and cultivating media contacts is something every Libertarian group should do. In practical terms, each group should focus on reporters and columnists whose work corresponds to the group's geographic range, including the closest major media markets.

Advertising is a fundamental process for outreach. Activist events, e.g., Libertarian speakers at supper clubs, are fine for reach people who have already become aware of the Libertarian movement. To reach people who have no inkling that they could choose to support the Libertarian movement, you need a method that puts our message onto media that they watch. This is advertising: Cable TV, radio, theater slides, and newspapers and magazines all put Libertarian ideas in front of people who would otherwise never hear about us. It is especially important to reach people who are not already committed to one of the duopoly parties. Libertarian groups and campaigns may have different budgets and cover different geographic areas, but all share a common responsibility to advertise Libertarian ideas to the general public.

The Internet and other wired media: A large fraction of the populace does not use electronic mail or the World Wide Web. For contacting people and asking their support, EMail is no substitute for personal contact and telephone calls. Enough people -- especially young people who have not yet chosen a political party -- use the Web that a solid web presence is still

critical to any serious political group. To reach activists who use EMail, for speed and price nothing competes with a private electronic mail list.

It is appropriate, and easier every day, for local, state, national, and special-interest groups to field their own web pages and EMail lists. Especially at the local level, one must always remember *Many People Do Not Use Electronic Mail*. Many populist groups make effective use of telephone and fax trees. Almost everyone has a telephone, and lots of people can receive a fax. Phone trees are especially effective at the local level, where toll charges are avoided.

KEEPING PROMISES

Every Libertarian organization has certain nuts and bolts operations it absolutely must run correctly.

*Legal and Party By-Law obligations: Many Libertarian groups, especially larger ones, have a Constitution and By-Laws. Many groups are subject to legal reporting requirements because they handle political money. Each group's officers are obliged to follow their Constitution and By-Laws and our country's laws.

* Membership fulfillment. Many groups collect dues and promise a monthly newsletter. Nothing kills a dues-based membership club faster than a nominally regular newsletter that is always late. You can recruit all you want, but when your newsletter becomes irregular your renewals dry up and your membership dwindles. The National Committee must maintain membership records and publish LP News on time. State and local groups must do the same with their records and publications.

FUND-RAISING

Money is the lifeblood of politics. Main stream candidates spend half their time raising money.

Fundraising is a necessity for every Libertarian group and every Libertarian campaign. Nonetheless, in the list of activities for all Libertarian organizations, I place fundraising last. Fundraising is important for most everything else we do, but fundraising is only a means, not an end in itself. Furthermore, because the Libertarian party differs from other major parties in opposing corporate and other welfare, we will never get the hundreds of millions in special interest moneys given to the duopoly by every group that wants to loot the Federal treasury. We have many places where we can beat the duopoly, but head to head fundraising is not one of them.

Fundraising is only good if the money is spent effectively. A group that makes spectacular promises and ties up a large part of the money available for Lib-

ertarian projects in a year might score a breakthrough. That group for sure makes it harder for all other Libertarians to fund the incremental gains needed to reach a broad-front victory.

A single Libertarian group that perpetually ties up a large part of the movement's available donations had for sure better be spending that money to strengthen the Libertarian movement as a whole. A group that locks down the bulk of Libertarian political spending had better not be spending that money primarily to pay staffers and raid the membership and donor lists of other parts of the Libertarian movement, as opposed to using it to advance the Party toward victory. The Libertarian movement is not a public relief project for political consultants. Shuffling members between Libertarian groups leaves the movement no stronger than it was before the members were shuffled. The Libertarian movement cannot afford a parasite that sucks the movement's life blood and leaves the movement weaker rather than stronger when it finishes feeding. Libertarians should insist that Libertarian money is well spent, and close their checkbooks when it is not.

WHAT TO AVOID

A new political party is much like a start-up firm. Someone and a couple of partners have found a product, solved their financial issues, and are going to go into business. All too often, start up firms go under because they make standard mistakes, mistakes that a knowing entrepreneur would instantly avoid. The mistakes are made by people who've worked in a company, perhaps several companies, but never really understood how their companies worked.

Working on limited capital, unsuccessful firms rent an office, hire a secretary to answer the phone, get some furniture, and hire a senior manager or executive officer to run the office. The question that is never asked is "what is the value added from this decision? Why can't we work in the garage, answer our own phone, and get the furniture from sale or the Salvation Army?" All too soon, the startup is out of cash and out of business.

The political equivalent is very similar. There is a temptation to rent an office, furnish it, and give the party its own paid Executive Director, without asking what value is added. That's a cash sink, not necessarily a good decision.

The rational alternative as the party grows is to recognize that there are certain sorts of clerical work that could be done by staff or contractor instead of vol-

unteers. Instead of collating and folding the newsletter, applying stamps and mailing labels, and sending the new issue on its way, the newsletter printer masters, a computer disk, and money go to a professional mailing house. The editor edits. The printer professionally sends the issues. Eventually, you need clerical support to handle renewals, donations, and mailing of information packets. You start hiring staff who will have value added -- these are clerical staffers. The party chair, unpaid, speaks with each of them once a week or so, standard business practice. If you want people to be reliable and show initiative, you pay accordingly. Eventually the staff grows to the point that the party chair cannot keep track of them all. Now you need an office manager, not to be the party brain trust, but to keep the most routine of the multi-person tasks going. In the end, you have so many office managers that the party chair can't handle all of them. Now, finally, with an operation of 40 or 80 people and an operation in the five or ten million a year range, you actually do need an executive director and a professional financial officer, and have the resources to hire them.

The difference between hiring because it sounds prestigious and hiring because the employees add value should be instantly apparent.

SUMMARY

This Chapter has discussed activities that are equally important for any Libertarian group, whether national, state, or local. I've talked about Developing the Voter Base, Incitement, Information Management, Outreach, The Importance of Keeping Promises, and Fund-Raising. I also discussed some potential errors. The next chapter discusses tasks that are specifically appropriate at a single political level, and considers ethically-libertarian linkages between such groups.

**Chapter Six
Activities for Particular Party Groups**

This Chapter considers Activities that are suited for federal, state, or local political parties, but not all of them. I begin with activities for the national party because it appears to lead to the clearest discussion. I then work up the ladder to activities that appear to be best performed on the state or local level.

Many of these activities are already performed by some groups on a regular basis. Other activities could be performed at a different level than the one that I propose. It may seem most reasonable for the National

Party to organize the Veterans for Liberty, but if the Concord-Lexington Libertarian Club does it, that's perfectly all right.

Activities for the Federal Level

We have a national committee and a national party because some actions are readily carried out at the federal level. There are also activities that need to happen in every single state, but some state organizations aren't ready to perform them, so it is in the interest of Libertarians from elsewhere in the country to see that they happen. The national party is one of several obvious ways for Libertarians across the country to support activities in other states.

Some activities must be done by the National Committee itself. Other activities need to get done by someone. The national party could do them, but other groups could take the National Committee's place. Finally, there are national activities that the National Committee can nurture, but not perform.

Activities Which the National Party Itself Must Perform

Cooperation with Other Libertarian Groups. A few simple principles are self-evident. State and local Libertarian groups should be allies that the National Party actively supports, not competitors that it hinders. Independent Libertarian groups such as the Cato Institute should be friends with which we actively collaborate, within the limits of tax and election laws, not hostile forces we resist or ignore. Election Laws permit many activities that do not know occur. Outreach to the greater Libertarian movement is a necessary task for the National Party.

Washington Lobbying and Congressional Testimony. Only the National Party can convincingly represent the Party to Congress. Why should we lobby? Lobbying on strategically chosen issues introduces Libertarians to reporters, columnists, and other lobbyists. Lobbying puts into play Libertarian ideas. Lobbying can reduce the damage done to the Unites States by the duopoly party before the Libertarian Party wins, as witness the DefendYourPrivacy web campaign. One can get carried away and spend too much time lobbying. However, some measures are cheap and effective.

Conversion of Elected Federal Officials. The Republican Party has made a home industry of proselytizing elected Democrats to convert them from one branch of the duopoly to the other. When the Libertarian Party begins to win elections, we will also grow by converting current public officials of all other par-