



LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF OREGON
LPO NEWS



The Official Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Oregon

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Nomination Convention

By Adam Mayer

The Libertarian Party of Oregon will hold a Nomination Convention on Saturday Jan. 9th, 2010. The convention will be at the Comfort Inn 13455 SW Tualatin Valley Highway and will start promptly at 1pm. If you arrive after the call to order you may not be credentialed and able to vote. Since this is a nomination convention, only those who have been registered as Libertarian electors a minimum of thirty days prior to the convention will be eligible to be credentialed.

The agenda will consist of the following: Call to order, credential report, officers reports, other reports, nominations for public office, endorsements for public office, and resolutions. All registered Libertarians will be able to run for partisan position up for election in 2010 provided that they meet the requirements of the office desired. All statewide races will be voted on by all delegates, all others by delegates who reside in that district. Please bring your voter registration card to the convention to help speed up the credentialing process.

At 9am the Libertarian Party of Washington County will be holding a candidate workshop. The workshop will help candidates run more effective campaigns and also cover campaign teams and volunteers.

Even if you are not planning on running for office, attending will teach you how to run, organize and assist on a political campaign.

There is no cost to attend but there will be a charge for printed materials that go along with the workshop. For more information or to RSVP please email chair@washington.lporegon.org.

At 12pm there will be a luncheon for \$25, special guest speaker to be named. The lunch will include lasagna, salad, cookies and beverage. Please email treasurer@lporegon.org to order and pay for lunch.

Run for Local Office

By Erik Seligman

In these days of rapidly advancing socialism, the GOP and the LP have a common interest in bringing fiscal conservatives to office at all levels. Many activists overlook local offices like city councils and school boards, but these are absolutely critical if we are to preserve individual rights and restore Oregon's economy.

Why are these positions important? Just think about some of the powers of local boards and councils:

1. Each one may control hundreds of millions of your tax dollars.
2. They negotiate contracts with local unions.
3. They can use eminent domain to seize local properties.
4. Local school boards must approve every charter school proposal.

Do you want these boards to be run by people who believe in individual freedom and limited government, or by union-affiliated politicians seeking to build monuments to their egos?

If you are considering a run for office in the next few years, the time to start is now. Begin attending the public meetings of the board or council

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you are interested in, to get to know the current officeholders and really understand the position you are seeking. In addition, get involved-- there are many appointed subcommittees under the various elected boards, and vacancies tend to appear year-round. It's an excellent way to develop a sense for the inner workings of your local government, and a track record of direct service looks great on a voter statement.

Because these local positions are nonpartisan, they are an ideal opportunity for the Republican and Libertarian parties to work together to elect fiscal conservatives. It's entirely possible for a candidate to be endorsed by or receive support from both parties, and the Republican party has lots of resources and many enthusiastic local volunteers.

If you are thinking of running for one of these offices, please consider contacting your local GOP to coordinate; regardless of party affiliation, you are welcome to sign up at our website <http://rescueoregon.com>, and your local Republican candidate chair will follow up. We hope to hear from you!

Sign up for meeting notices at
<http://libertarian.meetup.com/365/>

Peace, Politics and the Noble Prize

By David Terry

During the election of 1964, the news media was blitzed with pictures of a little girl picking flowers, being interrupted by a mushroom shaped cloud, suggesting that a Goldwater victory would certainly bring about nuclear war and the end of civilization as we know it.

Liberal pundits such as Sandor Vanocre and Daniel Schorr observed that if Goldwater were elected, the U.S. will have a quarter-million troops in Vietnam in two years. Of course, even though millions voted for Goldwater, Johnson won; the election, that is, NOT the Nobel Prize. Not surprisingly, within two years of his election Johnson had deployed over a quarter of a million troops in Vietnam. 58,000 young Americans never came home and many of them who did, were; what's the expression, "not quite right"?

Fast Forward to 2008; Once again we were warned; this time, of the dire and terrible consequences of a "peacenik" President. Once again the American people opted for who they "believed" represented the best chance of peace. Before Mr. Obama had time to take off his shoes at his new digs, he was awarded the "Peace Prize".

At that point, all the new Prez had done was "promise" not to extend the war and to bring our troops home 'as soon as it can be accomplished, safely'. Clearly, our new President has not lived up to his "billing". Since his inauguration, Pres. Obama, in spite of months of rhetoric and promises has not brought one single soldier home. On the contrary, he has already ordered an additional 21,000 troops to Afghanistan this year and is considering more based on 'recommendations' from his military advisors.

The war in Iraq is not a popular subject these days. There was a time, not so long ago [like before the election] when troop levels in Iraq were common knowledge. No more; the media is not interested in Iraq anymore. It is Afghanistan! The war in Afghanistan is the 'good war', full of promise. Iraq is the 'bad war', missteps and tragedies; it's Bush's war; it is the past. The Republicans don't want to

discuss the war in Iraq because it cost them many elections. The Democrats don't want to discuss the war in Iraq because Obama promised to withdraw troops from Iraq.

The question of the moment is; why did the Nobel Committee give the award, prematurely, to Obama? Was it a thinly veiled plan to coopt the President's future actions, by hanging the prize around his neck. Or was it, as GOP chairman Michael Steele wrote; "an award for awesomeness" Maybe, if the Committee had given LBJ the award in 1964, Vietnam would have been avoided.

The peace movement in this country is all but dormant now. Democratic Party regulars and apparatchiks prefer to focus on other issues, such as universal health care, insurance reform, jobs, taxes, etc, anything but more Americans killing and being killed in Iraq and Afghanistan. Exactly, as their predecessors hyped the "Great Society" while thousands of their brothers died in the marshes of the Mekong Delta.

Where are the signs, the demonstrations, the letters to the editor? Where is the outrage? Is peace and human rights no longer a liberal priority, simply because a liberal is President? The silence is deafening!

Flash back to 1968; The war-hawks in the Johnson Administration believed they could 'coopt' the anti-war dissidents. They were wrong; big time! Even though Johnson had already announced his decision not to seek reelection, the DP hierarchy tapped likable party hack Hubert Humphrey as the new poster boy for the war in Indo-China.

At the Democratic Convention in Chicago, police attempted to beat the peace advocates into silence. It didn't work. It did, however, manage to get Richard Nixon elected. He ALSO ran on a platform to get our troops out of an unpopular war. No "Peace Prize" for him either.

It is clear that those who do not take note of history are doomed to repeat it. I don't wish to be overly pessimistic where this President is concerned, but if Mr. Obama continues to take the course of least political resistance and fails to honor his commitment to bring American troops home, the next Democratic National

Convention may make the 1968 debacle look like a college toga party.

Peacemongers; stop meeting behind closed doors, write those letters, get in your representative's face. Stop this waste of lives and American treasure! NOW!

This letter appeared on October 24, 2009 in the Newberg Graphic.

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The LPO News is e-mailed LPO members on a bi-monthly basis. The next deadline is January 16, 2010.

Please submit articles to lpoeitor@gmail.com

Unsigned articles or letters will not be accepted. Articles will not be edited for content or grammar.

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