



# Gulf Coast Liberty

Defending liberty in southeast Texas in the Spirit of San Jacinto

Summer 2005

## It's Been A Good Year For Outreach

The HCLP had a presence across the street from the NRA national convention during its three-day Houston session. Lyndell Rottman, White Marriott, Monica Granger, and I were the ones who, for varying lengths of time, got the word out to delegates and other NRA sympathizers that the

LP was on their side in the work to preserve the 2nd Amendment.

About 50 brochures were handed out, and many folks headed to or from the gathering made favorable comments once they read our signs. Kudos go to Clyde Garland, who paid for, and Rick McGinnis, who produced, a very nice vinyl banner showing Lady Liberty holding an automatic, with the slogan I coined several year ago for a table we had at a gunshow:

The FIRST Line of Defense  
For the SECOND Amendment  
Is America's THIRD Party  
VOTE LIBERTARIAN!

April saw a benefit for Houston NORML. Three Harris County LPers spoke, and Libertarians from Greater Houston (and Louisiana!) were in attendance.

I was on fairly early, before the various ingestibles had had much time to work their impact on the crowd's attentiveness. I had prepared a written speech, but the lack of a rostrum/lectern and the shortened time slot made me go semi-extemporaneous.

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## LIBERTARIAN LANDSLIDE IN LAGO VISTA!

by Jeff Daiell

(LAGO VISTA, TEXAS) LPT Chair Pat Dixon was swept to victory in his Lago Vista City Council race May 7th, with 68% of the vote. In an

### Chronicle Mentions Dixon's Victory; Daiell on Channel 8

In a column written by Kristen Mack the Friday after Pat Dixon crushed his city council foe was this note:

#### A Libertarian Victory

The Texas Libertarian Party, which has been on state ballots for most elections over the past 20 years without much success, is celebrating a victory. State Party Chairman Pat Dixon was elected Saturday to the city council in the Austin suburb of Lago Vista, defeating an incumbent council member. Libertarian candidates also garnered enough votes in last fall's general election to win a place on the 2006 state ballot.

In another media presence, I participated in an installment of Channel 8's "The Connection" in early May. An ACLU attorney and I debated Houston's U. S. Attorney and an FBI agent on renewal of the misnamed "Patriot Act".

Austin City Council contest, LPT Executive Director Wes Benedict drew 18% to finish second of four. Since both Pat and Wes were candidates whom most voters would be comfortable with as individuals, I suspect the disparity in results comes down to two factors -- which are, actually, two sides of the same factor: size of constituency and money.

What I have been saying for years has been demonstrated again: in elections where the rules are the same for all candidates, and special-interest money is not an overwhelming factor, Libertarians can, and often do, win.

In other election news, from www.LP.org: In elections May 17th, eight Portland, Oregon-area Libertarians were elected to public office. On that single day, Libertarians were elected to six school committees, to a water board, and to a school board. Adam Mayer, chairman of the Libertarian Party of Oregon, said he believes such local election wins can have a strong impact -- both for the party and for the communities in question.

Six Libertarians won local

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Outreach - from page 1

I spoke of the interdependence of civil liberties and economic freedom, had the crowd shout out "Keep Your Laws Off My Body", and then, using a clever tool Michael Badnarik taught me, I told the assemblage I wanted them to stand up for their Rights, literally.

Once they were on their feet, I asked them to give an anticipatory round of applause to the upcoming speakers and bands. I closed by saying, "So, next time I run for office, I want all the speakers and bands coming up after me to remember I got them a standing ovation".

Brent Sullivan spoke later, talking about the need for anti-statist activism and mentioning his upcoming Congressional campaign. He pointed out that the Democans and Replicrats were responsible for the War on Drugs, and noted that only the LP was committed to ending it.

Guy McLendon's time slot came after many in the audience were, umm, sub-focused. Still, he was able to get across his point that the War on Drugs is unConstitutional.

We definitely made some friends yesterday. I suspect many of the attendees are now more likely to give some of their votes to us in the future.

Landslide - from page 1

elections in Wisconsin on April 5th. Apparently, three won first terms and three were re-elected.

## Special Election in District 143

The death of State Rep. Joe Moreno means a special election in November.

The filing fee will be \$750 or 500 signatures. All candidates run in a primary; if no one secures a majority, a run-off pits the top two finishers, regardless of party.

This is a solidly Democratic district, so it is possible no Republican will run. One or two well-known Democrats will probably get into the race, along with several unknown-and-unfinanced candidates.

What has done well in such cases is to contact voters who voted in the last primary of the tax-subsidized party not represented in the election, asking whether, since their party has no candidate, they would prefer someone from the other tax-subsidized party or a Libertarian.

Those who'd prefer a Libertarian are called back on Election Day and urged to vote for the LPer.

If we have an active candidate we could block-walk a good portion of the district and thus increase our visibility going into 2006.

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# Build a **Bigger, Better** Libertarian Party -- Give!

Funds needed now for 2005 election expenses! Please donate today.

Here is my best donation : \_\_\_\_\_\$35 \_\_\_\_\_\$60 \_\_\_\_\_\$100 \_\_\_\_\_\$200 \_\_\_\_\_Other

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Employer (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ Precinct \_\_\_\_\_

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## 2005 Light Of Liberty Winners from Texas

The Advocates for Self-Government recently announced the Texas recipients of the 2005 Light of Liberty Award (for outreach in 2004). They were:

Michael Badnarik  
Laura Coker-Garcia  
Jeff Daiell  
Guy McLendon  
Garry L. Reed

Speaking of outreach, Jeff had a letter in The Houston Chronicle in June. The letter, about the 1985 referendum on equal treatment for gays and lesbians, mentioned the LP and reminded GLBT readers that the Democrats will abandon them when politically expedient. He's also started mailing LP brochures to folks who have Liberty-leaning missives in The Chronicle.

## *LPer Places 2nd of 4 in Mayoral Tilt*

Anna, Texas voters gave Kevin Anderson 21.4669% of the vote in their May 7th mayoral race. The incumbent received 298 to Kevin's 120. The third-place finisher had 74 votes and the other candidate 67.

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## The Libertarian Party Matters

Robert "Rock" Howard  
Legislative Advisor LPT

For the first time to my knowledge various people at the State Legislature are actually seeking out the opinion of the Libertarian Party on selected issues. This is happening in several ways:

-- A few state reps now know us and respect us enough to casually ask for our opinions on bills coming up for a vote.

-- When we testify against a bill (particularly when we are the only ones who testified against a bill that made it through committee), we sometimes get asked for more details by House staff or the Texas House Research Council before the matter comes up for a vote on the floor.

-- Even for bills where we did not testify, the Texas House Research Council will sometimes call us and ask for an opinion. This body is tasked with providing anonymous comments for and against the bills that are coming up for a vote on the

House floor. They know we are often good for an opinion that is a bit different than the usual ones that they collect.

All this is happening because we did the hard work to get on the ballot and had the good fortune to actually impact a house race. With this story as well as the "feet on the street" work of Pat Dixon and yours truly, we are seeing tangible results for the first time.

In the future I hope we can revive the Legislative Watchdog concept and get a team of Libertarians from around the state involved with the work at the state house. Our meager results thus far would be greatly expanded with a team of savvy thinkers working diligently as good ideas are greatly prized and Republicans, for all their myriad faults, are very willing to champion many of the ideas that we cherish most.

I will be putting together the Legislative Scorecard shortly and will be asking Libertarians around the state to participate in the fine tuning of that document by ranking the importance of many of the key bills that have come up in the current session. If you or someone you know wants to be one of the stewards of this process, please contact me as soon as possible.

LPT Conference  
Austin  
Sept. 16-18

See [www.lptexas.org](http://www.lptexas.org) for details.

Heights Festival  
October 2

See [JeffDaiell@yahoo.com](mailto:JeffDaiell@yahoo.com)

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INSIDE: Libertarian Landslide  
HCLP Outreach Successes  
LPers in the Media

## Libertarian Activities for Summer 2005

**July 13/14/19 (Wed./Thurs./Tues) Candidate screening for 2005 elections, Houston GLBTPC. See inside for details.**

**July 30/Aug. 20/Sept. 24/Oct. 29 - HCLP Activity nights. Location, attractions TBA.**

**Aug. 7 (First Sun.) 4 pm. Harris County Business Meeting at 9614 Oregano Circle.**

**Aug. 27 (Sat.) SLECT meeting, Houston area. Contact Jeff Daiell for time and place.**

**Aug. 27 (Sat.) Ron Paul birthday**

**celebration. Contact Jeff Daiell for time and place.**

**Sept. 16-18 (Fri.-Sat.-Sun.) 2005 LPT Conference, Austin. See LPT website for details.**

**Oct. 2 (Sat.) - Heights Festival. HCLP will have a booth, and your participation is requested! Contact Jeff Daiell for details.**

**Nov. 8 (Tues.) Election Day, including State Constitutional amendments.**

Hierarchy - from last issue

In *Systems of Survival*, Jane Jacobs noted that our ethical and moral principles seemed to fall into two clusters, which I like to call Noble Values and Common Virtues. Besides their obvious class origins, they serve different functions. Specifically, Noble Values are needed for the smooth operation of hierarchical institutions, and Common Virtues are needed for markets.

While the application of Common Virtues to markets is fairly obvious, while the use of Noble Virtues to hierarchies is less apparent.

To a certain extent, "shun trading" is simply class prejudice where any common activity is seen as disgraceful. However, trading within a hierarchy basically means trading favors, which is to say corruption. Trading outside the hierarchy

means trading with the enemy, which is to say treason.

Being loyal, showing fortitude and being fatalistic are the principle virtues of middle and lower management, since very few will ever make it to the top. Exerting prowess refer primarily to the skills of domination, which include social skills as well as fighting, lying, cheating and

to be continued...