

Libertarian Party of Hawaii

Editor: Roger Taylor

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From the Chair By Ken Schoolland June 27, 2009

Purpose: To Change the Debate

Democrats and Republicans give such routine responses to current issues that people come to think there are no alternatives. For instance, one side may call for stricter punishment of lawbreakers. Another side may call for rehabilitation of lawbreakers. The libertarian might challenge the premise of the law itself. If the law is just, then one should think beyond punishment and rehabilitation of the criminal. The libertarian might seek to have criminals provide restitution to their victims.

If the law is an unjust aggression by the state against the individual rights of citizens, then the lawmakers are the offenders. We should then express moral outrage against such statist behavior. One case that comes to mind is the debate over civil unions. The usual question in public debate is whether or not gays and lesbians should be allowed to marry. Libertarians might better ask why the state is asserting itself into marriage at all? And why is there a legal distinction between married people and single people that carries privileges and penalties?

Regardless of the issue, it is useful to test the actions of the state against principle. If I have the right to do something, then I have a right to ask someone else to act on my behalf. But if I do not have a right to do something, then I have no right to ask others, especially agents of the state, to do this on my behalf. An excellent way of addressing all issues is to apply the libertarian pledge: "I do not believe in nor advocate the initiation of force to advance social or political goals."

Purpose: To Rally Like Minded Activists

Another function of the LPH is to serve as a rallying point for people of like mind. For years, when I lived in Alaska, I assumed that I was alone in my view about basic individual rights. Then I traveled through Hawaii in 1976 and discovered the Libertarian Party. It provided me with good contracts, friends, excellent resources, and opportunity for action. All the words in the world won't make a difference if people don't take action on those words.

Dedicated libertarians can often be more effective when acting in concert. Sure, the Party has not elected many people to public office, but I am convinced that the assertion of libertarian ideas in the political arena has elected many libertarian ideas through people in other parties. [*Continued p 2*]

We invite you to join the Libertarian Party of Hawaii

As Ken Schoolland mentioned in his article, the believing in and understanding of the pledge is central to Libertarianism. You may join by signing below:

I do not believe in nor advocate the initiation of force to advance social or political goals.

Signature

Date

We ask for a voluntary \$25 donation. You can join online at www.libertarianpartyofhawaii.org or you can send your signed pledge and donation to the Libertarian Party of Hawaii, 713 Ulumaika St, Honolulu, HI 96816

From the Chair^[cont]

I ran for public office three times in Hawaii, once for U.S. Congress and twice for the U.S. Senate. Each time I provided an opportunity for a small percentage of the population to vote their conscience, not just to vote for the lesser of two evils. At the same time, I heard other party candidates adopt ideas from libertarians when these ideas clearly resounded with audiences along the campaign trail.

Purpose: To Have Fun

Beyond this, the party should behave a bit like we're having a party. Of course the issues are serious, but the path to success may be through fun and games.

I recently purchased a film from the Moving Picture Institute called: "Hammer and Tickle: Jokes That Brought Down the Soviet Union." The great message here was that mockery did more than anything else to undermine statism. Mockery and satire was probably more feared by tyrants than any other device. It is the ultimate weapon of civil disobedience.

The story goes that when Stalin died and went to hell, he had a choice of capitalist hell or communist hell. At the gate he asked, "What happens in capitalist hell?"

The gatekeeper replied, "Knives will peel your skin and you will be boiled in oil."

"And what happens in communist hell?"

The gatekeeper again replied, "Knives will peel your skin and you will be boiled in oil."

Stalin was puzzled. "So why isn't anyone lined up at capitalist hell and everyone is lining up to enter communist hell?"

The gatekeeper said, "In communist hell there is always a shortage of knives and oil."

Tyrants just can't stand to be laughed at. Stalin sent people to 10-year prison sentences just for laughing at such jokes. Jon Stewart, Stephen Colbert, Trey Parker, and Matt Stone understand the power of humor better than most. So, lets have some fun. There's plenty to mock and we don't get sent to prison for laughing...yet.

May 16th Convention Election Results

Chair	Ken Schoolland
Vice Chair	Larry Bartley
Treasurer	John Spangler
Secretary	Roger Taylor
At Large	Jeff Mallan Aaron Anderson Li Zhao Dave Hudson

Other Convention Information

Treasury \$4500

Roger Taylor's responsibilities as Consulting Director:

- ❖ Publish a bimonthly newsletter and send it to the membership
- ❖ Bring membership activities up to date
- ❖ Coordinate with regional and national
- ❖ Do the paperwork with the state when appropriate
- ❖ Work with Jeff to get the web more up to date
- ❖ Help Ken with the distribution of Press Releases

Historical Information:

At the direction of the national LP our local party LPH no longer has a financial or membership arrangement with the national LP. Thus people can join either national or local or both. The Exec Committee recently made our dues voluntary for the next year.

The Foolish Things Salon

-The Idea Exchange-

August 23, 6-8 PM

Hosted by

Li Schoolland

94-1072 Alelo St. Waipahu, HI 96797
thefoolishthings.net RSVP <> 676-0825

The 2008 LP National Convention:
 Dave Hudson

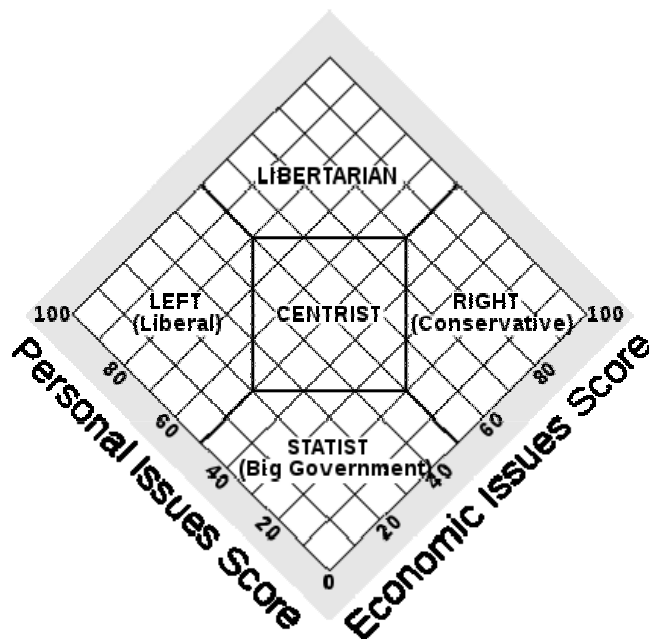
How many of you saw my moment of glory on C-SPAN at the 2008 LP National Convention just over a year ago--Memorial Day Weekend, 2008--when I announced Hawaii's one vote for president on the first ballot? My "address to the nation" went like this:

Mr. Chairman . . . Hawaii . . . the Aloha State . . . which suffers under a mean-spirited and ineffective Republican governor . . . a spendthrift and incompetent Democratic legislature . . . and a corrupt and oppressive state bureaucracy . . . proudly casts its one vote for Steve Kuby!"

Kuby, a medical marijuana patient and an activist for the legalization of marijuana, was eliminated after the second ballot. I then switched my vote to long-time LP activist Mary Ruwart for the remaining four ballots. On the sixth ballot, former congressman Bob Barr (R-Ga) narrowly prevailed over Ruwart. Even though I supported other candidates, I had hoped that Barr would be able to get a significant vote in the general election. Alas, that was not to be, as he only got about 1/3 of 1% of the vote.

It was sad that the convention was dominated by the allegation that Barr was really not a libertarian, but a right-winger bent on taking over the LP on behalf of evil and mysterious, but unnamed, social conservatives. Actually, Barr burned his bridges to the GOP to join the LP, and cost himself a substantial income in speaking fees and other emoluments from Republican and conservative organizations. Gay-related issues took center stage, and there was virtually no discussion of excessive taxation, a non-interventionist foreign policy, and free speech issues--the issues that concern me most as a libertarian.

I'm glad I went. I was also at the 2000 convention in Anaheim, Ca., when then-chair Tracy Ryan led a delegation of seven Hawaii delegates. I really hope that we will have a much larger delegation to the 2012 convention.



Comments to : Larry Bartley 262-4088
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This quiz is a revision of the
 World's Smallest Political Quiz
 Eliminating the double negatives.

World's Mightiest Political Quiz

Circle **Y** when you agree, **M** for "maybe" or "unsure" or, **N** for No

Are you a self-governor on *Personal* issues? 20 10 0

Should the government censor speech, the media or internet? N M Y

Should military service be voluntary with no draft? Y M N

Should there be laws regulating sex between consenting adults? N M Y

Should there be laws regulating adult possession and use of drugs? N M Y

Should there be a National ID card? N M Y

My PERSONAL self-governor score - **add columns**.

Are you a self-governor on *Economic* issues? 20 10 0

Should the government give money and favors to business N M Y

Should the government regulate trade N M Y

*Let people control their own retirement: privatize Social Security Y M N

*Replace government welfare with voluntary charity Y M N

Limit Federal gov't spending to its Constitutional functions Y M N

My ECONOMIC self-governor score - **add columns**

* © by the Advocates for self-government, Inc
 This Political Quiz is adapted from an original idea by David Nolan.

Minutes of the Executive Committee June 13, 2009 By Roger Taylor

Present: Ken Schoolland, Larry Bartley, John Spangler, Li Zhao, Roger Taylor

Based on the advice from Tracy Ryan, the executive committee moved to change Roger's title to Consulting Director, so that the name is more in line with his employment status as an independent contractor. Unanimous.

Roger brought up that Jeff Mallan should be reimbursed for maintaining the website over that last 2 years. Larry supported and the rest of the committee agreed.

After discussion it was decided that our local dues would be voluntary for the next year.

Roger led the discussion and we decided that for our first newsletter we will merge names we recognize from our local list of 2 years ago with the names of people who are currently national members(68). We will end up with over 100 names. We will mail the newsletter first class and request returns so we can delete non-working addresses. We will print the newsletter on 11x17 paper so it won't need a staple. Roger was given the go ahead to incur the expense for the newsletter and then get reimbursed.

Next Executive Committee meeting: 6 PM, Sunday, August 2 at Ken and Li's house. Members are invited.

Chair	Mr. Ken	Schoolland	(808) 676-0825
Vice Chair	Mr. Larry	Bartley	(808) 262-4088
Treasurer	Dr. John	Spangler	(808) 734-2925
Secretary	Dr. Roger	Taylor	(808) 489-8652

Hawaii County Chair	Mr. Aaron	Anderson	(808) 965-0300
Oahu County Chair	Ms. Tracy	Ryan	(808) 523-0813
Kauai County Chair	Mr. Lloyd	Mallan	(808) 822-2396
Maui County Chair	Mr. Peter	Martin	(808) 871-5924

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