

Hawaii Libertarian

Monthly Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Hawaii

Volume 25, No 3, June 2007

Divorce Announcement

By Larry Bartley

HONOLULU -- The Libertarian Party of Hawaii announces its formal divorce from the Republican Party and conservative -leaning organizations.

Over the past few years, Libertarians have openly caroused with and floated in and out of the Republican Party – hoping to affect change in Hawai'i and hoping to 'wag the dog' by changing the Republican Party to (l)ibertarian principles. It is time to speak out against this practice, renew our commitment to the Libertarian pledge, and reach out to the politically homeless across the political landscape.

That is not to pick on the Republicans – they are only trying to do what's best for their party and their movement. However, to confuse their political philosophy with ours just because we agree on a few issues has been a big mistake. Also, the Republicans have effectively neutralized us by keeping us busy with the promise of supporting our causes.

The largest pool of prospective Libertarians are politically homeless Democrats. They

voted for Republican Linda Lingle in droves because she talked like a Democrat but was not part of the 'old boy network' that many Democratic voters have come to detest. However, they will NEVER vote Republican on the issues. Our unfortunate reality of politics is guilt by association – those homeless Democrats will never open their ears to our message if they see us with, and as, Republicans.

They will never hear how we agree with them on many issues such as the Drug War, drug harm reduction, Iraq war, 'patriot' act, prostitution reform, domestic surveillance, corporate welfare, military adventurism, and on and on. They will pay no attention to our solutions if they cannot get past our 'closet Republican' label.

Politically homeless Democrats are ideologically inert but growingly skeptical of the age-old government-takes-care-of-everything dogma that has guided their party leadership for decades. But they suffer from the two-team mentality – "if you ain't one of us then you must be one of them (Republicans)". We

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Police Pay Raises

By Tim Lucey

HONOLULU -- Police officers in Hawaii will receive 6% pay raises over the next four years, equating to an overall salary increase of 33.8%.

Also, beginning in 2010, annual starting salaries for new police officers will be increased from the current \$38,000 to \$52,000.

SHOPO, the union representing Hawaii police officers, says that the pay increases and higher starting salary will help recruit new officers and retain current officers.

The union also announced that the new contract will add an additional pay increase to officers who have served for 25 years or more. The amount of the additional increase was not mentioned.

Union leaders were pleased that the salary increase would free officers from having to seek overtime work and hold down second jobs to continue to afford living in Hawaii.

Most non-union private industry salary increases in our state are approximately 3-4%, and dependent upon annual performance reviews.

**WE NEED YOU . . . PLEASE
RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP!**

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes May 20, 2007

Present: Tracy Ryan, Tim Lucey, Talifaitasi Satele, John Spangler

Absent: Ozell Daniel, Roger Taylor

Excused: Larry Bartley

Minutes: By Tim Lucey

1. 2007 LPH Convention

- Proposed convention date is Saturday, October 6th
- Proposed location is Unitarian church on the Pali
- Refreshments will be soft drinks and various pupus
- Estimated attendance: 20-30 people
- Topics: Whether the LPH will continue; the direction of our party's efforts; Executive Committee elections

2. Tali was interviewed about Samoa by Stuart. First take turned out very good, Tali would like to edit and "polish" it up before it is broadcast on Olelo.

3. The LPH needs to make better use of Olelo. We have footage of our conventions that Stuart can use and broadcast. Tali will discuss with Stuart.

4. The prostitution bill that the LPH was supporting was not heard in committee this legislative session. It will be tabled until the 2008 session.

5. Carol Lee and Stacy Swimme from the Bay Area will be visiting Hawaii in the Fall of 2007.

APPLE WEBSITE

APPLE (Arresting Prostitutes is Legal Exploitation), now has a website. Interested people may visit www.APLEHawaii.org. This organization is working to reform Hawaii's punitive prostitution laws and to direct community discussion away from the hatred that some elements wish to promote.

LPH WEBSITE

<http://www.libertarianpartyofhawaii.org/>

Libertarian Party of Hawaii Executive Committee meetings are open to members and invited guests. Please feel free to join us on the third Sunday of every month at the Straub Hospital on Beretania St. Physicians' Cafeteria.

Our next EC meeting will be held on Sunday, June 17th at 6:30 PM. Those wishing to join us for dinner should arrive at 6PM. Parking is free in the Straub garage after 6PM on Sundays.

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have to prove to them that there is indeed another team on the field – a real underdog with big hope and solid plans for better government.

I heard that Hawaii has the lowest voter turnout in the nation. It is not all apathy, but mostly lack of choice of parties, candidates, and message. Let's give them a real 'Libertarian' choice.



It's *Your* Money!

Hawaii Fiscal Year 2007 Budget::	\$11,196,309,763
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Average "The Bus" Driver's Salary (after 5 years):	\$44,000
Average 2006 Hawaii Government Employee Salary:	\$43,402
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Senator Inouye's Staff Salary Expenses: (04-01-2006 to 09-30-2006)	\$1,471,919
Rep. Abercrombie's Staff Salary Expenses: (01-01-2006 to 12-31-2006)	\$1,001,875

LPH Membership Report

Active LPH Members	204
Members with Dues Paid:	25 (12%)
Expired Memberships	179 (88%)

Everyone is invited to contribute thoughts, start a discussion, contribute to a discussion, or post an article. To join the Libertarian Party of Hawaii's on-line discussion board simply send a blank email to lph-discuss-subscribe@topica.com .



FROM THE CHAIR

By Tracy Ryan

Larry has written a piece for this newsletter identifying what he feels is part of the problem with our political party. To me it underlines the essential lack of a pragmatic libertarian core group to operate this party. A good group of our real “doers” have found a place within the conservative movement that

they feel comfortable in. They are not getting Libertarians elected to office, but they are accomplishing something. The fact is the Democrats are the party in power here so to me a practical alliance with other parties has always seemed a reasonable option. I stress that this would be a practical not an ideological association. Even an alliance with leftist groups such as the Greens could be acceptable if it helped us win an election or two. This doesn't mean we go to Green rallies and praise socialism.

During the 1998 election, Roger and I worked with the Republican Party to help us get some candidates into head to head elections with the Democrats. This was an important part of our ballot access strategy. We fell less than fifty votes short of qualifying our party that year so the efforts almost paid off. What must be realized is that we will never get anywhere trying to split the conservative vote with the Republican Party. To achieve any success we need to pull in Democrats.

The main problem is that Larry's divorce idea may not really be enough to make a difference at this point. Many feel the party oath opposing force is too restrictive. I don't know. Without a core principal we run the risk of attracting opportunists who merely want to use our ballot access as a platform for themselves. See what happened to the Reform and Natural Law Parties.

All I can say is that I took the job as Chair four years ago to prevent what I saw as a complete meltdown occurring. Since then I have poured in my time and money to try and move us forward. A small group of people have helped in various ways, but to be frank the broader participation that I had hoped to bring forth has not materialized. This year we will be presented again with the question as to whether we will continue as a political party or not. The answer will be up to you not me.

Can you afford \$0.07 a day? That's all it costs to renew your membership with the Libertarian Party of Hawaii!

MONTHLY CREDIT CARD DONORS please contact Jeff Mallan, (info on back cover), to ensure he has your correct billing address for your card.

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF HAWAII MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please Print

Name:

Address:

Phone:

E-mail:

Full Membership (Includes Newsletter)

I certify that I do not advocate the initiation of force to achieve social or political ends.

Signature

Date

Please enclose an annual dues check for \$25 made out to the *Libertarian Party of Hawaii.*

Newsletter Subscription Only

Please initial here:

Send completed application to:

Tim Lucey

LPH Membership Director

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Council of Former State Chairs (Senior advisors to the party)

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Dick Rowland 591-9193
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Hawaii Libertarian June 2007

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