History, Celebrities, & the Libertarian Party

The Libertarian Party of Nevada made history on January 8th, 2016 with several major announcements. At a press conference hosted in the Libertarian Party’s Las Vegas office, Brett H. Pojunis, Chairman of the Libertarian Party of Nevada (LPN), announced that Assemblyman John Moore, representing District 8, officially changed his party affiliation to the Libertarian Party. Moore is the first Libertarian to hold a state office since New Hampshire in the 1990s.

Following Pojunis’ announcement, talk radio personality Richard Hunter announced that Moonlight Bunny Ranch owner Dennis Hof, star of HBO’s Cathouse, is running for State Senate as a Libertarian in 2016. Speaking on Hof’s behalf, Hunter noted, “Once you get past the edgy taboo of the sex industry, Dennis Hof is a small business owner. He knows from experience how high taxation and overregulation strangles enterprise right out of business. He’s running on behalf of all Nevada business owners who are struggling from government intervention in our local economy.”

Hunter also spoke of a genuine humanitarian concern: “Dennis has seen the unsafe and unsanitary working conditions created when the government forces the sex industry underground, not to mention how pimps abuse their employees. By keeping the industry legal, sex workers have legal protection and legal resources. Only politicians, drug cartels, and pimps want vices to be illegal.”

When asked why Hof is running as a Libertarian, Hunter said, “Dennis doesn’t identify with the two parties. He’s a libertarian.”

The next speaker was tech mogul John McAfee, best known for McAfee Antivirus software, who spoke about the importance of cyber security. “One of the government’s few jobs is to protect its citizens from being attacked. America won’t be invaded by any large army; it’ll be attacked in cyber warfare, and a strong hack can knock out power grids and leave millions without electricity, without refrigeration for their food, and everything from business technology to personal medical devices will go without power. Instead of blackballing all these young computer hackers, the government ought to hire them to protect us!”

(continued on page 3)
VOLUNTEERS WANTED:
Looking to help out? The Libertarian Party of Nevada is actively seeking volunteers! Please see our ad on the back cover for more information and visit www.LPNevada.org/volunteer.

Things you can do to help grow the Libertarian Party of Nevada

- Sign up for a FREE account at www.LPNevada.org/join
- Become a dues paying member of LPNevada, click here to view membership levels
- Register to Vote Libertarian & get your friends to register to vote as well. Visit: www.lpnevada.org/register_to_vote
- Volunteer because LPNevada needs your help! Visit: www.lpnevada.org/volunteer
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EDITORIAL STAFF

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:
Alexander DiBenedetto

ASSISTANT EDITORS:
David Colborne

CONTRIBUTORS:
Candy Nickens Pratter
Jason Smith
Jay Layman
Michael Schaus
Miles Dunn
William Moffat
Zach Foster

CREATIVE + GRAPHICS:
Brett H. Pojunis

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEVADA

Office Address:
1771 E. Flamingo Road
Suite 201 A
Las Vegas, Nevada 89119

Main Phone:
702.763.9300

Membership Phone:
702.644.8656

EMAIL:
info@LPNevada.org

Website:
www.LPNevada.org

Press Conference:
Introducing Celebrity Candidates & the Largest Announcement in Libertarian Party History!

WHEN?
January 8, 2016
7:00 PM

WHERE?
Libertarian Party of Nevada
1771 E. Flamingo Rd
Suite 201 A
Las Vegas, NV

INFO:
www.LPNevada.org
See full coverage of the press conference & celebratory reception by visiting www.youtube.com/channel/UCBt8AdKm5FFon_y6ixXY1rQ

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(continued from page 1)

McAfee also had some strong comments about inflation and runaway government spending. “My business can’t write checks if there’s no money in the bank. Yet the government does this, and billions of dollars at a time. It’s fraud, and it’s wrong.” Also covering the press conference were news crews from Channels 3 and 8, and KXNT News/Talk Radio 840 AM. Later that night, the LPN hosted a celebratory reception at the Foundation Room at Mandalay Bay. Attending both the press conference and the Foundation Room reception were light heavyweight champion Ron Johnson and Playboy’s Miss February 2011, Kylie Johnson, both avid Libertarian supporters.

When asked about the sudden surge of Libertarian activity, LPN Political Director Jason Weinman wasn’t surprised. “The Libertarian Party is the fastest growing political party in America. We’ve all been working hard to bring big wins like the ones announced today. Honestly though, I’m more proud of how the LPN has been able to build local coalitions and block unconstitutional legislation at the state capital. This is only the beginning.”

By Zach Foster, Contributor
ESAs will be a Blessing to Students and to Public Schools

Opponents of school choice were overjoyed in January when District Judge James Wilson issued an injunction against the nation’s most inclusive school choice program, Nevada’s Education Savings Accounts.

“We are thrilled with the ruling,” said Tammy Godsey, an attorney who argued on behalf of parents challenging the program. “We think it is so important to the children of Nevada that we maintain our public schools and fund them appropriately,” she told the Las Vegas Review-Journal.

The reality, however, is that ESAs actually do fund public schools — and significantly. Indeed, public schools are poised to importantly benefit financially, from Nevada’s broader implementation of school choice.

What choice opponents don’t tell you is that, when a student enrolls in an ESA and leaves the public school system, the remaining 30-40 percent of the local and federal funds allocated to educate that child remain with the student’s previous government school.

In short, Nevada’s government schools will continue to receive thousands of dollars for each child that takes advantage of Nevada’s school choice opportunity, without the expense of having to educate that same child.

This means public schools will have more money for capital projects, bond repayments and even teacher pay. Contrary to the falsehoods being spread that ESAs will bankrupt public schools, the schools overall per-student funding will actually increase with the implementation of ESAs — to the benefit of the students who remain enrolled in those government schools.

Across Nevada’s public-education establishment, the results should be impressive. For decades the Clark County School District, with some 70 percent of Nevada’s public-school pupils, teachers and administrators, has struggled with overcrowding and huge teacher shortages.

Given that reality and the public education bureaucracy’s perpetual clamor for increased funds, the latter should see school choice as a major step toward tackling some of the current education models’ chronic and systemic failings. That it is not shows, once again, that the militant opposition to education reform is rarely rooted in what is “best for the children.”

Throwing money at a bureaucratic, politically charged, ineffective public school system is not all “investing” in our children’s education. One-sized factory-model schooling does not fit most children, and parents understand this. They also understand that ESAs allow them to tailor their children’s educational experiences to their children’s actual needs.

The fact that Nevada’s new program will do that while actually increasing the amount of resources public schools can allocate per-student should earn applause from the defenders of government-run education — not disingenuous legal assaults.

For some opponents, however, it’s not about the children, the welfare of dedicated teachers nor intelligent use of education tax dollars. Instead, it’s about preserving an ineffective government monopoly controlling public education, regardless of the cost.

Nevada’s students — and Nevada’s public schools — deserve better.

By Michael Schaus, Communications Director of the Nevada Policy Research Institute, a nonpartisan, free-market think tank.

For more visit http://npri.org.
Editorial: Black History is American History

As February begins, we are reminded that it’s now “Black History Month.” “Black History Month” is an annual observance in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom for remembrance of important people and events in the history of the Africa diaspora.” (Wikipedia, 1/31/2016). Although I understand the sentiment of having a celebration of black history, I have several problems with denoting February as “Black History Month.”

The second problem I have with “Black History Month” is that it continues to reinforce ancient, disproved notions that race exists. Scientifically speaking, there is more genetic variability between members of a particular race than between members of different races (Jorde & Wooding, “Genetic variation, classification, and ‘race’”). The constant reiteration of different ethnic groups, separated geographically for thousands of years, is already reducing differences between all members of the human race. If there has been significant genealogical distinctions accounting for all of the different “races” of humans, we would be separated into a different subtype of human. The fact that we live in the 21st century with all of this knowledge, and continue to teach and reinforce 19th century, manifest-destiny, slave-owning ideologies is absurd, and it needs to stop. Not for any moral or social-justice reason, but because in the court of science, no matter how great one’s theory, if you’re wrong, you’re wrong (to paraphrase Richard Feynman).

The final problem with “Black History Month” is that it is with what watered-down version of history is the belief that “all of that is behind us, now.” Sadly, racism is all too alive today in America. Although it took a heavy beating in the last half of the 20th century, it continues to rear its ugly head today. Whether its the large-scale media portrayals of black activists as “troublemakers” or just apparent lack of coverage, its clear that what is going on today isn’t being talked about; there are real issues facing our country that aren’t even being addressed. It’s time for a change.

To start this change, it’s time to end putting down “race” for college applications, job applications, or entire “history months.” Race doesn’t exist; it never has, and as long as we perpetuate the religion there are different races, some superior, some inferior, we’ll never be able to work on the fact that we are one human race. It’s time for America to lead the way, and celebrate all human accomplishments as just that – human accomplishments. We need to learn to see each other as people. We’re so much more than a gender, a race, or a religion. Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. wasn’t a great “black leader,” he was a great civil-rights leader. His dream was that all children, regardless of race, could play together.

That’s a dream we can all believe in – let’s continue his dream by celebrating, mourning, and studying American history all year long.

By Alexander DiBenedetto, Editor-in-Chief, LPNevada Newsletter

LEGALIZE FREEDOM!

Convention 2016: Legalize Freedom!

T he 2016 Libertarian Party National Presidential Nominating Convention will be May 31 – June 4 at the Rosen Center Hotel in Orlando, Florida. You, the membership, decide who is a hero, who is a villain. At the Convention, we will decide who is a villain who is a villain and who is a villain.

Convention attendees are planning to create the best convention ever, including the biggest array of vendors, panels, speakers, and opportunities to take action. To take advantage of this amazing opportunity, register by December 31.

For more information and to register, please visit www.LP2016.com.

To register by phone, call: 202-333-0008 #223

To nab our pre-earlybird rates:

REGISTER BY DECEMBER 31!

EVENTS

FEB 2016

1 FIRST TUESDAY LIBERTARIAN SOCIAL

Our February 1st Tuesday get together at Jalisco Mexican Cantina in Las Vegas, NV. Free food and great conversation, 6-9 PM.

6 LPNEVADA STAFF ORIENTATION

Member of LPNevada staff interested in volunteering? Come to the LPNevada Staff Orientation 9:00 - 3:00 on Saturday, Feb 6th at the LPN Headquarters. Lunch included! RSVP by calling Admin @ 702-483-3901.

11 OUT FOR LIBERTY MEETING

Member of the LGBTQ community? An ally? Then come out for the monthly Out for Liberty Meeting. This month’s meeting is being held at the Libertarian Party of Nevada’s HQ - 1711 E. Flamingo Ave. Ste. 201a Las Vegas, Nevada 89119

20 LIBERTARIAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING

The LNC will be meeting in Phoenix, Arizona this weekend.

1 FIRST TUESDAY LIBERTARIAN SOCIAL

Our March 1st Tuesday get together at Jalisco Mexican Cantina in Las Vegas, NV. Free food and great conversation, 6-9 PM.

First Tuesday Monthly Event

6pm - 9pm
Jalisco Cantina hosts the Libertarian Party of Nevada’s Monthly event. Free food + great drink specials!

PleaS E SUpPOR T JALISCO MEXICAN CANTINA

Jalisco Mexican Cantina has been supporting us, please support them.

www.jaliscocantina.com | 702.436.5200
Caucus Spotlight! Women in Nevada

A CAUCUS TO REPRESENT WOMEN IN NEVADA AND PROMOTE PRO-WOMAN LEGISLATION

Hello Everyone! Just a quick note from W.I.N.-Women in Nevada - the women’s caucus for the Libertarian Party of Nevada...I am proud to announce we are in full swing and gaining momentum - gathering members, speaking with women’s organizations, lining up volunteers, scheduling meetings, and, of course, looking for potential female candidates to run on the Libertarian ticket.

I have been looking into the stats, and as I wrote in my article in this newsletter, it is paramount that we increase the number of women running for office tremendously if we want to see a more even balance in the ratio of women to men in office in Nevada. Women win almost as often as men. The problem is getting women to run. This has to go change. It’s very simple, we have to gain candidates in order to gain seats.

In order to do this, we will be holding funding-raising events - dinners, luncheons, etc. with the Libertarian Party, as well as discussing women’s issues in Nevada and discussing potential candidates. We will also start meeting every month at the Libertarian Party of Nevada Headquarters to discuss these things, as well as strategies to bring this all into fruition. I also plan to find a venue and meet on a regular basis with women in the northern half of Nevada to get them involved and find out about potential candidates there as well. We are looking forward to a successful election year and would love to see YOU get involved. There is so much potential in this state. We can do this...If you are in a women’s organization, interested in running, or are the fifth largest district in the nation. There is a proposal that would break up the district into 7 precincts with superintendents and advisory councils responsible to local communities for the financial budget decisions as well as education standards for each precinct. Logistically, it makes each precinct more accessible to parents who want to stay involved in their children’s education and breaks up the enormity of CCSD bureaucracy into more manageable local entities with more flexibility to respond to the concerns and issues affecting the community directly. However, we can’t forget that it is both efficient and locally controlled education system is worth the risk that comes with trusting communities and localities to do what is in their best interest. The biggest questions posed so far have been, “Will the funding be equal?”, “Who will be hurt?”, and “Will this be socioeconomically equal?” I can’t help but wonder if these are the questions that need answers.

First, let us discuss the equal funding part. Clark County School District has over 3000 non-teaching “administrators” making six figure salaries with benefits and pensions. Each district should inherit 40% of these employees. Breaking up the district means they may have to travel from their gated communities to a school they are not necessarily close to. If a precinct wants to discuss funding, I am all for starting here. Perhaps if these administrators’ salaries and benefits were in line with the efficiency and effectiveness of their work, each district could save some of the $42,500,000 (yes...forty two MILLION dollars) a year they pay school officials who don’t belong here. The real question of change that go right to student needs. I wonder if Gene Collins of Al Sharpton’s National Action Network was referring to this waste and abuse as part of the “boos ends” that were mentioned? If all 7 precinct had a meeting with all of these “ad- mินistrators”, some of the $300,000,000 a year could actually help pull Nevada from the last spot in the nation for education. There are more questions, however, this issue of fair funding should be answered by the communities and their willingness to make hard decisions regarding hundreds of well-kept bureaucrats vs. the needs for funding their community has. If it is more important to keep those who are failing our kids in the lap of luxury, then yes, your district may have less funding available for teaching and preparing the next generation for success. The main reason for this proposal is to improve the current system. But what will you do about the argument that we have to protect the status quo should be met with resounding contempt and refusal; but that is each community’s responsibility. There is actually a court case holding up the implementation of school choice over 4000 children of parents who wish to utilize the $5000 annual public expenditure per student on a school of the parent’s choosing, which would lighten the burden on public school size and make it easier to focus on helping those who wish to remain in the public school system. Problem is...the schools want that money because they know that getting that money is more important than actually accomplishing the goal of educating any of those kids. Now...if there was a consequence to failure; say...competition from private schools, maybe the public school administration would take their roles more seriously.

The next excuse for not fixing the worst education system in the nation is “who will be hurt?” Obviously the point of asking this question is to take all the focus away from those who are being hurt. If the Lahontan is broken up, there will be some losers. Poor performing schools will stand out more because they will not be able to hide in a smaller precinct. As any good manager of a company will tell you, it is easy to say there is a problem, the skill is when you can identify what the problem is and then effectively bring solutions to fix them. If we do nothing, it is clear the problem stays hidden. If we break up the district, there is then opportunity to identify the problems and make corrections. Will some people get fired? I sure hope so, for the kids’ sake. But even if the axe doesn’t fall, private education opportunities will more easily be able to offer solutions to public school failures. The last legislative session did open up the opportunity for parents to send their kids to parents who are currently being forced to use a failing system. But even this offer of more choice to parents has met with legal hurdles stemming from parents and unions who don’t want anyone pointing out who is failing. Remember what the question is, because the only people I see being hurt here are those who are failing our kids who no longer are able to hide.

The last question has already been addressed; the “socioeconomic equality” that many people love to use as a reason to stay the course, is tantamount to yet another saying they will hurt themselves if you leave. Frankly, it is exactly what is wrong with the relationship between the education industry and those they serve. Do you want to be with someone who doesn’t care enough to keep themselves healthy and productive in a relationship? If you are relying on me to pay your bills and you think you are entitled to leach off of me, then even if I can’t find someone better, I’m still better off without you. We want what is best for our kids, and that means we need to break up. It’s not us Clark County School District, it’s you.

By Jason Smith, Vice-Chairman of the Libertarian Party of Nevada

Breaking up is Hard to Do

The Clark County School District has over 3000 non-teaching “administrators”, some of the $300,000,000 a year could actually help pull Nevada from the last spot in the nation for education. There are more questions, however, this issue of fair funding should be answered by the communities and their willingness to make hard decisions regarding hundreds of well-kept bureaucrats vs. the needs for funding their community has. If it is more important to keep those who are failing our kids in the lap of luxury, then yes, your district may have less funding available for teaching and preparing the next generation for success. The main reason for this proposal is to improve the current system. But what will you do about the argument that we have to protect the status quo should be met with resounding contempt and refusal; but that is each community’s responsibility. There is actually a court case holding up the implementation of school choice over 4000 children of parents who wish to utilize the $5000 annual public expenditure per student on a school of the parent’s choosing, which would lighten the burden on public school size and make it easier to focus on helping those who wish to remain in the public school system. Problem is...the schools want that money because they know that getting that money is more important than actually accomplishing the goal of educating any of those kids. Now...if there was a consequence to failure; say...competition from private schools, maybe the public school administration would take their roles more seriously.

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By Jason Smith, Vice-Chairman of the Libertarian Party of Nevada

Tuesday, January 26th, 2016 | 10:00am - 11:30am

Come out to support the event with thousands of Nevadans! Visit the Libertarian Party of Nevada at our table.

The Libertarian Party of Nevada participates in National School Choice Week. Education and parental-choice is very important to us. Get involved in the fight for education choice today by visiting our website at www.LPNevada.org/join_now.
January Gun & Ammo Expo @ SportsCenter in Las Vegas

Many people spend their weekends catching up on errands, or seeing the latest Ben Affleck disappointment on the big screen. However some enjoy testing out the latest AR-15 front grip or going home with new Glock 23 dual flashlight/laser mount.

At this weekend’s Gun Show at the Las Vegas Sports Center, LPNevada was happy to see more of the latter. Over a hundred small business owners from seven different states converged to offer their latest goods: guns, tools, and accoutrements. Everything from rifle modification, pain relievers, beef jerky and even the latest “Hillery For Prison 2016” T-shirt, were peddled by local shops and occasionally out of someone’s basement. At the center of it all sat the Libertarian Party of Nevada’s table, adorned with purple and highlighted by our massive banner to help educate by local shops and occasionally out of someone’s basement. At the center of it all sat the Libertarian Party of Nevada’s table, adorned with purple and highlighted by our massive banner to help educate at the convention center’s main entrance, and out poured throngs of children, parents, and educators joined together to celebrate the pursuit of happiness and the freedom to choose. The Libertarian Party of Nevada was at the rally, registering new Libertarians and reaching out to liberty minded people who want the government out of their lives, and even went home with a Libertarian T-shirt to show their support.

“Wow, I guess I AM a libertarian!” was a common sentiment shared by visitors coming to explore our platforms. As a state party, we were thrilled to gain support even from citizens from other states, and even from those living on the other side of the world. We’re happy to see our message of freedom is one that extends well beyond state, and even national borders.

So next time you’re in Las Vegas, come check us out. You may just find out you’re a libertarian, too!

By William Moffat, Volunteer Director for the Libertarian Party of Nevada

Thousands Rally for School Choice

January 23rd, 2016 Libertarian Party Chairman Brett H. Pojunis and I attended the annual SoCal LP Regional Conference in Santa Fe Springs, California, where Brett was the keynote speaker. This event was attended by Libertarian leaders and activists from all over southern California. The event was a major success—the room was packed with an almost overflow—wile a great line of speakers took their turns educating informing. This year’s speakers also included Jeff Heeren, Ted Brown, Boomer Shannon, Brandy Vaughan, John Hall, and Patrick Moore. All of these people are great lovers of liberty who had a lot of great things to share and express.

After the lunch break, Brett H. Pojunis was called up to the podium to deliver his speech. Due to the recent successes and accomplishments of the Libertarian Party of Nevada, the room was eager to hear what Brett had to say—everyone crowded in. Brett immediately dove into what has been happening in Nevada the last few months, from the wonderful announcement of John Moore switching from the Republican Party to the Libertarian Party, to celebrity and businessman Dennis Hof running as a Libertarian in northern Nevada. Brett also spoke highly of the Libertarian Party of Nevada members and their active roles, explaining how we do things and how we are getting things done. From our new divisional structure to coalitions and how we are getting things done. From our new divisional structure to coalitions and our new divisional structure to coalitions and our new divisional structure to coalitions and our new divisional structure to coalitions and membership. At the end of the conference, a lot of people stuck around and approached Brett and I asking for advice and guidance, while also wanting to get to know us. We met a lot of new people and got to catch up with a lot of old friends. The conference was a wonderful experience of like-minded people trying to work together for liberty; we will be attending next year’s conference and I invite all of you to join us!

By Miles Dunn, Membership Director for the Libertarian Party of Nevada

SoCal LP Regional Conference
The Libertarian Party of Nevada is actively recruiting volunteers. We have a variety of opportunities to volunteer including:

- **Voter Registration** Drives,
- Tabling at **gun shows**,
- **Advocating** at school-choice events,
- **Rallying** at various political events,
- Hosting at **high-class** dinners,
- Contributing to the **Newsletter & Blog**,
- Joining the **Social Media Army**, 
- Working on the **website**, 
- and much, much, more!

Contact our Volunteer Department at:

Phone: 702 - 483 - 1412  
Email: william.moffat@lpnevada.org  
Website: www.LPNevada.org/volunteer

We look forward to hearing from you soon. Be sure to stop by one of our social events or the main office during business hours so we can meet you in person.

Very Respectfully,

William Moffat  
Volunteer Director

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**FUN FACT:**

The term *libertarian* was first used by late-Enlightenment freethinkers to refer to the metaphysical belief in free will, as opposed to determinism.

Obviously, the term has evolved a lot since then! Today, it refers to a political philosophy that upholds liberty as its principal objective.

Libertarians seek to maximize autonomy and freedom of choice, emphasizing political freedom, voluntary association, and the primacy of individual judgment (Wikipedia 1/31/2016).