

Fox Valley Libertarian Party

NEWS

vol.4 no.1

January 2002

Newsletter of the Fox Valley Libertarian Party

Fox Valley Libertarian Party Calendar

January 30

Fox Valley Libertarian Party meeting 7:00 PM--dinner, 8:00 program. Student, Tony Gonzalez on the Pledge protest and Mike Johnson forming a new club, at the Gasthaus Zur Linde Restaurant, 15 N. Grove, Elgin, IL

March 22-24, 2002

Libertarian Party of Illinois State Convention

Convention Details

Inside

JJ Johnson

Larry Elder

Richard Ebeling

VinSuprynowicz

Joe Bast

Register Now for the 30th Anniversary LPI Convention in March 2002

by Julie Fox

As head of the convention committee, I'm pleased to announce that our next state convention will be held Friday, March 22 through Sunday, March 24, 2002, at the Holiday Inn in Rolling Meadows. With all but one of our speakers confirmed at this time, we have the makings of a record-breaking convention. This year's convention theme will be the LPI's 30th anniversary. We're hoping to make this a very special convention for all who attend.

Friday night which is free of charge, will kick off with a bang. Nationally renowned, Libertarian comedian **Tim Slagle** will guide us through the new Homeland Security requirements of our formerly free country, while LPI Homeland Security will be keeping order. The **Salty Dogs** Dixieland band featuring Libertarian **Jack Kuncel** will provide entertainment as well. Beware any of you who

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New Libertarian Group to be formed in Southern Kane County

Mike Johnson, a member of the Fox Valley Libertarian Party and a resident of St. Charles has decided to start a local club in the St. Charles area. Lately, the village of St. Charles has been working overtime with goofy and intrusive regulations. The last straw was when the village took control of cutting down trees if a tree is a certain diameter or a certain amount of feet from public or other property. Johnson wants to fight this and other obtrusive ordinances. He will speak at the Wednesday, January 30 meeting on this issue.

Lake Zurich Student Challenges Call for Mandatory Pledge

Former student of Jack VanNoord, secretary for the Fox Valley Libertarian Party has started a student petition drive to protest a proposed law by the Illinois State legislature to require the daily recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance in all public schools in Illinois. Tony Gonzalez, leader of this protest for whom VanNoord has been a mentor will speak at the January meeting of the Fox Valley Libertarian Party on Wednesday, January 30. Optional dinner starts at 7:00 PM with the program starting at 8:00.

Gonzalez has now expanded the protest to at least three schools, under the group name, "Patriots by Choice." Woodstock High School, where Alison Polizzi, daughter of FVLP member, Kathleen Polizzi, is starting a petition drive.

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Convention

(from pp1)

still think you can exercise your Constitutional rights, as you will run the risk of being thrown into the fund-raising jail! Please bring a friend –many will enjoy this light-hearted approach to the current erosion of our personal freedoms.

Larry Elder keynote speaker at the Saturday night banquet, is a Libertarian talk show host out of Los Angeles, known as the “Sage from South Central”. In his best-selling book, *The 10 Things You Can't Say in America*, Elder skewers the crippling myths that dominate the public agenda. Elder was featured in *Reason* magazine's May 2001 edition. He will discuss “9-11 and Big Government”.

David Thibodeau our Sunday speaker, the author of *A Place Called Waco*, is one of nine survivors of the government's attack on the Branch Davidians in Waco, Texas. Thibodeau gave a riveting talk about his life at Mount Carmel at the National LP's 2000 Convention. Find out from David what really happened at Waco. He has a unique perspective that is objective yet heart-felt.

Joe Bast will present his ideas on the best way to privatize education. He is the director, CEO, and president of The Heartland Institute, in its 17th year of existence as the Midwest's premiere Libertarian think tank. Joe is the co-author of five books on public policy, ranging from education to health care, to the environment, to economic development.

JJ Johnson will be our Saturday luncheon speaker. JJ publishes *Sierra Times*, an on-line magazine at www.Sierratimes.com. He is a former member of the Ohio militia. JJ gave a magnificent testimony before Congress in a hearing on the militia that took place shortly after the Oklahoma City bombing. JJ will speak on the developing police state in this country. JJ's wife, Dr. Nancy Lord, Libertarian Party

candidate for Vice President in 1992, will make an appearance with JJ.

Dr. Jay Lehr will address environmental issues on Saturday morning. Dr. Lehr is the Science Director for The Heartland Institute. He is an internationally renowned scientist, author, and motivational speaker, and has testified before Congress on more than three dozen occasions on environmental issues.

On Saturday afternoon we will have a great event planned around what many Libertarians love to do best – debate. Even amongst ourselves we still at times disagree on certain issues, one of them currently being the government's role in the War on Terrorism. So we have arranged a debate on U.S. foreign policy featuring Vin Suprynowicz and Richard Ebeling.

Vin Suprynowicz is the Assistant Editorial Director for the *Las Vegas Journal-Review*, author of *Send in the Waco Killers*, and publisher of the *Privacy Alert* newsletter.

Richard Ebeling is the Ludwig Von Mises Professor of Economics at Hillsdale College in Hillsdale, Michigan, chairman of the economics department there, and serves as Vice President for Academic Affairs at the Future of Freedom Foundation. The debaters will field questions from a panel comprised of members of the news media and will also take questions from the audience.

We will hold our **annual LPI business meeting** on Sunday, both before and after brunch. There we will be nominating and voting on LPI candidates for public office in the upcoming elections, choosing delegates for the upcoming 2002 National LP Convention in Indianapolis, voting on proposed changes to by-laws, and conducting other business.

This and much more is planned for our 30th anniversary celebratory state convention.

Pledge Protest

(Con't from pp1)

Stevenson school in Lincolnshire is also participating.

“Patriots for choice” has received quite a bit favorable press with page 1 coverage in the *Daily Herald*. The DH also ran a favorable editorial in support of the efforts of Tony Gonzalez. The *Lake Zurich Courier* recently ran a favorable article.

In response to the efforts of Gonzalez, one of the sponsors of the bill, Ed Petka has suggested that Gonzalez was immature and should grow up or take the next train out of town.

Let's give Tony Gonzalez the support he deserves by coming out to the meeting Wednesday, and congratulate him for his efforts.

Freedom Rings

With Kenneth John

9:00--10:00 AM

WRMN 1410 AM

Live-streamed at
www.WRMN1410.com

Entertaining libertarian
talk show with an edge

Let's Build on our Success

Dear friends, and colleagues,

The Fox Valley Libertarian Party has been quite active during the past year.

We elected Julie Fox and Scott Kohlhaas to the Dundee Township Library Board. Julie, treasurer of the FVLP, was the top vote getter.

We continue to work on Jim Young's ongoing campaign to win a seat in the state legislature. Jim, our Special Events Coordinator, worked his precincts full time last fall in his pursuit of the seat.

Jack VanNoord, secretary of the FVLP, has an excellent monthly column, "Libertarian Views" in the Daily Herald.

I am going on my fifth year doing my radio show, "Freedom Rings", broadcast out of Elgin on WRMN, 1410 AM and live-streamed on the Internet at www.WRMN1410.com. I now have a web site at freedomrings.net.

We are participating in the "Adopt a Highway" program on Route 72 from Route 31 in West Dundee to 1.3 miles west, one of the busiest stretches in Kane County. Two signs on this stretch sport "Fox Valley Libertarians". Tens of thousands of motorists pass these signs every day.

We continue to coalesce with other groups fighting tax referenda.

Numerous letters-to-the-editor and op-eds of ours have been published in the local newspapers.

We have been outreaching at gun shows.

We hold our annual tax protests outreaching to many potential new activists.

Our monthly meetings continue to bring informative guest speakers such as the head of a midwife group, Valerie Vickerman Runes, Jim Johnston, one of the nation's leading experts on energy economics, Tim Wingate, new Illinois FIJA Coordinator, and Bruce Green, ex-

pert on aviation issues. We also continue to show informative videos.

"Libertarian" is becoming a household word in the Fox Valley.

We participated in the Crystal Lake's Independence Day Parade. We plan to hold a debate on the environment. We continue Jim Young's valiant fight for ballot status and ultimate election to the State Legislature.

In the works is an FVLP website.

With very little funding, we have come a long way. I hope you believe we deserve your support in becoming even more effective bringing the Libertarian message to the Fox Valley.

At this time, our coffers have been drawn quite low. We need your financial support. Please help in anyway you can. A monthly pledge would be wonderful. Or a one-time contribution would be greatly appreciated.

We are making a difference. Please help so that we can continue to do so to an even greater extent.

Thanks so much.

Yours for freedom,

Ken Prazak, president, Fox Valley LP



Homeland Security Agent at FVLP Halloween Party



**David Thibodeau
Sunday brunch speaker**

Subscribe to the Fox Valley Libertarian Party News Today!

- \$15 for twelve issues
- Donation to Fox Valley
Libertarian Party: \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Make checks out and mail to: Fox Valley Libertarian Party,
315 Barrington Ave. #5, East Dundee, IL 60118

Convention Information

Dates: Friday, March 22 though Sunday, March 24, 2002

Place: Holiday Inn Rolling Meadows

3405 Algonquin Rd.

Rolling Meadows, IL 60008

847-259-5000

Room Rates: Discounted rate of \$91/night available to convention

attendees. Make sure you mention the LPI Convention when you reserve your room! Lower priced hotel accommodations are also available nearby.

Pricing

Gold Package– all speakers, events, and meals: \$125 before 3/1/02; \$135 if register 3/1 or later

Silver Package– Saturday Banquet and one other meal plus all non-

meal events/speakers: \$105 before 3/1/02; \$115 if register 3/1 or later

Bronze Package– Saturday Banquet plus all non-meal events/speakers:

\$90 before 3/1/02; \$100 if register 3/1 or later

Saturday Banquet only \$75 before 3/1; \$85 if register 3/1 or later

Basic – all non-meal events/speakers - \$65 before 3/1; \$75 if register 3/1 or later

Student Helper Rate \$10 to student volunteers – help on phone banks

prior to convention and/or at registration table during convention.

If interested please contact Julie Fox.

Incentives:

The convention committee is currently working on ways to make it

easier for those traveling long distances to attend the convention.

These may include lower cost or free accommodations, and transportation assistance.

Meal Choices

Saturday lunch:

_____ Philly Cheesesteak

_____ Caesar Salad (vege)

_____ Deluxe Grill (Chicken breast with herbs, spices, mayo, tomato)

Saturday Banquet_____ Roast Prime Rib

_____ Broiled Salmon w/ wine sauce

_____ Chicken Teriyaki

_____ Pasta Primavera (vege)

Sunday breakfast/brunch:

_____ American breakfast buffet with fruit,

scrambled eggs, potatoes, sausage links, French toast, and pastries. (Served at 11:30 am.)

If choosing a Silver package, please indicate your choice of meal in

addition to Saturday night's banquet. For any packages that include

meals, please indicate your meal choice(s).

Payment Information:

Three options:

1. Pay by check or money order through the mail end completed

registration form to LPI, 316-1/2 N. River St., Suite B, East Dundee,

IL 60118. The above can serve as a registration form as long as you

add names of those registering, along with at least a phone number

(preferably address as well). Indicate meal choices above. Or, you

can register using the convention brochure mailer, which you will be

receiving in the mail in a few weeks. Make checks payable to the Libertarian Party of Illinois.

2. Pay by credit card over the phone contact Julie Fox at 847-836-0531.

3. New Option! – Pay by credit card on the LPI website

(<http://www.il.lp.org>) - available just in time to register for the convention! Similar to any sort of payment made over the Internet.

A separate page for entering registration information is available.

You will receive an e-mail confirmation of your registration, and the registration information will be forwarded to Julie Fox.

Last Day to Register for meal events Monday, March 18.

For more information please contact Julie Fox at 847-836-0531 or at special-events@il.lp.org.

Illinois High School Students Challenge Springfield over Pledge

Movies, television, music and fashion may top the list of high schoolers' priorities, but these aren't the only interests that can mobilize young people. As a group of Illinois high schoolers is proving, politics can get students off the sofa and out of the shopping malls.

Patriotic By Choice, a grass roots political organization founded by Lake Zurich High School sophomore Tony Gonzalez, is going head-to-head with Illinois Senate President James "Pate" Philip. Gonzalez and his organization are hoping that the Illinois House of Representatives votes down Legislation that Philip sponsored.

In the wake of September 11, Philip sponsored legislation requiring every high school in Illinois to lead students in the pledge. The legislation passed in the Senate and is now in The House.

Gonzalez, age 15, believes that Philip has misread the times and certainly misunderstands young people. When explaining why he sponsored the bill, Philip said, "[Legislation mandating] the pledge of allegiance is something that is needed more than ever after the events of September 11."

Gonzalez replies, "James 'Pate' Philips has gotten it completely backwards. Legislation requiring the pledge of allegiance is something that is needed less than ever after the events of September 11."

"Mr. Philips has no faith in young people and our commitment to our country if he thinks that the only way to get us to pledge allegiance to our country is to use the force of law to require it," continues Gonzalez.

Gonzalez and his group of supporters have been circulating flyers and a petition informing fellow students about the pending legislation. "Students have been responding well. Once they understand that this will impact them directly, they want more information."

Gonzalez has also branched out into area high schools in order to increase Patriotic By Choice's impact. He is on pace to have petition and letter-writing drives in a dozen suburban high schools by the end of January. Gonzalez is also planning to lead a group of high school students to Springfield to demonstrate against the proposed legislation.

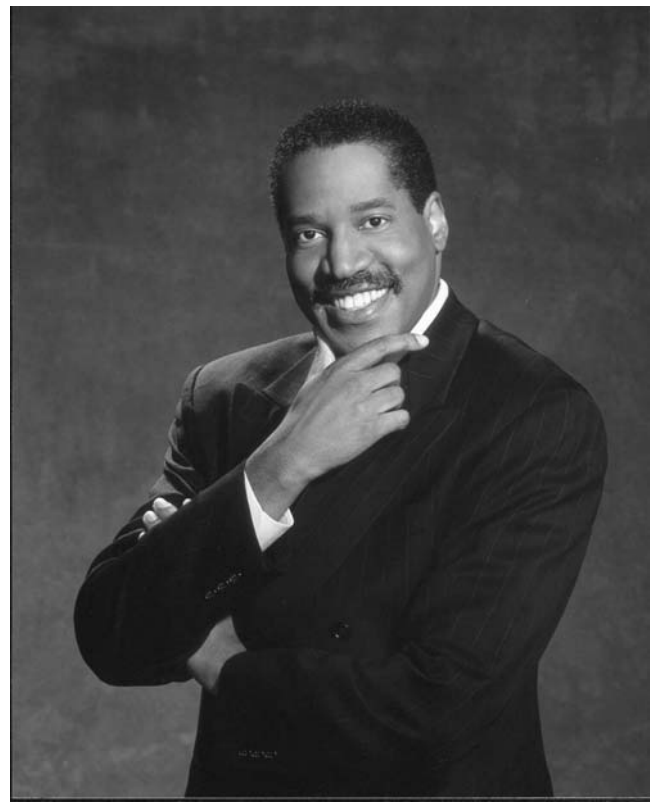
"If legislation passes requiring the pledge, we as young people will have been stripped of our opportunity to choose to do the right thing," asserts Gonzalez.

Patriotic By Choice

Tony Gonzalez, President

1011 Deerpath Rd.

Lake Zurich, IL 60047



Larry Elder
Saturday night banquet speaker



JJ Johnson
Saturday lunch speaker

Fox Valley Libertarian Party News

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Libertarian Party of Illinois (toll free) 800-735-1776
15 N. River St, East Dundee, IL 60118
Chair: Austin Hough 630-378-4593

Local Clubs

Fox Valley Libertarian Party: Ken Prazak 847-426-1974
Northwest Libertarian Club: Lyn D. Tinsley 847-297-8219
Libertarian Club of DuPage: Elizabeth Quaintance 630-963-3813
Rockford Libertarians: John Huwe JVHuwe@execpc.com

Fox Valley Libertarian Party Officers

President: Ken Prazak 847-426-1974
Vice President: Bill Stephens 847-551-1930
Secretary: Jack VanNoord 847-428-5924
Treasurer: Julie Fox 847-836-0531

INCLUDE ME!

- National and Illinois Member 25.00
- Regular Member of LPI 25.00

Must sign certification for national membership

I do not believe in or advocate the **initiation** of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.

- Please send me a copy of David Bergland's book, Libertarianism in One Lesson \$10.00

Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Phone: Day _____
Evening _____
E-mail _____

To assist in the LPI's organizing efforts, please provide as much of the following information as you can (most items are listed on your voter's registration card):

Congressional District number _____
County _____

State Senator District No. _____ State Rep. District number _____

Fox Valley Libertarian Party
315 Barrington Ave. #5
East Dundee, IL 60118

Address Correction Requested