

Political Director's Report

Report for September 2002 Chicago LNC meeting
Prepared by Ron Crickenberger

Staffing: Marc Brandl, Campus Coordination and candidate recruitment
A supplemental report by Marc will be included at the end of this document.
Steven Damerell, Intern, Campaigns, working out of office.

Libertarians in Office: 529 (up 9 since last report)

2002 Wins and appointments

12 Wins, 12 Appointments for the year so far.

Win Goal for year 50 Current wins: 12 Too early to predict for this goal's success.

In addition to the below reported wins, there are several candidates who will win their elections this fall by default as the only candidate to make the ballot.

Wins/appointments since last report

AZ

Jim Lannuzo, Ball Charter School Board, Phoenix (elected)

AR

Rodney Wimberley, El Dorado City Council, Ward 1 Position 2 (appointed to fill vacancy in elected position)

FL

Bob Rettie -- City of Ft. Walton Beach Code Enforcement Board (Appointed)

Jeff Wander -- West Kendall Area Municipal Advisory Committee (Appointed)

Dr. Kenneth Mertz -- Fernandina Beach Port Authority Board (Appointed)

William Cole -- 13th Circuit Law Committee (Appointed)

MI

Scott Anderson Planning Commission for the Charter Township of China
(Appointed)

NC

Henry Boschen -- Roxobel Town Commissioner (Elected)

Ethan Hertz -- Durham Citizens Review Board, Chairman (Appointed)

TN

Heather Scott -- Wilson County District #22 County Commission (Elected)

Texas

Robert West – Little Elm Economic Development Committee (appointed)

Previously reported wins/appointments.**California:**

Norm Vroman – Mendocino County District Attorney (re-election)

Florida:

Julie Chorgo-Gilson – Pinellas County Home School Review Board (appointment)

Mark Eckert – Orange County Nuisance Abatement Board (appointment)

Michael Gilson de Lemos – Pinellas County Home School Review Board (appointment)

Stan Lee – Volusia County North Peninsula Municipal Services Advisory Board (appointment)

Michigan:

Bill Bradley – South Haven City Council

David Eisenbacher – Troy City Council

New Hampshire:

Don Gorman – Deerfield School Board

South Carolina:

Bea Jones – Hardeeville City Council

Bill Woolsey James Island Town Council

Texas:

Mark Wilson – St. Paul City Council

Wisconsin:

Gene Cisewski – Iron County Board of Supervisors

Kevin Scheunemann – Kewaskum Village Board (re-election)

2002 Candidate Recruiting**We have 1,498 candidates listed now, up 332 since June report.**

We also have an additional 170 candidates (all from a recently received Operation Breakthrough Report) which will be added to the website shortly. This gives us a total of approximately 1,670 candidates currently reported to us as running. Based on previous experience, I expect the total who have actually made it to the final ballot to be somewhat less than this, and my expectation is that we will end up around 1,600 candidates.

The March report showed 511 candidates. June report, 1166 candidates

Our numeric goals for candidates in'02 are:

Total candidates: Goal 2002 Current # 1498

We have set a new record for # of candidates, but still fell short of this goal. Some states fell short of their internal goals, and there was insufficient funding to expand Operation Breakthrough in to states other than CA, and not enough funds for a full Operation Breakthrough in CA.

US House: Goal, 218 Current # 216 We are on track for this goal, but it will be close.

2002 Ballot Access

Arizona, collected enough additional registrations to stay qualified. The Secretary of State certified them in January

Arkansas We did both a petition drive and lawsuit here, to attempt ballot status for 2002.

In an earlier case involving the Reform Party, a court had ruled that if the requirement was 10,000 sigs for an independent statewide non-presidential candidate, then anything over 10,000 sigs for a new party was unconstitutional. Despite the 10,000 sig requirement appearing in the annotation of the court case, the State's Attorney General is saying the law requiring 3% (about 23,000 sigs) is still in effect. Richard Winger thought the suit against the 23,000 requirement was almost a slam dunk case.

The state Libertarian Party collected over 10,000 signatures, and filed suit to have them accepted. The judge restated the 10,000 signatures figure as law in his ruling, but also ruled that the "cure period" did not apply to our candidate petition. A cure period is when you are allowed to make up invalid sigs after the initial turn in. In an initiative in AR, you must turn in the first batch of signatures, and the "raw" number of signatures must at least equal the valid number you must have for the petition. After the state verifies the number of valid signatures you have, there is a cure period for the petitioner to make up any invalid sigs.

The bottom line is we lost the lawsuit to place us on the ballot this year, but have re-established the 10,000-signature requirement for future elections. On Richard Winger's advice, they are not appealing, as this could jeopardize the good part of the ruling reaffirming the 10,000 sigs instead of 23,000.

We assisted the AR party with \$7,000 toward the cost of the drive.

Connecticut did not complete their statewide drive, but did complete a drive for a Congressional candidate.

DC Candidates did not step forward in time for us to complete a drive in DC.

Florida did a great job of taking advantage of a unique situation due to redistricting. Florida law allows anyone in the state to sign any candidate in the states petition, no matter if they live in the candidate's district or not. They petitioned 85 candidates on to the ballot, with signers signing all 85 petitions.

Georgia attempted to place a congressional candidate on the ballot. If they had succeeded, it would have been the first third party congressional candidate in GA in the 59 years since the law was changed to require a 5% petition. The Georgia party raised all of the money for this project. We assisted with paying petitioners and contractors, and provided personal volunteer help at the end. They have apparently fallen short, but will attempt to rehabilitate enough signatures to qualify.

Hawaii completed their drive on their own.

Illinois We expected them to be able to complete its drive on its own, given their current funding level, and super-petitioner Scott Kohlhas's position there as Exec Director. However, they came to us in the last 3 weeks of the drive and had run out of funding. We spent \$8,910.95 on the IL drive. They had already collected more than 45 signatures and/or dollars per member on their own.

They were challenged on the petition, and successfully defended the challenge. They have now filed a suit against the Republican Party for filing a frivolous challenge.

Iowa completed their statewide drive on their own. We assisted with congressional petitioning.

Kentucky did not attempt a statewide petition. We assisted with congressional petitioning.

Maryland needed 27,000 valid sigs to place Spear Lancaster on the ballot for governor, and succeeded on their own. They set a big new standard for our other affiliates to try to meet. They collected around 100 sigs or \$ per member to get the drive done on their own. Our usual standard for being willing to come in and help is 35sig/\$ per member.

Minnesota needed 2,000 valid sigs by July 16. They had previously always completed its drive on its own, but did not do so this year.

Nevada decided to go for individual candidate petitions rather than full party status. They have completed their candidate petitions.

New Hampshire did not do a statewide drive, deciding instead to go for candidate petitions.

New Mexico has completed their drive and been certified. They asked for financial assistance, I told them no (we were cash poor at the time and they should be able to get this done on their own), and they figured out how to get it done anyway.

New York completed their drive on their own, although it is unlikely they could have withstood a challenge. They turned in about 19,000 sigs for a 15,000 signature requirement.

North Dakota We did not do this state for 2002.

Ohio began a statewide drive in 2001. They needed 45,753 valid. The deadline was January 7.

The drive was stopped due to legal action undertaken by the state LP. Their reading of the law said there was a one-day window to file our 2000 petition that would have placed us on the ballot not only for 2000, but for 2002 as well. The Sec of State disagreed with our reading, so we attempted to file a candidate for a local office just as if we were indeed still qualified. The county board where we filed ruled in our favor 4 to 0.

Then, the Secretary of State's office "asked them to reconsider." They re-voted 2 to 2, which left the decision up to the Sec of State. The Sec of State did nothing, so we filed a suit asking for a decision.

The court said we had not been damaged, as the Sec of State's inaction meant that we our local candidate was still on the ballot. So the court refused to hear the case.

Later, the Sec of State *DID* move to throw our local candidate off, so we refiled the case. We then lost at the lower court level, and filed at the State Supreme Court. The Supreme Court dismissed the case without a decision.

We agreed to assist with petitioning costs to place a few more US House Candidates on the ballot as independents. Each candidate would have needed about 1,800 valid signatures. But the state party was not able to get the effort started on their end.

Oklahoma We will not do this state for 2002. We did assist congressional candidates.

Rhode Island did not do a statewide or congressional drive.

Pennsylvania We assisted with \$5,000 toward the completion of the drive.

Tennessee completed petitioning for 2002 on its own. (250 sigs)

West Virginia: We did not do this drive in 2002, as there is no way to retain status for 2004. Retention is based on the % for Governor, and Governor is not up until 2004.

Project Majority -- 218 in 2002

In all likelihood, we will achieve this goal. We need to verify 2 more candidates to declare that we have succeeded. We show 244 US House candidates at Libertarian Party.org, but we only have 216 confirmed as on the ballot. Many of the rest are lawsuit candidates. Some are in primaries that have not been decided yet, or were in special elections

Excluding potential lawsuit wins, the most we can end up with is 222 at this point, so it has been very close. The main difference in this year and in 2000 is that we do not have ballot access in Ohio, and lost the 19 US House candidates we could have had there.

I expect we can announce the achievement of this goal in the next few days.

We assisted with filing fees and petitioning expenses in:

CA (apprx. \$4,000 from last years budget)

NE (about \$5,100) for 3 candidates

MT \$1,400 for 1 candidate

OK \$1,050 for 2 candidates.

KY \$3578.04 for 3 candidates

IA \$1,018.50 for 2 candidates.

LA \$3,000 for 7 candidates

WI \$900.78 for 1 candidate

WA \$1,403 for 3 candidates

Much of the fundraising was done in the individual states we were assisting.

218 in 2002 recruiting spreadsheet.

State	Total Cand Now	Total Cand Goal	US Reps	On Ballot '00	Ron's estimate '02	anno unce d '02	On Ballot '02	Sigs needed for full slate	Signatures Per Cand	Filing opens	Filing Deadline
CA	114	400	53	45	45	45	45	2080	40		12/7/01
TX	186	186	32	29	26	31	26	0			1/2/02
MS	3	3	4	5	3	3	3	0			3/1/02
NE	6	6	3	3	3	3	3	0			3/1/02
UT	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	0		3/7/02	3/18/02
MT	6	6	1	1	1	1	1	0			3/21/02
MO	59	59	9	9	9	9	9	0		2/26/02	3/26/02
AR	1	10	4	0	0			0		3/19/02	4/2/02
SD	4	4	1	1	1	1	1	44	44		4/2/02
TN	16	16	9	5	5	5	5	225	25	1/7/02	4/4/02
									500 or		
ID	50	50	2	2	2	2	2	0	\$300	3/25/02	4/5/02
WV	2	2	3	3	0	0	0				4/14/02
SC	14	14	6	6	4	4	4	0		4/6/02	4/20/02
OH	20	20	18	18	0	6	0	33000	1833		5/6/02
MA	20	20	10	1	1	1	1	20000	2000		5/7/02
NV	8	8	3	2	2	2	2	0		5/6/02	5/20/02
ME	3	3	2	1	0	0	0	4000	2000		5/28/02
AK	3	3	1	1	1	1	1				6/1/02
NJ	15	15	13	2	9	9	9	1300	100		6/4/02
VA	2	2	11	4	1	1	1	11000	1000		6/11/02
AZ	16	30	8	6	7	8	5	0		5/13/02	6/12/02
NH	17	17	2	2	2	2	2	3000	1,500	6/5/02	6/14/02
IL	45	40	19	2	5	8	5	70000	5000	6/17/02	6/24/02
KS	18	18	4	4	4	4	4				6/24/02
RI	0		2	0	0	0	0	1000	500	7/2/02	6/26/02
AL	60	60	7	7	7	7	7	0			7/1/02
MD	8	8	8	0	0	0	0?		?		7/1/02
NC	126	200	13	12	13	13	13				7/1/02
CO	27	50	7	6	7	7	4				7/8/02
NM	9	9	3	0	0	0	0	4800	1600		7/9/02
WI	20	30	8	1	2	2	2	9000	1000		7/9/02
OK	3	10	5	6	3	3	3	0			7/10/02
IN	16	150	9	10	9	9	9	0			7/15/02
MN	0		8	4	0	0	0	8000	1000	7/2/02	7/16/02
FL	86	86	25	1	0	1	0	53375	2135	7/15/02	7/19/02
HI	1	15	2	2	2	2	2	50	25		7/23/02
State	Total Cand	Total US Cand	Reps	On Ballot	Ron's current estimate	anno unce	On Ballot	Sigs needed	Signatures Per Cand	Filing opens	Filing Deadline

	Now	Goal	'00	estimated '02 '02	'02	for full slate	Per Cand	e
WA	8	20	9	9	7	7	7	7/22/02 7/26/02
PA	4	4	19	3	2	2	2	8/1/02
GA	44	20	13	0	0	5	0 158855 12220	7/29/02 8/2/02
MI	48	100	15	16	14	14	14	0 8/6/02
CT	9	9	5	1	1	1	1	10800 2,160 8/7/02
KY	2	10	6	4	3	3	3	2400 400 8/13/02
IA	4	20	5	5	3	3	3	1500 300 7/29/02 8/16/02
DE	3	20	1	1	1	1	1	0 8/17/02
WY	7	7	1	1	1	1	1	0 8/19/02
								3741.
NY	8	8	29	2	1	1	1	108500 3793 8/15/02 8/22/02
LA	0	7	7	6	7	7	7	7,000 1,000 8/21/02 8/23/02
OR	4	10	5	2	4	5	4	8/27/02
DC	3	10	1	1	0	0	0	7/5/02 8/28/02
ND	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1000 6/10/02 9/8/02
VT	2	10	1	1	1	1	1	0 9/6/02 9/19/02
	1134	1809						
Total includes DC	436	256	221	243	216			

Political Department Report by Marc Brandl

My political duties include.

- Contact with current and potential candidates and state parties on questions, who is running, pointing them toward additional resources, etc.

- Continuing progress with Ron and Maggy at KIA to revamp and update the ‘*Campaign*’ section of the website as well an overhaul of the web page editing software.
- I’m involved in US House recruitment in several states. Since the last report I’ve facilitated recruitment in: KY, DE, AZ, OR, IA, and LA. My facilitation mainly involves sending recruitment e-mails to the targeted state, communication with appropriate state affiliate officers and follow-up calls to potential candidates. In addition I managed the petition drive in KY to get three US House candidates on the ballot. I also aided in the Iowa petition drive effort and helped fundraise money for LA candidate filing fees
- I was the point man for purchasing new voter registration software through Vote.net that is now up and running on the website at: <https://register.votenet.com/lp/>

My campaign work is currently about 40-50% of my workload.

Drug War Focus Strategy

- I answer most the e-mails relating to this project.
- I have maintain the various related web pages on the site.
- I send out and sometimes create messages to go out to the DWTF list, which now stands at over 700 e-mail addresses.

DWFS takes up 5% of my workload.

Campus Outreach

Measurements:

Last LNC Report:

Campus Contacts: 230

Active Campus Groups: 83

As of September 1st: (see attached Xcel file for more details)

Campus Contacts: 250

Active Campus Groups: 88

Speaking Engagements:

Ed Thompson Student Mobilization

A more detailed report of our efforts to mobilize and turn out students for Ed Thompson on Primary Day will be forthcoming after we are able to obtain precinct level data on the election.

Quick Summary:

The Thompson campaign is out prototype for future campus/campaign coordination. We wanted to pick a promising campaign, see if we could mobilize students to make a difference, and take what we learned to other campuses and campaigns.

Maryland activist Jeremy Keil and I drove to Wisconsin on August 29th to mobilize students to turn-out for Ed Thompson on Primary Day. Before leaving I set up a Training Seminar co-hosted by the Leadership Institute that attracted over 20 students from around Wisconsin. The event was held Saturday, August 31st at the UW Madison campus. The Leadership Institute provided two excellent speakers with experience in campus mobilization: Alex Kaufmann and Tygh Bailes. I also gave a talk. The event went well and the students thought the information was very useful. After the event Ed Thompson (Just Ed from now on) came and gave a great pep talk and we worked out a plan for visiting and working with each of the campuses represented.

Jeremy Keil and myself took the schools in the eastern half of the state, Tim Wesely, the state campus coordinator for Students4Ed and Josh Thompson took the western half of the state with UW Madison as the base of operations and center of a lot of our attention. Starting on Labor Day through the following Monday the four of us hit 20 schools throughout the state. We hit schools with and without campus activists present.

List of schools we visited: (Schools listed in bold is where we have activists present currently)

4 year UW schools:

UW Madison
UW Parkside
UW Osh Kosh
UW Eau Claire
UW LaCrosse
UW Steven's Point
UW Stout
UW Plattville
UW Milwaukee
UW River Falls
UW Green Bay
UW Whitewater

2 year UW schools (community college):

UW Sheboygan
UW Manitowoc
UW Washington County
UW Rock County
UW Fox Valley

Private Universities and Colleges:
Beloit
Lawrence
Marquette
Milwaukee School of Engineering

At schools where we had activists we worked with them for a day putting up posters, handing out flyers, and sitting down with them and working out their own campus GOTV effort based on their volunteer base, campus resources, access to the dormitories, etc. At two schools (UW Whitewater and UW Osh Kosh we did mailings to the dormitories with ¼ sheets that had student polling places listing). At schools where we had no activists we simply put up posters and handed out flyers during peak traffic hours.

On Election Day the two teams concentrated solely on UW Madison along with 5 other volunteers as well as Aaron Day, a campaign worker for Clyde Cleveland for Gov. campaign who drove up for the day to help out. Volunteers chalked and put up posters the night before all over campus. We had a decorated golf cart zooming around the large campus with a person with a bullhorn rallying people, creating a presence, and dropping off more supplies to activists set up at high traffic zones

and at the three on campus polling stations. We handed out flyers with polling information, held posters and talked to people one on one.

Positives:

We have a great team of committed student activists on the ground in Wisconsin who were willing to skip class, work in the rain and sacrifice weekend nights for Ed's campaign. They were truly inspiring.

The other campaigns were nowhere to be seen on most campuses we worked. We saw only a major presence from one other candidate at two schools and a very minor presence at 4-5 other schools. The others, including large campuses like UW Whitewater and UW Osh Kosh we had entirely to ourselves. We were the only campaign paying any attention to the students. On Primary Day we had a larger presence at UW Madison than any of the three Democratic contenders, including Kathleen Falk who serves as Dane County Executive (where Madison is located) and she had to pay people to work, we had all volunteers. All reports from other campuses show the same except for UW Milwaukee.

Negatives:

We were unable to locate any new student activists at schools we outreached at but had no existing contacts there already. Partly this was our method of blanketing the campus with as much material as possible in as little time as possible and then quickly moving on to the next school rather than talking to students individually.

Due to time limitations and lack of man power we were unable to do door to door canvassing at any dormitory at Madison or anywhere. Some schools we simply couldn't get permission, at Madison we simply had too much to do to be able to canvas properly. We're working to change this between now and Election Day.

College Outreach Materials

Three campus outreach posters and a College Libertarians of America logo were introduced in August and are now on the website at: <http://www.lp.org/organization/campus.html>

Campus work currently takes up about 25 -- 30% of my workload.

Customer Service work

Customer Service work currently is about 10-15% of my workload.

- I continue to be the prime person to answer all e-mail questions concerning libertarian policy and internal LP affairs. I average roughly 10-15 customer service related e-mails per day that warrant a personal response.