



South Carolina LIBERTARIAN

Newsletter of the South Carolina
Libertarian Party
PO Box 291383, Columbia, SC 29229
(803) 788-2226



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State Chairman's Message

In recent months the South Carolina Libertarian Party have been active reorganizing currently active counties and activating new counties. This activity has added an additional three counties and will continue through the end of 2009, hopefully adding more. If you are in an unorganized county, contact me for full assistance with the process – it's not difficult. All of this work is invigorating our efforts to interest more members to run for office. Having a good number of Libertarian candidates running for office in 2010 will definitely give us a chance to spread the Libertarian message. The results of recent elections in Texas and Pennsylvania put dozens of Libertarians in city and county offices from mayors on down. So if they can do it, why not here in South Carolina. In 2010 there will be many opportunities to run for local and state-wide office or be appointed to local boards where your libertarian principles can go to work. We recently held a Candidate Seminar exploring campaign strategies and establishing how the state party could assist candidates. We have resources of experienced campaigners but also those who have managed campaigns. I would like to encourage you to explore the openings that will be available in your county. If you are moved to be a candidate and become a Libertarian voice in your community, contact me.

Advertising outreach program: Join the Gadsden Society. With a monthly donation of \$20 you can help us "plan ahead". It's easy to join. See the last page of this newsletter for details. Or you can send your support of any amount to the Treasurer at: **PO Box 291383, Columbia, SC 29229**. Your investment in the efforts to keep Liberty alive in this great country is appreciated.

Michael Carmany, SCLP State Chairman
chairman@sclp.org

ExecComm Notes

- established an improved "Donation Page" on the website (sclp.org) and may also use for campaigns
- radio and print ad campaign was started in the Columbia area to run through November
- new counties organized: Horry, Spartanburg and Beaufort
- October Candidate Seminar held in Florence
- Columbia will be location of State Convention; voted to hold a 'split' agenda; Bylaws, Platform and Election of State Officers on February 6th and Candidate Nominating on April 24th with the Upstate as the Convention Planning Committee
- established Bylaws Committee and is now accepting any suggestions for changes in the existing bylaws
- Seeking luncheon speaker/s for Convention

"The fate of the country does not depend on how you vote at the polls -- the worst man is as strong as the best at that game; it does not depend on what kind of paper you drop into the ballot-box once a year, but on what kind of man you drop from your chamber into the street every morning."

-- Henry David Thoreau (1817-1862)

COMMENTARY

Could You do Better in the SC Legislature? Or Why We Need Libertarians in Office!

These days the media is full of healthcare legislation, size of Afghanistan deployments, recession speculations, and endless political backbiting. But what is not usually on the front page or even the editorial pages is what is happening in the South Carolina legislature. A look at The SC Policy Council website www.scpolicycouncil.com helped me come up with the following items (paraphrased for space):

When Federal Stimulus 'Handouts' became available the legislature argued with Governor Sanford that the \$2.8 billion was needed to save jobs for teachers and law enforcement. Sanford's suggested the use of \$694 million in stimulus funds to pay down the state's \$8.2 billion debt sent legislators into a panic. So, somehow (we wonder how) the disputed stimulus funds have been applied to areas that don't seem to be education or corrections: Spoleto Festival, Southeastern Wildlife Exposition, Department of Natural Resources, Department of Agriculture, Arts Commission, Department of Archives and History, Department of Commerce/Regional Economic Development Organizations and more. **If you were a South Carolina Legislator, how would you have voted on this issue?**

South Carolina state leaders promote "win-win" incentives for companies to 'move' to SC to provide benefits, from increased money flowing into the state to more jobs for state residents. But it took more than just a "business-friendly climate and a pool of talented labor" to lure a company across the state line from NC to Lancaster, SC. The company will bring 250 employees from NC and claims it will create 1,000 new jobs. Incentives the company will receive include: South Carolina will cut the company's property taxes by 50 percent for 18 years; The state ReadySC workforce training program is working to design and implement customized job training programs for the company's employees and helping identify skilled workers for future positions; The S.C. Department of Commerce is giving Lancaster County a \$250,000 grant for related infrastructure upgrades. Along with the above "incentives," the company will also be granted job development credits, which the company will be able to collect once it "creates" new positions. Job development credits return a portion of new employees' withholding taxes to the company. The company has up to a year to sign the final agreement.... What makes this incentive a real wild card is that apparently there's no requirement that the company hire South Carolinians in order to take advantage of the job development credits. **If you were a South Carolina Legislator, how would you have voted on this issue?**

Another case of smoke and mirrors is the 'bailout' for Boeing at Charleston. Boeing will be required to create 3,800 new, full-time jobs within 7 years and invest at least \$750 million in a single manufacturing facility. In return, the company will receive: sales tax exemption on construction materials for the manufacturing plant; A sales tax exemption on computer equipment; A sales tax exemption for the transportation of unfinished aircraft from one facility to another; A sales tax exemption on fuel used to test fly aircraft; \$170 million in economic development bonds to help pay for the construction of Boeing's new assembly line. (Possibly a total of \$450 million)

What lawmakers in South Carolina have not told us is that Boeing was thinking of expanding its current operation in Charleston anyway..... incentives package....(could qualify) as a bailout from Boeing's union commitments in Washington state. In 2004, Washington state provided \$3.2 billion in incentives to keep Boeing. (will they spurn us so soon?)(I)t remains unclear how much the Boeing deal is actually going to cost state taxpayers.....What is clear, though, is that the state doesn't have the money to pay for these incentives; thus the use of the economic development bonds, which are supposed to pay for themselves.

What we also know is that the Boeing bailout is going to cost more than its face value. Economists estimate that every \$1 in government spending shrinks the private sector by 0.20 cents. That means \$1 spent by the government actually costs \$1.20, which would put the cost of the Boeing bailout at a minimum of \$204 million – and likely as much as \$540 million.....One of the opportunity costs of a \$450 million incentives package for Boeing is lost revenue for

thousands of other businesses that could have seen their corporate income taxes cut. Another cost is the tax increases necessary to pay for the package. And these taxes will have costs as well – as mentioned above, lost jobs and reduced economic growth.

In the end, many questions remain about the Boeing incentives package. How much is it going to cost taxpayers? Will South Carolinians actually benefit from the new jobs or will these positions be filled by transplants or foreign workers? Is the deal even constitutional? If these questions will be answered soon enough, it is already too late for ordinary taxpayers – again left holding the bag on the state’s wrong-headed economic development efforts.

If you were a South Carolina legislator, how would you have voted on this issue?

For a good read, go to the **South Carolina Policy Council** www.scpolicycouncil.com for their excellent paper titled: **“The S.C. General Assembly: The Best and Worst of 2009.**

Marge Wakefield
margew@hotmail.com

Freedom is like taking a bath -- you have to keep doing it every day!"
-- Florynce Kennedy

"The most common way people give up their power is by thinking they don't have any."
-- Alice Walker, Author

"The truth which makes men free is for the most part the truth which men prefer not to hear."
-- Jim Bishop (1907-1987)

Don't Just Grumble -- Visit your local group

Libertarian Club of York County Meetup

2nd Thursday of each month at 7pm
Go to: <http://libertarian.meetup.com/339/>

Central Midlands Libertarian Meetup (Richland, Lexington and surrounding)

4th Tuesday of each month at 7pm
Go to: <http://libertarian.meetup.com/338/>

Low Country Libertarian Meetup (Charleston, Berkeley and Dorchester)

Go to: <http://libertarian.meetup.com/352/>

Upstate Libertarian Society

2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm
Augusta Road Public Library
Go to: www.aclp.us

Beaufort County

Contact: Tom Gerber
Email: tgerber@sc.rr.com

Horry County Libertarians

Search: Horry County Libertarians
For Yahoo Group

Spartanburg Libertarian Club

1st Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM
Middle Tyger Public Library, Duncan
Search: Spartanburglp

SCLP Executive Committee

1st Saturday of each month at 1:30 pm
Ocean View Seafood Restaurant
1904 Broad River Rd, Columbia
Go to: www.SCLP.org

The Gadsden Society

Marge Wakefield, Coordinator



"Individually the rattlesnake's rattles produce no sound, but united they can be heard by all; and while it does not attack unless provoked, it can be deadly to step on one."

The Gadsden Society funds those activities of the South Carolina Libertarian Party that assure our "rattles" for Liberty can be heard by all.

- Membership Outreach - County Organizing - Educational Seminars -

Members are those that contribute a minimum of \$240 annually to the SCLP. The contribution can be divided into monthly-\$20.00, quarterly-\$60.00, semi-annual-\$120.00, or as an annual payment of \$240.00.

As a member, you will receive a Gadsden Flag lapel pin with your first payment and your choice of a Thank You gift upon the completion of the annual amount: 1) 3' x 5' Polyester Gadsden Flag, 2) Gadsden Flag License Tag, 3) Gadsden Flag T-Shirt

**Help restore your birthright - Liberty.
Join The Gadsden Society Today!**

Use Internet Auto-Pay, it's the easy way!

Go to www.sclp.org Click on Get Involved

OR SEND YOUR GADSDEN CONTRIBUTIONS TO:
SCLP - PO Box 29383 - Columbia, SC 29229

Check Money Order

\$20 \$60 \$120 \$240

Name _____

E-Mail _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

If you do not wish to join the Gadsden Society, we welcome and appreciate any contribution. Send to SCLP, PO Box 29383, Columbia, SC, 29229