



*"Remember, remember! / The fifth of November, / The Gunpowder treason and plot
I know of no reason / Why the Gunpowder treason / Should ever be forgot"*

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From the Chair

Maybe I'm a little old fashioned, but I still think of November as a time to pause and take stock of what is good, and then to express gratitude. Being thankful is a dwindling American tradition, and maybe if we appreciated what we do have before we fixate on what we lack, we, as a country, would feel less polarized against our neighbors.

In the spirit of November thanksgiving, the first thing for which I am thankful is the news that our beautiful home state of North Carolina just became the second ever (after California, which has way more people) to pass 50,000 registered Libertarian voters. Our message is peace and prosperity, and we will never back down in our defense of everyone's right to disagree without violence. While politicians from the uniparty manipulate with fear and jealousy to drive votes, we advocate for "radical" ideas like you should be able to live without the government getting involved in every aspect of what you do. It's clear that people are beginning to realize the duopoly cares only about itself, and are joining us, the party of the people.

Today is election day, and I encourage all of you to vote Libertarian. In our first article, we look at why you absolutely should cast your ballot, but I want to use this space to express more thanks to all 32 of the wonderful candidates we have running for office in North Carolina, and for all the candidates that came before. Publicly, you all are the face of the LPNC, and you wear it well. Personally, I am honored to know each



one of you. I am truly grateful for the sacrifice you are making in pursuing the cause of Liberty on the political stage.

Finally, I want to take a moment to say how thankful I am for the time I got with my good friend, and relentless defender of Liberty, Donald Reid Deal. Reid passed away in his home in September, and I miss him a lot. I thought about it, and I am mentioning him in the November newsletter because it felt appropriate and true to the kind of person who Reid was, grateful for the good things and never hung up on the bad. He was a lynchpin of the LPNC for many years, and we all feel his loss deeply. As we move forward together, I am determined that we do so in a way that would make Reid proud.

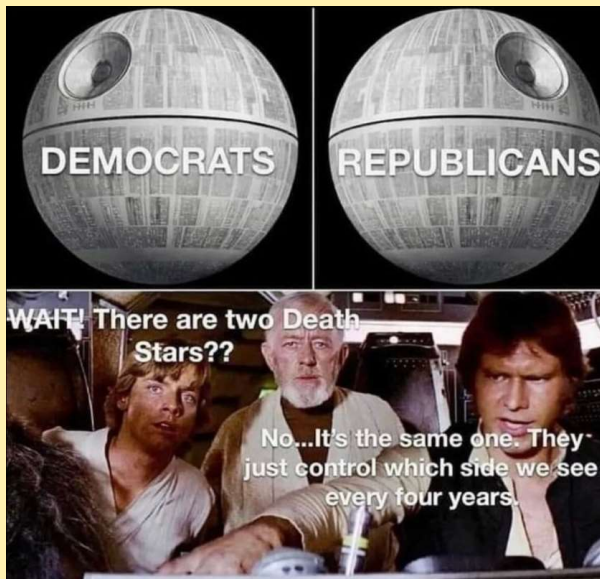
-Joe Garcia, LPNC Chair

Get out and Vote!

It's time we make election day count

by Rob Yates

LPNC Communications Director



Wake up and panic, everyone, if you haven't voted! Remember that this (like every election before it, and very election after it) is the *most important election in our lifetime*!

It would be comical if it wasn't so consequential, watching the two parties paint the stakes as successively higher each year, should the horrible event come to pass where the other party wins, that is. Then we rinse, wash, and repeat,

and wait for the next election cycle when we are told that, no, forget last time, this is the most important election of our lifetime, and if the other party wins, our democracy will crumble, fascists (or is it communists, I can't keep track anymore) will take over the country, and everyone who isn't a disabled trans person of color will be forced to sacrifice their children and then go work in a gulag (or is it the straight, rich, white men who are safe this time? Again, it's so hard to keep track).

With all the hyperbole around each election, the constant bombardment of crisis pimping from the perpetual news cycle, and the rhetoric increasingly nasty from a populace that is more polarized every minute, it can be hard to find a reason to go vote. In fact, there is an argument to be made that the act of voting is supporting a system that is rigged against anyone not on team red or team blue, and voting is a tacit endorsement of that system. When that system represents a massive, twisted game where the players are politicians and special interests with bottomless pockets, and the rest of us are the collateral damage, it's easy to understand why one would want to do everything possible to not support that system.

Despite this, I am here to implore you, please, go vote, and vote Libertarian! All we have is our grassroots drive, fighting for each inch, to take back the power from the politicians, and voting is the quickest way to advance this cause.

The game is so rigged it isn't even cute anymore

Over the last few months I got into a bit of a Twitter back-and-forth with Kyle Parrish, a useful idiot running for NC's 5th as a house candidate. I'm not one to shy away from some verbal sparring, but I don't look for it either; I went after Kyle because, unprovoked, he was spouting off really disgusting things about Libertarians in general, and attacking David Coatney, Libertarian NC House candidate, over some manufactured nonsense (not fit to reprint here, this newsletter is far too classy for his drivel).

David is well-equipped to handle himself, to be clear, but this unprovoked nastiness demanded attention, and many members of the LPNC joined in over subsequent weeks. For my part, I tried to be respectful (mostly), and consistently challenged his points, even asking him repeatedly if he would debate me. Eventually, after ignoring, deflecting, hiding, and cowering, he blocked me, and that saga ended (for the moment).

I am writing this to convince you to vote, though, not to repeat some silly story about a Twitter fight. I mention it because Kyle has about as much of a chance of winning his race as I do, and I live in Mecklenburg and am not on the ballot. Nevertheless, he attacks anyone not on Team Democrat, viciously, repeatedly. He spews vile and hate-filled rhetoric, mostly against Republicans, but with a healthy dose of anti-Libertarianism in there, and then occasionally asks why the country isn't more united, and says "only Democrats" can bring us back together.

Again, none of this should come as a surprise to anyone reading this. The only thing the two sides of the uniparty seem adept at is spitting venom at anyone on the other team. Even within the party, Kamala **cackled like a stoned hyena** when Colbert asked her about disparaging remarks she made about the man for whom she would eventually work as Vice President. Her excuse, "it was a debate," is a perfect example of how the political game is designed for the players

to go all-in to win, only to win, and to win at all costs. This is not unique to either major party, and it is not going to change as long as the prize is more power to hoard.

Kyle learned that he was a pawn in a game here (**right at the 10-minute mark**), and it is almost enough to make me feel bad for him. As a worthless candidate with no chance of winning, the party for whom he parrots and champions has done essentially nothing to support him, a fact he laments a bit, not realizing how damning his self-pity is as it speaks to the broken system as a whole.

They would never spend any money or resources on someone who can't win for them. It's about winning, none of the leaders of the other two parties care about principles.

Libertarians can make a difference in a way we never have before

Recently, we received some of the greatest news of 2022 – North Carolina became the second state in the U.S. to **pass 50,000 registered Libertarians!** Trailing only California and its massive population, we are at the vanguard of the Liberty movement. Our message is the right one, and it is spreading

Of course, this is not something that happened overnight. Rather, it is the diligent work of dedicated LPNC volunteers who have pushed us this far **for years**. And it is immense progress since 2008, when North Carolinians **regained the ability** register as Libertarian.

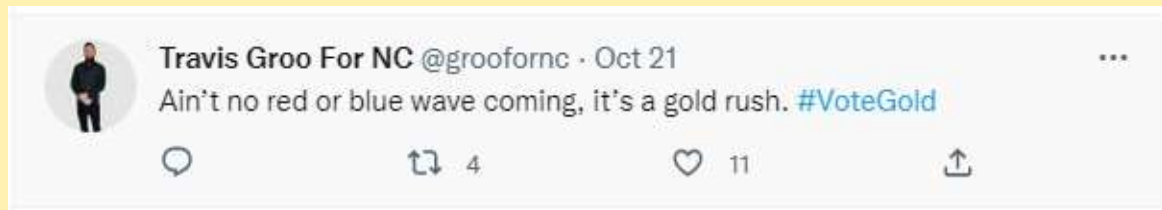
I readily acknowledge that this game is rigged. I understand your hesitation to vote, and your concerns that you are throwing a vote away or even validating this broken system that crushes people in its own relentless power hoarding. But sitting back and doing nothing guarantees the outcome.

Instead, have some hope, and a little faith, that our message, the right message, will win more hearts and minds, and we will grow organically, regaining the power that was taken from us. One way to help do that is to vote Libertarian.

Voting matters. It matters for ballot access, it matters to uniparty candidates who think we are spoiling their elections, it matters for making Liberty issues prominent on voters' minds, and it matters to cement our position as serious participants in this conversation that has been hijacked by partisan self-interest.

So go vote. Then come join us for an election party, or come to a protest against State tyrant over-reach, or just donate \$5 a month if that's what you can do (if every registered Libertarian donated \$5 monthly, we would bring in \$2.5 million annually, which is still not even a hundredth of uniparty spend in NC in 2020, but we could do a lot with it). Then, keep voting, and keep showing up. Find a place to volunteer. Recruit someone else. And vote again. We **will** win if we don't give up.

To **quote** WakeLP Chair Travis Groo, "...it's a gold rush. Vote gold!"



County Corner

State Fair

Many volunteers gave their time and energy in October to the LPNC's most consistent and fulfilling outreach event - the NC State Fair in Raleigh. Spearheading the ten-day effort was Brad Hessel with the backing of many Wake County Libertarians, but volunteers came from as far as Charlotte and beyond.

The Party has been tabling at the Fair for two decades, after having to threaten to sue the state for table space. We've come a long way from being stuck in the back hallway of Dorton Arena, and people look forward to seeing us every year, whether to check on candidates, have a stimulating sparring session, or pick up some swag. This year we had t-shirts, campaign literature, rainbow gadsden flags, and more available. We spoke to thousands of folks, made some new friends, and showed voters that the Libertarian Party is here to stay.



A Libertarian-curious couple poses for a picture after Barbara Howe wooed them at the table



North Carolina Liberty warrior and three-time Libertarian Party gubernatorial candidate Barbara Howe holds down the LPNC table at the State Fair



LP Mecklenburg chair and hat aficionado Jeff Scott poses for a picture

Cape Fear Libertarian Party

Adopt a Highway



Candidate spotlight



Matthew Laszacs
NC Senate 14

I am running to return the power of personal choice to the citizens of district 14 and the state of NC. I want to give parents greater freedom to select the best educational options for their children by expanding educational savings accounts, scholarships, and vouchers. I want to reduce or eliminate zoning and land use laws so that people can maximize the economic benefit of their private property and developers can create the quantities and types of housing that are needed to increase supply and decrease the price of housing in our state. I want to eliminate unnecessary occupational licensing regimes that put a stranglehold on people's ability to leverage their natural talents and build wealth for their families, and I want to create an economic environment in this state that allows for new and innovative businesses to easily emerge and flourish. Lastly, I want to reform our criminal injustice system to bring it back within its constitutional guardrails. Half of the ten amendments in the Bill of Rights are specifically written to make it difficult to put people in cages, yet our state government imprisons a greater percentage of our NC population than almost every other developed nation and even some dictatorships in the third world.

We must end no knock warrants, curb pre-trial detention so that it is the exception and not the rule, limit our prosecutor's ability to utilize the plea bargaining process to coerce people out of their day in court, end qualified immunity so that government employees are liable to the same constitutional standards as citizens, and we must end the heinous practice of federal asset forfeiture sharing

so that our law enforcement agencies are no longer criminals using citizens like an ATM machine whenever they need funds. I believe that the vast majority of our police are good, hard-working people that truly want to build trust with our communities, but we will never build that trust until the management of law enforcement agencies and prosecutors demand that the minority of bad actors stop being the bad guys and behave properly. Personal choice, freedom and liberty, and a society free from fear of government harassment is the roadmap to a better society. Peace and prosperity occur only when individuals are free to make rational choices for themselves, their families, and their communities, unimpeded by excessive government regulation.



[Matt Laszacs for NC Senate 14](#)

[DONATE](#)



Sammie Brooks

NC Senate 15

We need to elect honest people with great personal integrity into leadership – not just CEOs and businessmen who look out primarily for themselves.

School choice and competition will help improve North Carolina's education system. No one dislikes public schools, but only competition and choice can push stodgy bureaucracies to make changes rather than just guarding entrenched special interests.

Zoning is far too restrictive. People need to be able to build duplexes, multi-family housing, accessory dwelling units, "granny flats," and cottage houses.

Wake County needs more housing, and we need to stop getting in the way of our own progress. Eliminating ABC Boards is a no-brainer. There is no need for government to be losing money trying to run grocery stores. Selling liquor is just a business and adults can make their own responsible decisions about where to buy it.

Government is about providing justice and fairness. That's what we need it to focus on.



[DONATE](#)



Michael Munger

NC Senate 13

North Carolina has the most restrictive and expensive state system of alcoholic beverage control in the nation.

Some of the costs are paid in the form of a "tax" through higher operating costs, and unreasonably high monopoly salaries for local ABC officials. But much of the cost is paid through inconvenience and nonsensical restrictions on local access: our state has less than half the number retail outlets enjoyed by the surrounding southern states. There is no reason the state should maintain a monopoly on retail sales; private stores can take over this expense, and allow people to buy nearer their homes without driving 20 or 50 miles.

Many people object that having a high price deters excessive alcohol use; if you believe that, it is still time to end the old-fashioned and wasteful ABC. We can impose an alcohol tax that will keep prices about the same after privatization. The difference is that this tax will collect revenue, rather than the current "tax" of having to drive 30 minutes each way. The tax revenue can be used to expand opportunities for school choice in rural areas, communities that until now have depended on the state monopoly on education. If we are careful, we can offer better choices and increase personal responsibility in both alcohol sales and education in rural communities.



[Michael C. Munger for NC Senate 13](#)

[DONATE](#)

Kat McDonald

NC House 34



More freedom for parents to choose what's best for their children, more opportunities for our small businesses, less regulation, and greater school and housing choice.

Wake County is thriving because of the energy, enthusiasm, forward-thinking, and hard work of our diverse small businesses. I want to encourage and stimulate that growth, not stifle it.

The diversity of our people should be reflected in the diversity of the choices they have to live, work, play, educate their children, and pursue their dreams.

Government should, in most cases, get out of their way. Special interests should not dictate what choices are allowed. And no one should get special treatment.

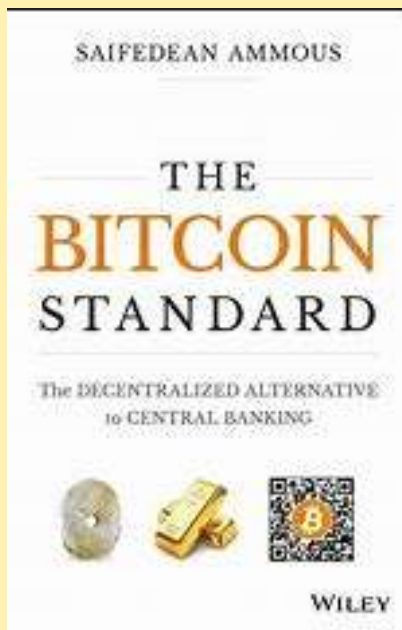


[**Kat McDonald for NC House 34**](#)

Book Review

The Bitcoin Standard, by Saifedean Ammous

Review by Olivia Broadway, Queen City Freedom Fellowship



Many consider *The Bitcoin Standard* to be the "Bible" for Bitcoin, and I can see why. The majority of the book is actually focused on the history of money and what makes money valuable, which is really important to understand if you are going to understand the case for Bitcoin. Ammous' writing style is engaging, and his love of Austrian Economics comes through loud and clear, which I appreciated. He takes aim at both Keynesians and Monetarists, since both see a role for the State in regulating the money supply, albeit to different degrees. As I read, I realized how little I actually knew about the history of money; such things as sea shells, glass beads, and heavy stones had

been used in various civilizations, which had subsequently suffered economic catastrophes with the inflation of their money supplies when someone figured out how to easily make/find more of the "money."

The book doesn't get into the tactics of how to actually buy and store Bitcoin, but it does present a compelling case for Bitcoin as the best money we have, particularly from the "store of value" perspective. A money's "store of value" is largely based on its stock to flow ratio (stock = existing supply; flow = new amount created). The harder it is to create new amounts of the money, the higher the stock to flow ratio, and the more likely the money will be a good store of value. This is how gold became the standard across the globe for millennia. And this is why Ammous argues that Bitcoin could be "the best store of value humanity has ever invented."

This was a fantastic book that I found to be an easy read, explaining concepts in layman's terms, while not losing the substance of the argument. I highly recommend this book for both the interesting history as well as the introduction to the case for Bitcoin.

Upcoming events

Wake County Election Night Watch Party

You are cordially invited to join Wake Libertarians at Tobacco Road Sports Cafe & Brewery on Jones Street as we celebrate our election success. Not so ironically, we're meeting just down the road from the NC General Assembly Building, a structure Libertarians hope to radically renovate one day. Many of our 17 candidates for the NCGA will be there, as well as some special guests. No matter the outcome, we'll celebrate another successful challenge to the duopoly. Please bring your friends and family, and join us to hoist a few. See you then!

[RSVP here](#)



9th Rally for Justice and Compassion

For too long, government has refused to show justice and compassion for our homeless population. We have held five previous rallies appealing to the Gastonia City Council. Join the Libertarian Party of North Carolina and Pastor

Moses Colbert for our 9th joint rally on November 15, 2022, from 5 PM - 8 PM with hopefully an even larger crowd and louder voices, to let the Gastonia Mayor and City Council know that they will be held accountable. Fight for justice for Joshua Rohrer and Justice, and for Scotty Reid, arresting for the travesty of standing on a sidewalk. We will be demonstrating outside of the Gaston County Courthouse starting at 5pm. Afterwards, some of us will be speaking at the City Council meeting at 6:00pm.

[RSVP here](#)

Capital City Gun Show

We're tabling the Capital City Gun Show in Raleigh on December 17th and 18th. Gun shows attract people with whom we tend to share principles; people who just want to be left alone, who are skeptical of the government, and who will likely be very open to the ideas of liberty. This is low hanging fruit, and not reaching out to these people is a missed opportunity for us and poor stewardship for Liberty. Shift times are 9:00 am to 1:00 pm and 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm Saturday the 17th, and 10:00 am to 1:30 pm and 1:30 pm Sunday the 18th. We are looking for two or three volunteers for each shift. We plan on making gun show tabling throughout the state a regular event, and this will be a great start.

2A Talk

In Defense of Self-Defense: a Practical Matter

by Justin Hinckley

LPNC 2nd Amendment Liaison Coordinator

Many words have been spent in defense of the 2nd amendment. Those words often focus on philosophical and judicial reasoning. In recent years, those words created strong arguments which led to great strides in our freedom to defend ourselves, such as in the decisions of *Heller vs DC* eliminating the outright prohibition of owning firearms in the home, or *Bruen vs NYSRPA* which essentially makes every citizen able to carry a firearm outside the home, through shall-issue permitting.

Discussion of Supreme Court cases, congressional action, and executive order, among other massive federal-level interventions, we sometimes we drift away from why these legal and political arguments are discussed with such gravitas. Stuck on the philosophy, we forget the practical reality that 2A enables individuals to defend themselves against aggressors. Today, I want to focus on the practicality of self-

defense, of which the 2nd amendment is the absolute guarantor for all US citizens. In this discussion, I wish to take a closer look at guns and gun ownership on the individual level. How and why is a single gun beneficial to an individual person?

First, I propose this question to the readers: If you could snap your fingers and get rid of every gun in the US, legal or illegal, would you do it? You may think "yes of course! No more drive-by shootings, school shootings, or rampantly armed criminals!" It is my experience that many people, especially those who do not own guns for self-defense, think about guns almost exclusively from the perspective of criminals. Worries about what harm criminals and other bad-faith actors might promulgate dominate people's minds and the gun-rights conversation.

Lost in this rumination is the reality of what an otherwise peaceful citizen can do with a gun. Guns are the great equalizers. Criminals have the privilege of preparation, thus theoretically putting them at an inherent advantage. They get to ensure they have superior size, strength, speed, age, numbers, weapons, aggression, positioning, and timing. As a general rule, confrontation with a criminal is an ambush, often placing the defender in the least ideal position to survive the fight and forcing the defender to overcome the disadvantage of reacting to a surprise attack.

A firearm, especially combined with training on how to use it, gives the defender a fighting chance by negating or eliminating the criminal advantages discussed above. Think about it this way: if you were only able to land one hit against your attacker do you want that hit to be a punch or a bullet? Sometimes in an ambush we only get one shot, best make it the most effective one you can.

Guns are so effective at stopping fights, they enable entire segments of the population a brand-new ability to live without fear. Elderly, disabled, petite, and non-aggressive individuals can now deliver deadly force with the same level of potential effect as the Navy SEAL, the terrorist, the seasoned criminal, or the SWAT officer. It's unlikely an elderly or permanently disabled person can train enough to overcome their natural disadvantages in a hand-to-hand fight. Petite or pacifistic individuals might have neither the time nor the inclination required to dedicate to becoming skilled in a martial art or other self-defense technique needed to escape such a violent encounter unscathed.

Guns reduce the entry cost of self-defense. This is quite literal in the financial sense; a few hundred dollars can get a person access to a basic firearm that is often more than enough to save that person's life. The cost of each of the many classes it takes to learn hand combat defense adds up quickly, and is likely to easily hit the cost of a middle or possibly high-quality firearm.

The entry cost is not just financial, however. One must also consider the time commitment of each defensive tool. In a world where no firearms were available to defend oneself, one would need to spend many hours over months or years to

become proficient enough at retreating, fighting, and defending in a close encounter to survive, much less win, against an attacker with inherent physical and tactical advantages. With a firearm, safety can be relatively easily taught to a basic level of proficiency, giving the defender infinitely more potential for not just survival, but triumph in a violent encounter.

Theoretically, as soon as someone purchases a firearm, that person's odds in a life-or-death fight increase substantially. In actuality, training is generally necessary to employ a firearm with consistent competence. That said, each training session on the gun range pays way more dividends than any single training session in a martial art, such as BJJ or Krav Maga.

To be clear, this is not to denigrate the martial skills, nor to discourage people from training. Certainly, any well-rounded defender has the ability to physically defend him/herself long enough to employ a firearm. There is an endless list of scenarios where a person's physical skills are called on long before or even instead of his/her firearm skills. The difference between minimum necessary gun skills and minimum necessary martial skills can be compared to the difference between learning to play an instrument and learning how to use an mp3 player.

It is clear there is great value, at the individual level, of owning and carrying a gun for defensive purposes (and there are countless examples supporting this). Guns enable us to be equal in an otherwise unfair fight. They give a lifeline to otherwise helpless victims, making an armed society an equitable society. Further, firearm possession enables freedom and encourages individualism. That is why, if I could push a button and make every gun disappear, I'd push the button next to it, putting a decent weapon in every citizen's hands.

Reflections from an Old Libertarian

Libertarianism has a long, rich [history in North Carolina](#). As we build the cause of the liberty for the future, we will always remember where we came from and those who worked to get us here. Every month, we will feature an OG Libertarian from North Carolina, telling stories, giving an interview, reflecting on how things are or how things were. It is the foundations on which we stand that allow us to move forward.

Libertarians Make a Difference by Being Different

by Thomas Hill

"Libertarians are different because we believe that all rights are individual rights, given to every human being by virtue of their existence, and not dependent on

any written document or government favor. We're different because we believe that two people, two hundred people, or two million people don't have any more rights than one person. We are different because we realize that when it comes to rights, there is no number greater than one." - Lee Wrights (1958 - 2017) Past LPNC Vice-Chair and 2012 LP Presidential Nominee Runner-Up to Governor Gary Johnson

It was an honor and a privilege to manage the Lee Wrights' 2012 presidential campaign. Spending 23 months traveling across the country with one of my best friends was an adventure I will never forget. I put nearly 40,000 miles on my 1999 Nissan Maxima, visiting over 20 state LP conventions. Lee was a hit on the debate circuit. He often stole the show with his southern charm, quick wit, and solid understanding of the history of our party, our philosophy, and our nation.

During his presidential campaign, Lee **published an opinion piece** entitled, "Libertarians Can Make A Difference By Being Different". In his unique way, he reminded his party peers that all it takes to make a difference is to simply be ourselves

"Libertarians are different because we believe that the Golden Rule, an idea shared by people and cultures all over the world and throughout history, not only applies to one-on-one relationships but to all human relationships and to relationships among nations. We are different because we mind our own business. We're different because we insist on leaving people alone."

As Libertarians, we believe that our philosophy of self-ownership and non-aggression, when soundly understood and properly applied, maximizes our human potential to prosper by creating a space for individual freedom to flourish.

The iconic proto-libertarian novelist and political theorist, Rose Wilder Lane, once said, "Freedom is self-control. Nothing more. Nothing less." When we give up control of our thoughts, emotions, and choices, we give tyranny the fertile soil it requires to grow as it steadily consumes our self-worth and dignity

Humans too often idealize celebrities, politicians, and institutions. In doing so, they give up their spiritual gold, their sacred source of self-empowerment and self-worth. This only enables and emboldens tyranny and the further decay of individual liberty and self-determination in our communities and our nation as a whole.

"Libertarians are different because we believe in the radical idea that individuals have the right – and the responsibility — to live their lives as they see fit. To make decisions about their lives, their families, and their safety without unwanted hindrance or interference from any one or any government. We're different because we actually believe what our nation's founders believed: that

government's only legitimate role in society is restricted to protecting the individual rights of citizens."

In this age of greed, envy, and entitlement, Libertarians are different because we circumscribe our thoughts, emotions, and actions with the principles of generosity, respect, and compassion. We believe in giving our neighbors a hand up instead of a handout. We respect our neighbor's peaceful choices and have empathy for their problems and life struggles.

We're Hiring!

We are looking for dedicated, motivated individuals with the necessary skills to join energetic, active, goal-oriented teams of volunteers.

Over the last few years, we've focused on setting a foundation for the future of our party. Having a strong infrastructure is a vital step in developing an organization that can be a political force in North Carolina.

Now we are building on the foundation filling our staff, as we have been posting here. The LPNC Staff Organization plan is here, and the job descriptions are here.

We'll be periodically updating both our organization staffing list and adding, revising, and updating job descriptions as we grow.

If you want to join the effort to create a free, peaceful, and prosperous North Carolina -- a place where every individual has the opportunity to pursue their unique vision of a rewarding and enriching life, contact LPNC Chair Joe Garcia or LPNC Executive Director Brian Irving.

[LPNC Staff 2022](#)

[LPNC Job Descriptions](#)

Get Involved

Do you oppose the initiation of force to achieve political or social goals? Do you challenge the cult of the omnipotent state and wish to defend the rights of the individual? Are you already Libertarian, but you want to do more and you aren't sure how?

There are lots of ways to get involved. You can [Join the Party](#), [Volunteer](#), or [Connect with a County Affiliate](#).

Letters to the Editor

Every month, we will feature a few of the emails we receive from the dedicated people of North Carolina. Opine on anything you like, but relevance to our cause and North Carolina will get precedence. Please submit your responses to communications@lpnc.org, and include your name, county, and level of involvement.

Our best letter last month came from Steven in Forsythe County.

In response to last month's 2A Talk:

With a homicide rate of about 5 per 100,000 (lower than in the 1970s and 1980s), 99.99% of Americans did not die from gun violence in recent years; Americans are 10 times more likely to die from unintentional injuries than from homicide. 99.999% of school children are not killed in school shootings; 100 times as many children are killed in auto accidents. People are emotional and respond to stories; we're not designed to analyze big numbers. When people use one anecdote to convince others why we should have guns for protection or get rid of guns for protection, it may seem convincing, but the argument may not be as strong as it seems.

I have Libertarian tendencies and don't think the government needs to tell people how to live their lives. I don't think changing gun laws are going to make people appreciably more or less safe. I do think that being a role model is an appropriate way to try to influence others. I think our country would have a greater positive influence in the world if we focused more on being a good role model and less on using guns and violence to influence life in other peoples' countries.

As far as I am concerned, you should decide for yourself whether having a weapon that could protect or injure you or a family member is something you want to keep around. I don't have guns; I don't need guns to feel safe in America.

Steven R. Feldman, M.D., Ph.D.

Forsyth County

Registered Libertarian

Professor of Dermatology, Pathology and Social Sciences & Health Policy
Wake Forest School of Medicine

Support Freedom, Peace, and Prosperity in North Carolina

In the 2020 election cycle, total spending on federal elections between the Republicans and the Democrats was over \$14 Billion (with a “B”!). In North Carolina alone, the two major parties spent over \$280 million on one of the most the most expensive Senate races in history.

As the party of principles, we reject the massive amounts of dark money pouring into campaigns that produces bought-and-sold candidates loyal to donors and special interest groups at the expense of the American people. We rely on you for financial support to keep pushing back against the two-party behemoth and advance the causes of liberty.



Advertising

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