

# Libertarian Party of Hawaii

Phone: 1 (808) 537-3078

## **News**

**September 2012**

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## Upcoming events:

### Libertarian Party of Hawaii – Liberty Conference

**When:** Saturday, September 22, 2012, 9:00AM – 5:00PM

**Where:** **Harris United Methodist Church**

20 South Vineyard Blvd. (at Nuuanu)  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**Who:** **Tracy Ryan, Sam Slom, John Carroll, John Radcliff, Danny DeGracia, Andy Mukk, Dick Rowland, Alan Matsuda, Mike Greco, Fred Fogel, Share Christie, Mike Hansen, Malia Zimmerman, Nick Gregory, Cliff Slater**



#### **Agenda:**

Registration 9AM

Program Begins 9:30 with introductory remarks and a speech by **Tracy Ryan** called "Politics is a People Business".

Between 10 and 11 AM we will have a panel discussion about Political Labeling. Three highly experienced people in the area of Hawaii politics will talk about the labels we attach to folks such as "liberal", "conservative" "progressive", "Democrat or Republican" etc. and how we can work with and around these concepts. The panel will include **Sam Slom, John Carroll, and John Radcliff.**

Between 11 AM and Noon we will hear speeches from **Danny DeGracia** about Libertarian Presidential Nominee **Gary Johnson**, and from **Andy Mukk** on the **Ron Paul** campaign.

At noon lunch will be served. A smaller breakout room will be available at this time for smaller sessions to run concurrently with the program. Some may lunch in this room and chat with **Dick Rowland** about his *Liberty Coalition*.

Around 12:45 we will start the program up again with some remarks from **Alan Matsuda.**

Between 1 PM and 2 PM we will run programs in both rooms. In the main room we will have speeches from **Ron Paul** Republican **Mike Greco** who seeks to win election to the State Senate, from Libertarian **Fred Fogel** who seeks election to a Big Island House seat, and from **Share Christie** who will talk about the legal case against her husband Roger. There will also be some remarks from **Mike Hansen** about the Jones Act and other announcements.

Between 1 and 2 PM we will run a mini-convention for the Libertarian Party in the breakout room. There is only the business of approving some changes in the Executive Committee so this might not take the full hour.

Between 2 PM and 3 PM attendees will have the choice between a panel discussion on Messaging and Media in the large room and a focus group on the *Liberty Coalition* in the small one. The panel will include two working journalists **Malia Zimmerman** and **Danny DeGracia.** **Dick Rowland** will led the focus group on the *Liberty Coalition*.

From 3 to 5 PM the time is turned over to interactive focus groups. There will be two focus group periods. The first one starting around 3 PM will include one on the Jones Act led by **Mike Hansen**, one on **Roger Christie** led by **Share Christie**, and one on the UH student group Young Americans for Liberty and how we can get young people interested in our politics. This will be led by **Nick Gregory.** While these are going on the first of two focus panels on the **Ron Paul** campaign and the Tampa experience will run in the smaller room. This will be led by **Andy Mukk** and will be repeated at 4 PM.

At 4 PM the second round of focus groups that will run until we need to start closing down at 4:45. In the main room there will be one on Rail led by **Cliff Slater**, a repeat of the **Roger Christie**, and another to be announced.

*Focus group comments are off the record and we will ask that no one be quoted without their permission.*

**Cost:** suggested \$25 donation

**Contact:** **Tracy Ryan** 1 (808) 534-1846 [tracyar@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:tracyar@hawaiiantel.net)

# They Did What?!

*Joe Kent, Ron Paul supporter, & Hawaii delegate to the Republican National Convention in Tampa shares his experiences.*

**The following is an excerpt from the blog [JoeKent.wordpress.com](http://JoeKent.wordpress.com), with posts for every day of a six day convention in Tampa, Florida, August, 2012.**

Day Five: The Convention

Today was the day. I tossed and turned all night, trying to think of more strategies to help Ron Paul. There were strategies flying all over the place. A rules change. A nomination spread. Lobbying the Santorum folks. On and on and on . . . we Ron Paul people were thinking of every angle to help our man.

Security going into the convention was tighter than the green zone in Iraq. Hundreds of military with guns walking the perimeter. We had to go through about five checkpoints, and we weren't allowed to bring anything from an umbrella to a banana. It was worse than the TSA which republicans are supposed to be against.

Once I got in the Times Forum, it was as if I had entered a giant television. Everything was so well lit, there wasn't a single shadow in the entire coliseum. A giant podium about three stories high stood in the center of the stage, along with a quadruple jumbo-tron in the background showing a FOX NEWS-Y image of American flags and rolling fields of wheat. There were video cameras following me everywhere – some seemed to just float in mid-air. It really was like being inside a TV, except I wanted to change the channel.

Just as I was finding my seat, I saw Ron Paul out of the corner of my eye. No – it couldn't be. Could it? It was! Sure enough, he had shown up on the convention floor in a show of solidarity with his delegates! I quickly pressed my way into the media surrounding him, and asked him, "May I give you a lei, Mr. Paul?"

"Sure!" he said, and I put the lei on him.

After that, there was a complete frenzy around him! Not only did he make a surprise appearance in a convention he wasn't supposed to be at, but he also had a Hawaiian lei on him! The media went nuts!

"Someone had thrown a lei on him to say he is greeted here favorably, as a rock star . . ." (Fox News)

"Paul walked around the floor wearing a red, white, and blue lei . . ." (ABC News)

"As Paul toured the convention floor – wearing a white dress shirt and green lei (yes, you read that right) . . ." (Washington Post)



It's funny that they didn't get the color of the lei correct. The lei was purple. I took a picture with him, and we all chanted so loudly that our voices were raw, "RON PAUL! RON PAUL!" The Romney folks had been trained to counter our chants with "ROMNEY! ROMNEY!" It was a total zoo!

I also gave another lei to Ashley Ryan, the Ron Paul supporter from Maine. She was a contested delegate, and she spoke at the Paul Rally two days before. I had the biggest crush on her, and I got a picture with her too! (But I have to ask her for it yet — so nervous!)

After a few minutes, Ron Paul left, and it was up to the delegates to do the best we could. Roger, the lead Ron Paul delegate from Iowa was leading the cavalry, and we stuck by his side. There were two plans. One was to submit a six state plurality to allow his name to be on the ballot. We got all the signatures, and we helped round up the media to present it to the vice chair of the event, so it wouldn't be lost somewhere. We made sure there were video cameras recording when we handed the signatures over.

We also lobbied people from our delegation to vote “No” on the rules change. The change would increase the number of states we would need from five to eight, making it impossible for us to get a plurality.

If it sounds confusing – it was! I was trying for dear life just to keep up – but I did. And I successfully lobbied everyone I talked to. I would just go up to people and say, “Excuse me? Can I lobby you for a minute about something?”

Then they would say, "Haha, at least you're honest! Okay sure!"

And I would say, "Well, we really want to vote for our man Ron Paul, and the only way we'll get to is if you vote 'no' to the rules change."

Then they said, "You know what? That sounds reasonable. You should be able to vote for the candidate you support." And so they agreed.

When it was time to vote, the ayes were like, "AYE!"

The no's were like,

[illegible]

Then the chairman banged his gavel, "The ayes have it."

Then we all started chanting "POINT OF ORDER! POINT OF ORDER! POINT OF ORDER!" Which the chairman completely ignored. The six delegations were calling the podium but they had disabled the phone system so no one could make a motion. Pretty soon they just cued the band and it was all over. The chairman had completely cheated, and didn't follow the rules.

That's when I realized that this wasn't democracy. It wasn't a republic. It didn't have anything to do with voting. It was a TV show. The whole voting process is just one giant television show, like an advertisement for Coca-Cola. There weren't any ideas. No debates. No real policies or principles put forth. It was all just a big Obama bashing television show. There is no such thing as democracy in America right now. Instead, it's something else, I call tele-mocracy.

And I realized that the Republicans were just obsessed with Obama. The whole time they talked about Obama, Obama, Obama! It's all they knew. Republicans are totally in love with Obama. It's all they can talk about! They can barely even focus on the candidates in front of their own faces. They've forgotten that a candidate needs to actually stand for something good. Their entire campaign is about bashing the other guy, so that no one will realize that the alternative has no real ideas to talk about.

They didn't even try to win our votes. All they would've had to do is say the word "Constitution" or "Federal Reserve," but I never heard it even once. No talk about the NDAA. No talk about ending the wars. No talk about protecting civil liberties, or cutting one trillion dollars from the budget. No ideas at all.

I wanted to leave, right then and there. But I also wanted to make sure my vote was counted by our Hawaii delegation. One thing I was happy about was during the roll call vote, our Hawaii delegation decided to announce the Ron Paul votes. They said, "Three for Ron Paul. And seventeen for Mitt Romney." They didn't have to do that. They could've just ignored the Ron Paul vote, like many other states did. But it made me feel really proud to have my vote recognized like that. I flew all this way, did all this work, and my vote was actually tallied somehow. Somehow that little instance of this whole process was a tiny bit fair and square. And that's all we wanted to begin with. We just want it to be fair and square. In fact, it made me feel a little bit like staying. But pretty soon all the Ron Paul supporters started walking out of the building, and I followed suit. It's one thing to lose, but it's another thing to lose illegitimately. In an effort to get more power, the National Republican Party lost the most powerful force of all – the Ron Paul Revolution.

#### Day Six: What Now?

We went back to the convention hall today, a little confused as to why exactly we were there in the first place. It seemed like we were walking through a cemetery. The party seemed dead. The process was dead. The presidential race was dead. And we were the lone survivors, who still held the embers of truth and liberty in the palm of our hands.

"So what are you going to do now?" is the question we got, over and over, from the media.

"We don't know," was our answer, over and over. Some of us might vote for Gary Johnson. Some of us might abstain. Some of us might write in a vote for Ron Paul. Or we could even vote for Obama or Romney. It was totally up in the air. Up until today, we had focused on giving our vote to one candidate, and now we were all undecided.

I'm not sure what I'm going to do, personally.

On the floor of the convention center, all the energy from yesterday seemed lost. There was no more cheering. Just polite golf claps. It seemed like every Ron Paul supporter I ran into came up with a different plan to get the attention of the media.

"We're all going to stage a walk-out!"

"Let's stage a walk-in!"

"Let's walk out, then walk in!"

"Let's all put on our Ron Paul t-shirts at once!"

It all just seemed so scattered. First we're walking out, then we're walking in, then we're wearing shirts, then we're not. It's like – hey everyone, we're all sneezing together! I mean, the media gets it. It was an unfair fight, and the process is a total sham.

Just then, I heard a Ron Paul video playing. It was Ron Paul, again! Except, he was on the big quadro-tron jumbo screen above the stage. They were playing a tribute to Ron Paul video, cutting to clips of him talking about the federal reserve, and the economy! I was shaken. I ran to the front of the convention hall, and hugged the first Ron Paul supporter I could. We stayed like that and watched the video, which was over before we knew it. The video seemed to last about 90 seconds – about as long as they allowed him to speak at one of the debates.

It was nice to see him on the video – but it was like the video you play after someone dies. He's not dead yet folks!

After that, Rand Paul talked, and I ran to the front again, trying to get excited about what he said. This was supposed to be the speech that fired up all the Ron Paul fans to vote for Mitt Romney. We all listened. Some photographers were trying to take a picture of me. "Could you smile please?" the photographer said. I mustered out a smile, but it wasn't genuine.



"We DID build that!" Rand Paul echoed. The same old line from last night's convention. Again and again, with the 'build that' line. All they are doing is taking lines from Obama's campaign, and flipping it around.

So where Obama says, "You didn't build that!"

The Republicans say, "We did build that!"

Obama says, "Yes we can!"

The Republicans say, "Yes we can do better!"

The whole tactic seems so lame and uninspired, and just proves my point that the entire Republican Party is totally obsessed with Obama. It's like watching little children fight, "No you can't! Yes I can! No you didn't! Yes I did!" It's so annoying. And as soon as I heard Rand Paul say, "We DID build that!" I walked out of the convention hall.

We went back to the Oasis club – that creepy place. Free drinks, free food, free massages, free everything. We were interviewed by a bunch of people, but we didn't have much to say, except reflect on the unfairness. But even that was already starting to get old to the media news cycle, always hungry for something different to say.

I was quoted by the Maui News as saying that I was thinking of running for office. It made it sound as if I was beginning my campaign or something! But not today. Not this year. Probably not in many years. But some day, I probably will. I'll probably lose too, but I will at least have a playbook to run on. It should be pretty easy, with all the tricks I learned from this trip.

First of all, I learned that you can be a good speaker, and still be soft spoken. Ron Paul is soft spoken. He's nice. It's just like Ron Paul always says, "Speak softly, and carry a big idea."

Secondly, I have my ideas down pat. I've read my economics. I've read my war and peace books. I've interviewed the politicians, and researched all the issues out there. If anyone ever asks me a question, I can easy turn to the liberty playbook, and come up with a home run answer.

Third, I learned that I have balls of steel. Jumping on stage after Gary Johnson, and speaking to a crowd of thousands. Putting a lei on Ron Paul when he entered the convention hall. Going into the lion's den of Neo-cons, and lobbying them to vote against the last minute rules change. It takes guts to be in politics, and I definitely have more than I thought I did.

But lastly, I will have the experience of being a delegate for Ron Paul to draw upon. That is important to a lot of people. He's seen as the most honest candidate who ever existed – the Thomas Jefferson of our time – and everybody seems to like him. Connecting myself to Ron Paul as my first step into the political process is about as good an entrance as can be. And I have a whole new liberty network of friends, from Hawaii, to Iowa, to Texas, to Maine. And with Ron Paul as a beacon, I have in-roads into any party I wish, from the democrats, to the libertarians, to the republicans. Sure, I'm no Ron Paul, but I can champion his ideas. Everyone is thinking about what we can do to help the freedom movement. Whether we run, or we write, or we fight the good fight, it's up to the rest of us to pick up where Ron Paul left off, and carry the torch of liberty.



Joe Kent gives Ron Paul a lei:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U6Yeh3GrvBU>

You can contact Joe at:

[joe\\_kent@hotmail.com](mailto:joe_kent@hotmail.com)

# Why I will be voting for Gary Johnson for President

*by Danny de Gracia, II*

This November, not only have I decided to vote for Gary Johnson, I have submitted my name to be a Libertarian elector in my state's Electoral College. It is my belief that this year is a time unlike any other in our nation's history and these exceptional times call upon us to make exceptional choices on behalf of our families, our neighbors, our communities and most importantly this great Republic we call the United States of America.

Those of you who feel the same way as I do no doubt have been looked at sideways and been the subject of ridicule and sometimes even contempt for saying that you will be voting Libertarian this election. Our critics often say that a Libertarian vote is an "irresponsible, wasted vote" and practitioners of the two-party system have constructed a mythical ongoing "stab in the back legend" of how third party votes have somehow been responsible for the election of individuals who undermined America.

Yet we know that nothing could be farther from the truth: to vote Libertarian is an act of great courage, moral initiative and faith that comes not capriciously but often after many heartbreaking sorrows and frustrations that none but you alone can understand. For some it may be that your business had to close its doors because you couldn't keep up with the cost of compliance to the regulatory regime and the effect inflation had on your bottom line. For still others it may be in the form of a folded U.S. flag you received in exchanged for a loved one fallen in Iraq or Afghanistan.

Whatever your reason is for voting Libertarian, the long gold line of our membership and candidates is a special calling that says to the world that you have chosen to stand for the worthy cause of freedom. And like the Bible's story of David which Scripture records that "All those who were in distress or debt or discontented gathered around him" we have as a presidential candidate a man who is attracting people from all across America of all backgrounds, political alignments and interests who are ready to vote for him because times are tough in America and the people are looking for true freedom and the restoration of the right to be left alone. Gary Johnson is the right man for 2012 and we need him in the Oval Office.

I am a second generation Filipino born on American soil. I never got to meet my paternal grandfather who came to Hawaii in the early 1900s in search of the opportunity to start his own electrical business and own a piece of the incredible dream the world knew to be America in those days. He spent many days sitting in the back of a Hawaii courtroom listening to cases being debated as he self-taught himself law or standing on the steps of the capitol, dreaming and telling his friends how one day he would be an elected legislator. But times were tough for Filipinos in those days and my grandfather worked and cared so much for his family that one day at age 43 he had a heart attack. My father was but an infant at that time, and my grandfather's dying instinct was to walk to my father's crib and he collapsed on the rails, his final words being, "God, please don't let my son end up like me."

My father would grow up an impoverished orphan, but he worked his way through college and during the Vietnam War would join the Air Force and in uniform he fought Soviet communism and defended America through some of the most troubling years of the Cold War, retiring as a colonel. The lesson I learned from his service and from the story of my grandfather before him is that freedom is precious and taking hold and preserving the American Dream takes men willing to keep alive the vision birthed by our forefathers, to bring to reality the things that they themselves could never have.



I refuse to believe that my grandfather died in vain and that my father fought the Soviets only to see what he resisted abroad become enacted at home. Today the United States of America is in her twilight with a collapsing economy, crushing national debt and politicians who are clueless to our human sufferings. The American Dream is nearly dead but we have a responsibility to stand fast and quicken that which remains. Our children and their children must not inherit the crises which have us against the rails. We must stand for liberty and stand for Gary Johnson in this election.

Do not be afraid of what a vote for Gary Johnson means for America. Be afraid rather of what will happen if we are absent from this call to form ranks and vote. Around us, America is collapsing. But within each and every single one of you is the America we all deserve. America without is in chains, but America within is free. We need to bring that America to reality and it starts with you, this November 6, 2012.

Be bold. Be brave. And be Libertarian with Gary Johnson.

*Danny de Gracia is a political scientist and a columnist with the [Washington Times Communities](#).*



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**[www.GaryJohnson2012.com](http://www.GaryJohnson2012.com)**

**[Gary Johnson on the drug war.](#)**

**[Gary Johnson on civil liberties.](#)**

**[Gary Johnson on taxes.](#)**

**[Gary Johnson on the Federal Reserve.](#)**

**[Gary Johnson on immigration.](#)**

**[Gary Johnson on defense.](#)**

**[Gary Johnson Libertarian Party nomination speech.](#)**

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*Elect...* **GARY JOHNSON** *PRESIDENT*

*Vote...* **N**  **BAMNEY**

**FREE  
BUMPER  
STICKERS**

Libertarian Party of Hawaii member Larry Bartley will mail to you FREE OF CHARGE the newest, available ONLY here, Gary Johnson bumper sticker pictured here. Larry designed and paid for the bumper sticker out of his own pocket, so only order those that will actually be used publicly - put on a car, trash can, anywhere publicly seen. Other similar designs are available free if you wish to print your own.

Email Larry directly at [barteng@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:barteng@hawaii.rr.com) to place the order. A complete mailing address is a must. Limit three per request.



# Editorial:

Hal Mason, an accountant retired after 27 years with IBM, has looked at the Federal budget, its revenues and expenses, and very simply illustrates the problem. According to Hal the numbers just aren't there for the nation to pay back its debt. <http://www.youtube-nocookie.com/embed/EW5IdwltaAc?rel=0>

Libertarian Party of Hawaii Chairman Jim Henshaw responds to Mr. Mason's assertion:

"The real problem is that the government is essentially a form of mafia, with great PR. Their budgetary problems are not my budgetary problems, except to the extent that they wish to ramp up their theft from me. Their inability to steal enough to pay off the promised goodies and bribes in exchange for votes is not a worry for me, other than how to keep their grubby paws out of my accounts. If they default on the bribes to voters, fine with me. If they default on the people foolish enough to lend such sociopaths money, fine with me too."

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## Notice:

### LPH members and friends

If you have a house where a yard sign would be helpful, please respond to so we can get you a sign.

Contact: Tracy Ryan

1 (808) 534-1846

[tracyar@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:tracyar@hawaiiantel.net)

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## Recommended Links:

[Advocates for Self-Government](#)  
[American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii](#)  
[Ayn Rand](#)  
[David D. Friedman](#)  
[Freedom Library](#)  
[Foolish Things Salon](#)  
[Future of Freedom Foundation](#)  
[Harry Browne](#)  
[Institute for Justice](#)  
[John Locke](#)  
[Jonathan Gullible - Ken Schoolland](#)  
[Lew Rockwell](#)  
[Libertarian Anarchism – Roderick T. Long](#)  
[Libertarian Party of Hawaii](#)  
[Libertarian Party \(UK\)](#)  
[Libertarische Partij \(Netherlands\)](#)  
[Milton Friedman](#)  
[Murray Rothbard](#)  
[Reason](#)  
[Smart Business Hawaii](#)  
[Tom Mullen](#)  
[Young Americans for Liberty](#)

[Alternate Solutions Institute \(Pakistan\)](#)  
[Antiwar](#)  
[Cato Institute](#)  
[Federalist Society](#)  
[Freeman Online](#)  
[Friedrich Hayek](#)  
[Grassroot Institute of Hawaii](#)  
[Independent Institute](#)  
[International Society for Individual Liberty](#)  
[John Stossel](#)  
[Law Enforcement Against Prohibition](#)  
[Liberal Democratic Party \(Australia\)](#)  
[Libertarian Party of America](#)  
[Libertarian Party of Hawaii - Discuss](#)  
[Libertarianism](#)  
[Liberty Unbound](#)  
[Mises Institute](#)  
[Partei der Vernunft \(Germany\)](#)  
[Scottish Libertarians](#)  
[Tibor Machan](#)  
[Walter E. Williams](#)



**We invite you to join**

# **The Libertarian Party**

Believing in and understanding of the pledge is central to Libertarianism.  
You may join by signing below:

*"I certify that I oppose the initiation of force to achieve political or social goals."*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

Salutation: Mr. Miss Mrs. Ms. Dr.

First Name: \* \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \* \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \* \_\_\_\_\_

Apt./Suite No.: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \* \_\_\_\_\_

State: \* \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \* \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \* \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership in the national Libertarian Party:  
\$25 per year**

Make check out to: **Libertarian National Committee**

Mail form & check to: 2600 Virginia Avenue, NW  
Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20037

Or click: [www.lp.org/membership](http://www.lp.org/membership)

Your dues includes: **The quarterly LPNews newspaper  
The Monday email bulletin**

**Membership in the Libertarian Party of Hawaii:  
\$20 per year**

Make check out to: **Libertarian Party of Hawaii**

Mail form & check to: 1658 Liholiho Street, #205  
Honolulu, HI 96822

Or click: [www.LibertarianPartyofHawaii.org/membership](http://www.LibertarianPartyofHawaii.org/membership)

Your dues includes: **The monthly Libertarian Hawaii News**

**Contributions welcome.**

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Political contributions are not tax-deductible.

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

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I also acknowledge that this contribution is made from a personal account for which I have the legal obligation to pay, and is not made by a corporate or business entity.