Committee for Ballot Access and Retention

Report to LPGa ExCom: 12 Dec 2019

This report is the exclusive opinion of the Chair. This will be the final report from this committee unless the ExCom requests otherwise.

Below is a summary of the main objectives from the previous reports. There are three points of focus for the LPGa in the 2020 elections.

I. Protecting our statewide ballot access through the PSC

This was covered thoroughly in the report of <u>09 Sept</u>. Suffice to say that if the LPGa does nothing else in 2020 we must have a candidate for at least one of the PSC offices up for election.

II. Being Responsible for the quality of our candidates

Refer to the report of 14 Oct. The point here is straight forward and should be known by every one of us committed to an effective LPGa. It is your, and my, responsibility to assure that all our candidates, and especially candidates vying for our ballot access for the high level offices, Senate and Governor, well truly represent our values.

III. The District Races: Where we will change the game, or not.

I've already covered this subject in the <u>09 Sept</u> report and the <u>11 Nov</u> report. We are confronted here with the unprecendented and no one of us knows the strategy that will provide us lasting success. Somehow we must make the effort. In any case, it all begins with willing candidates, and all of must do our honest best to create an environment conducive to success and positive experiences for all of us.

Who will stand for a districted race in 2020?

Some history and closing thoughts

Seared into my memory is election night 2000. This was the final day of the second Harry Browne campaign, and the election night celebration was at the Fox Theatre. Atlanta was chosen due to the high level of support the campaign received in Georgia. I was asked to represent the LPGa as I was LPGa Executive Director at the time and I arrived about an hour early.

Walking down Peachtree St toward the entrance of the Fox it was unforgettable to see "Harry Browne" and "Libertarian Party" on the famous maquee. Even more striking was the line of people, a steam of people already outside the building and winding down Peachtree. The Browne campaign had booked the Fox for an attendance of 600. Estimates of the final attendance were between 1800 and 2000. The lower level was standing room only, the balcony was packed and the Fire Marshalls were called to make sure the event met code restrictions. The night was crazy with excitement and I still reflect on that memory with awe.

I've observed and participated in many extraordinary examples of the commitment that our message of Freedom draws from people.

We've all experienced the Ron Paul Revolution.

All of this is real. Though its outward expression has diminished of late, I say it still exists.

The operative question: Can we create the conditions to draw this excitement from people again, to inspire a lasting vision of free humanity, to build a movement that can't be stopped?

Can we? It all begins with you, and I.

Signing off,

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