

# The Free State Project

*“Liberty in Our Lifetime”*



*The Quill*

## FREE STATE PROJECT VOTE AND MEMBER SURVEY RESULTS

*By Jason Sorens*

### First-Preference Votes:

1. New Hampshire 749 (29.5%)
2. Wyoming 498 (19.6%)
3. Delaware 284 (11.2%)
4. Alaska 253 (10.0%)
5. Montana 242 (9.5%)
6. Idaho 238 (9.4%)
7. Maine 118 (4.7%)
8. Vermont 97 (3.8%)
9. S. Dakota 32 (1.3%)
10. N. Dakota 24 (0.9%)

### Second-Preference Votes:

1. Montana 391 (16.3%)
2. New Hampshire 341 (14.2%)
3. Wyoming 326 (13.6%)
4. Maine 257 (10.7%)
5. Alaska 250 (10.4%)
6. Idaho 247 (10.3%)
7. Vermont 242 (10.1%)
8. Delaware 231 (9.6%)
9. S. Dakota 79 (3.3%)
10. N. Dakota 38 (1.6%)

**Condorcet Table:** (Y, X) presents votes for one state on the Y axis over another state on the X axis. For example, (WY, AK) is 1401, indicating that Wyoming had 1401 votes over Alaska. (AK, WY) is 825, so Wyoming defeats Alaska 1401–825.

	AK	DE	ID	MT	ND	NH	ME	SD	VT	WY
AK	0	1216	950	903	1418	866	1127	1353	1195	825
DE	1011	0	992	974	1296	622	987	1245	1015	911
ID	1269	1269	0	979	1677	910	1252	1598	1289	878
MT	1296	1295	1152	0	1773	970	1290	1677	1314	954
ND	717	867	465	354	0	574	757	823	810	395
NH	1403	1551	1395	1338	1682	0	1549	1631	1623	1279
ME	1097	1146	1016	969	1430	620	0	1365	1108	960
SD	808	938	554	459	1101	632	836	0	905	422
VT	1032	1087	973	935	1354	525	996	1269	0	903
WY	1401	1376	1286	1196	1758	1041	1325	1728	1360	0

### Ranking of the States:

1. New Hampshire defeated all states and Wyoming 1279–1041
2. Wyoming defeated all states except New Hampshire, and defeated Montana 1196–954
3. Montana defeated all states except Wyoming and New Hampshire, and defeated Idaho 1152–979
4. Idaho lost to the above and defeated Alaska 1269–950
5. Alaska lost to the above and defeated Maine 1127–1097
6. Maine lost to the above and defeated Vermont 1108–996
7. Vermont lost to the above and defeated Delaware 1087–1015
8. Delaware lost to the above and defeated South Dakota 1245–938
9. South Dakota lost to the above and defeated North Dakota 1101–823
10. North Dakota lost to all states

The Condorcet results, as indicated above, were very regular. New Hampshire won a clear majority against Wyoming, and every state down the line won a clear majority against the state below it, except that Maine and Alaska were very close. Personally, I was surprised that Maine and Alaska did so well, and that Vermont, Dela-

ware and South Dakota did so poorly. The most overwhelming defeat was North Dakota’s at the hands of Montana, 1773–354. *Ouch!*

If all Alaska, Montana, Idaho, and Dakotas first-preference voters had ranked Wyoming above New Hampshire, and all Delaware, Maine and Vermont first-preference voters had ranked New Hampshire over Wyoming, Wyoming would have won against New Hampshire by a very slim margin, 1287–1248, which is more than the number of voters because of the first-place ties. New Hampshire won so handily since so many Alaska, Montana, Idaho and

Dakotas voters ended up ranking New Hampshire above Wyoming. This isn’t a question of “splitting the vote,” which is impossible under Condorcet voting; New Hampshire was just the compromise candidate. Of the 238 people in the whole sample who ranked Idaho first, 174 put Wyoming above New Hampshire, and 55 put New Hampshire above Wyoming; of the 242 who put Montana first, 182 put Wyoming above New Hampshire, and 49 put New Hampshire above Wyoming. These figures sound lopsided, but New Hampshire had even more solid support from other Eastern state supporters. Of the 282 who put Delaware first, 217 put New Hampshire above Wyoming, and 45 put Wyoming above New Hampshire. Maine and Vermont supporters were even more lopsided in their support of New Hampshire above Wyoming. Interestingly, Delaware did so poorly in the final ranking, despite its third-highest number of first-preference votes, because of its whopping number of last-place votes.

**Turnout:** Out of a possible 5,170, 2,388 ballots were cast (46%).

There were several reasons for the modest turnout, among which: 1) The U.S. Postal Service took much more time than expected to deliver the voting packets, and never delivered

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Signed-Up Members  
as of  
September 10, 2003:  
**5,454**

#### Tenth-Preference Votes

1. Delaware 606(15.1%)
2. Alaska 593(14.8%)
3. N. Dakota 567(14.2%)
4. S. Dakota 461(11.5%)
5. Vermont 418(10.4%)
6. Maine 344 (8.6%)
7. New Hampshire 280 (7.0%)
8. Wyoming 255 (6.4%)
9. Idaho 254 (6.3%)
10. Montana 227 (5.7%)

## Gold & Silver

### The financial state of the FSP

*By Debra Ricketts*

**W**e've come a long way fellow Porcupines! Five thousand members and now the state vote! Who would have thought we'd get this far so fast? Because of the happy chaos surrounding the vote, I've decided to push off our expenditure graphs and charts until next month.

We are so very grateful for the donations that poured in with the ballots. (Any cursing that may have occurred as I was manually entering *hundreds* of individual donations into our accounting software should be disregarded.) We have

#### Porcupine Profile — Monica Granger

*By Tim Condon*

Our Free State Project ("FSP") Porcupine profile this month is Monica Granger, who is a student at the University of Houston ("UH") with a double major in Economics and Political Science, President of the College Libertarians at UH, and a devoted Porcupine who chose not to opt out of any state.

"I intend to move to the Free State as soon as possible," says Monica, but first intends to finish her bachelors' degrees at UH, after which she'll "attend graduate school to achieve a master's degree in Austrian Economics, and then attend law or business school."

Monica originally found out about the FSP from her boyfriend, who is also a member of the College Libertarians at UH. "I was immediately hooked," she says, "both on the philosophical idea, and the practicality of the plan itself. It truly is a plan for 'Liberty in Our Lifetimes.'" After joining up, it didn't take her very long to get active. She's a "volunteer media interviewee," and represented the FSP at the Louisiana Libertarian Party state convention where she gave a speech about the movement. "I was gratified when a member came up to me and said that he was glad I had come, because his wife was having serious doubts about moving, and hearing me speak assuaged some of her fears."

Monica also spreads the message on campus. "I have two FSP T-shirts that I wear quite a bit, and also loan interest free to my boyfriend," she jokes. Plus she's taken it upon herself to take some of the posters from the FSP Web site and print them on do-it-yourself stickers. "I've stuck those around campus, on my notebook, and given them to others," she says. "I also have an FSP bumper sticker on my backpack as well as one that I sport proudly on my automobile."

How did Monica get to be such an amazing libertarian activist? "I began studying libertarianism in high school because my father is a libertarian," she explained. "After finding out more about libertarianism, I decided at the age of 16 or 17 that I was undoubtedly a libertarian." At the same time, she says, "I realized that libertarianism could quite possibly be the natural state of being for humans. No one wants their property forcefully removed from them, and no one wants to be forced to do something that they don't value. Libertarianism is intuitive, and based upon principles so simple a child could understand."

When will we see Monica in the Free State? "Depending upon the options available," she says, "I will either finish my schooling 'at home,' or take advantage of the five-year grace period before moving with my dog Sheba to the Free State." In the meantime, however, "I think the FSP will still need activists in the other states to draw more individuals."

With members like her, the FSP can't possibly fail. Thanks for all that you're doing for us and for freedom, Monica!

just under \$21,000 in our brick-and-mortar bank account, and another \$1,100 in our PayPal account.

We're completely paid up for all of our printing (\$5,200) as well as for the ECL temp (\$2,000). We also paid for an advertisement in the *Free Liberal* (\$300). In fact, our only outstanding costs will be reimbursing the board members who attended the state announcement in New York City.

In other words, thanks to your generosity, we're in a very comfortable position to launch our biggest advertising blitz yet!

Until next month and onward toward Freedom! ✨

## From The President

*By Jason Sorens*

**A**s announced, I've stepped down as the Free State Project ("FSP") thereby, allowing a new President to be chosen from New Hampshire, or who will be soon moving to New Hampshire, while continuing to serve as Chairman of the Board. Also, Debra Ricketts is resigning her position as Treasurer as of December 31. However, there are more leadership changes to announce. Debra Ricketts and Elizabeth McKinstry resigned from the Board of Directors so that new blood can be brought in. At the last Board meeting, Amanda Maxwell and Mary Lou Seymour were promoted to the Board of Directors. They have been active with the FSP since the beginning and have taken an active role in shaping policy. We are pleased to have them formally contributing now.

We also amended the bylaws so that Porcupines may now vote in future Board elections, should the Board wish to select new Directors that way. The terms on the Board are now staggered, so that Tim Condon's term will end in January 2004, Mary Lou Seymour's term will end in May 2004, Matt Cheselka's term will end in September 2004, Amanda Maxwell's term will end in January 2005, and my term will end in May 2005. Furthermore, Elizabeth McKinstry has decided that she would not like to take on the duties of Acting President while we conduct a search for a new President, so I've agreed to stay on as Acting President for the time being. Elizabeth will stay on as our leading media representative, but her job does not allow her to spend time on extraneous activities.

So the search for a new President is now open! We are looking for an intelligent, well-spoken person who will be a good public face for the FSP, a person who is talented at volunteer management (previous experience not required), someone who unites and is respected by all the different kinds of Porcupines in the FSP, and someone who lives in or will soon be moving to New Hampshire. It goes without saying that the person should be fully committed to the FSP and have the time and inclination to work hard for the FSP's success. Obviously, the Board has

some candidates in mind, but applications are open to everyone. Please submit these to [jsorens@freestateproject.org](mailto:jsorens@freestateproject.org).

We are also looking for a new Treasurer and applications for this position are also open. The Treasurer, Vice President and President will no longer serve on the Board, but will be accountable to the Board. They will have wide discretion within their areas of expertise, and as incentive to draw talent, we are offering to pay for high-speed Internet access for our new President and Treasurer.

In closing, it's been an honor and a privilege to serve as the FSP's President and I can't wait to meet of all you in New Hampshire.

Here's to the first of many steps toward freedom in our lifetimes! ✨

# Vote Results

Continued from page 1

some of them. Some people received their ballots after the original, printed deadline and simply threw them away. 2) The notarization requirement and the limited methods for returning the ballot, which was intentional, made sure that only those willing to take time and effort were able to vote. 3) Some people didn't care which state won, and abstained. 4) Some people were out of town or out of the country during most of or all of the balloting period. 5) Some people are undoubtedly "false members," who signed up on the Web site but aren't really committed. In order to weed out the people in category 5, we will send a mailing to all nonvoters, asking them to recommit to the Free State Project. If we get no response, they will be deleted.

## Opt-outs:

One thousand and twenty-one people opted out of New Hampshire as of September 10. That means our membership is down to around 4,600 immediately after the vote. However, we will send a letter to the people who opted out of New Hampshire asking them to recommit. In the meantime, we expect to make up this membership drop with just a few weeks' recruiting.

## Regional Voting Patterns:

It is interesting to see just how widespread New Hampshire's support was. I have tabulated first-preference vote percentages for each of the following census division of the country. (Note that percentages do not add up to 100% because only the top five are reported, and some people gave ties for first place.)

- Armed Forces — 67% for New Hampshire, 33% for Wyoming
- Canada — 36% for Alaska, 29% for Montana, 21% for New Hampshire, 14% for Maine, 7% for Delaware and Wyoming
- East North Central (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Wyoming) — 28% for New Hampshire, 23% for Wyoming, 13% for Montana and Alaska, 9% for Delaware
- East South Central (Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama) — 44% for New Hampshire, 19% for Wyoming, 11% for Alaska and Montana, 8% for Delaware
- Middle Atlantic (New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey) — 37% for New Hampshire, 31% for Delaware, 10% for Wyoming, 8% for Montana, 7% for Alaska
- Mountain (Montana, Idaho, Utah, Nevada, Wyoming, Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico) — 39% for Wyoming, 22% for Idaho, 15% for Montana, 13% for New Hampshire, 8% for Alaska
- New England (Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine) — 69% for New Hampshire, 10% for Maine, 8% for Vermont, 5% for Wyoming and Montana
- Other Foreign Countries — 33% for New Hampshire, 29% for Alaska, 21% for Wyoming, 8% for Idaho, 4% for Delaware and Montana
- Pacific (California, Washington, Oregon) — 23% for Wyoming, 21% for New Hampshire, 19% for Idaho, 14% for Alaska, 13% for Montana
- Puerto Rico — 100% for New Hampshire
- South Atlantic (Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida) — 32% for New Hampshire, 20% for Wyoming, 20%

for Delaware, 11% for Alaska, 9% for Montana

- West North Central (Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri) — 27% for New Hampshire, 21% for Wyoming, 14% for Alaska, 11% for South Dakota, 8% for Maine
- West South Central (Oklahoma, Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana) — 28% for New Hampshire, 22% for Wyoming, 13% for Idaho, 12% for Alaska, 8% for Delaware

The speculation that Southerners would vote for Delaware or for the West disproportionately turned out to be false, except that Maryland residents voted heavily for Delaware. The South and Midwest were the "median voters" in this election, and they voted, on balance, for New Hampshire above Wyoming. New Hampshire was the Condorcet winner in all U.S. divisions except Pacific, Mountain, and West North Central, where Wyoming was the Condorcet winner.

If a Condorcet election had been conducted just among those west of the Mississippi River, Wyoming would have won over New Hampshire by a slim majority. If a Condorcet election had been conducted just among those east of the Mississippi River, New Hampshire would have won by a huge majority. So the outcome of the election depends on the fact that Westerners were overall quite favorable toward New Hampshire. Of the 223 members from the Pacific states who ranked Montana, Idaho or Wyoming first, four gave New Hampshire a tie for first, 18 put New Hampshire in second, 18 put New Hampshire in third, and 25 put New Hampshire in fourth. Thus, 29% of even just the *pro-West* Pacific members did not vote en bloc for Western states over New Hampshire. In summary, the Condorcet method did what it was supposed to do: find a compromise candidate acceptable to most voters.

## Member Survey

- Education: Did not finish high school (1%), High-school grad (8%), Some college (41%), Bachelor's degree (32%), Postgraduate degree (18%)
- Age: 18–34 (38%), 35–49 (37%), 50–64 (21%), 65 or over (4%)
- Income: Under \$20,000 per annum (15%), \$21,000–\$59,000 (44%), \$60,000–\$199,000 (38%), over \$200,000 (2%)
- Will move: Within three years (53%), after reaching 20,000 commitments (47%)
- Number of family moving with: None (38%), one (35%), two (12%), three (10%), four (4%), more than four (0.3%)
- Industry figures are not available yet



## FSP Board of Directors

**Jason Sorens,**  
President

**Elizabeth McKinstry,**  
Vice President

**Debra Ricketts,**  
Treasurer

**Tim Condon,**  
Member Services

**Matt Cheselka,**  
Technology

## Organizers

**Stephen Cobb,**  
Secretary

**Amanda Maxwell,**  
Organization/Publicity

**Mary Lou Seymour,**  
Publicity/Analysis

## Contact Us:

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# The Quill

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## Our Staff:

**Mary Lou Seymour,**  
Project Manager

**Devera Morgan,**  
Design & Layout

**Ivan Santana,**  
Copyeditor

**Amanda Maxwell,**  
Events Calendar

## FREE STATE PROJECT EVENTS

**October 4, 2003** —Citizens' Grand Jury  
Penacook, N.H.  
Sponsored by NH Jail4Judges

**October 8, 2003** — At 7 p.m., Ms. Amanda Phillips will address the Pioneer Valley Libertarian Association at their monthly meeting at Bickford's Family Restaurant, corner of Old Boston Highway and Pasco Road, Springfield, Mass.

**October 19, 2003** — At 6 p.m., Ms. Amanda Phillips will speak with the Worcester County Libertarian Association at their monthly meeting at Tweed's Restaurant, 231 Grove Street, Worcester, Mass.

**November 1, 2003**  
N.H. Liberty Expo  
Highlander Inn, Manchester N.H.  
Featuring N.H. Governor Craig Benson and Richard Boddie of California. Register online at <http://www.lpnh.org/convention-2003.html>. Vendor tables still available.

**November 4, 2003** — Mr. Keith Murphy will address the Patrick Henry Supper Club in Richmond, Va. The meeting lasts from 7-9 p.m.; for more information see [richmondliberty.org](http://richmondliberty.org).

Fully Informed Jury Association Fifth National Conference  
November 7-9, 2003 Ft Lauderdale, Florida  
Elizabeth McKinstry will speak on Sunday, Time TBA  
FSP will have a table in the conference hall.  
Ft. Lauderdale Marriott North, 6650 N Andrews Ave, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33309  
Visit [www.fija.org](http://www.fija.org) or write FIJA PO Box 5570 Helena, MT 59604

## LOCAL GROUPS

Dallas/Ft. Worth Monthly Meeting  
When: Third Saturday of the month, 3 p.m.  
Where: TBA  
Contact: Aaron Holding at [kesthesculptor@bbnow.net](mailto:kesthesculptor@bbnow.net)

Kansas City Area  
Contact Rich at [richj@northcs.com](mailto:richj@northcs.com)  
Rich is eager to meet with any Porcupines (or potential Porcupines) in the area. Give him a shout!!

TriState FSP (NY, NJ, CT)  
Meetup with local Free State Project supporters to celebrate and discuss the chosen state. <http://fsp.meetup.com/>  
Wednesday, October 15 @ 8 p.m.  
(third Wednesday of every month)  
Essex Lounge 120 Essex Street, Lower East Side, Manhattan  
Respond to Thomas Ruks at [TRuksLP@yahoo.com](mailto:TRuksLP@yahoo.com), or [TriState\\_FSP@yahoogroups.com](mailto:TriState_FSP@yahoogroups.com)  
[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TriState\\_FSP/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TriState_FSP/)

**October 18, 2003** — 5 p.m. til the last person leaves  
State Announcement Party  
Hull Street Blues, in South Baltimore, Md.  
Please RSVP to [keithrmurphy@comcast.net](mailto:keithrmurphy@comcast.net) so I can have a separate room set aside if necessary.  
Anyone who is interested in joining the FSP, and friends of members, is absolutely welcome.

## The Free State Project

*"Liberty in Our Lifetime"*

**565 College Drive, Suite #C-160  
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