



Skip a Meal to Feed the Greens

**A Business Plan to Fund the
Petition Drive for Ballot Access for the Georgia Green Party,
and to build an Independent Progressive Political Voice in Georgia**

Our Ten Key Values:

Ecological Wisdom

Grassroots Democracy

Social Justice

Peace and Non-Violence

Community-Based Economics

Respect for Diversity

Decentralization

Feminism

Personal & Global Responsibility

Future Focus on Sustainability

The Georgia Green Party

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<http://www.greens.org/georgia/>

Executive Summary

This Plan has been conceived as a means of building on the momentum created by a team of volunteers and in-kind donors who have created the foundation for significant growth and exposure for the Georgia Green Party. We have laid the groundwork and proven our ability to generate grass-roots results, and are ready to take a big step forward and put the Georgia Green Party on the ballot to give our candidates the needed exposure for electoral success.

Statewide ballot access in Georgia is a daunting task requiring 40,000 verified petition signatories. Grass-roots volunteer efforts have generated 5,000 signatures, however, as other States have successfully proven, *paid petitioners* are the key to success in this drive.

We have recently been endowed with a single pledge of \$40,000 to assist in this effort, however this pledge is only a start and is contingent on local fundraising activities to supplement it and reach the estimated goal of \$60-70,000 to be raised before the deadline for ballot access approval.

The fundraising technique of 'Skipping a Meal to Feed the Greens' is simple in nature and will help us reach the fundraising goals for the Petition Drive and continued goals for candidates once we achieve ballot access. We are asking both for single contributions written specifically for our segregated Ballot Access Account as well as monthly Pledges for the Party's general operations, the amount based on what you would typically spend on a single restaurant meal. It is important for people to understand that what they spend on just one meal per month can make a real difference for the political future of Georgia.

Platinum Level (3 star restaurant meal for 2).....\$100/mo

Gold Level (2 star restaurant meal for 2).....\$50/mo

Silver Level (burrito or pizza for 2).....\$25/mo

For copies of this ***Give up a Meal a Month to Feed the Greens Appeal***, link to:

<http://www.greens.org/georgia/pdf/FeedTheGreens.pdf>

for just the Pledge Form, itself, download:

<http://www.greens.org/georgia/pdf/FeedTheGreens-PledgeForm.pdf>

A Modest Proposal for Building Independent Progressive Political Power in Georgia

Objective

The Georgia Green Party first organized as a statewide entity in 1995, filing its governing documents with the Secretary of State in May of 1996.

Our goal as the Georgia Green Party is to effectuate the policy and cultural shifts necessary to achieve peace, justice and sustainability for all people on this Planet. We believe that building a "deep" democracy that meaningfully involves people in the decisions which effect our lives is a key strategy for achieving these goals.

Our purpose as the Georgia Green Party is to build an institutional base of political power to advance these goals which is independent of the two wings of the corporate Party.

Our short term objectives for this year toward realizing this purpose is to obtain and retain ballot access for our Party and its candidates.

Party Platform

Our state Party's Platform was adopted and is subject to amendment by our annual Nominating Conventions. It advocates for reform on a range of issues from Agriculture to Veterans, including environmental protection, economic development, taxation, education and the criminal justice system. It shows that our Party has thought deeply on a wide range of issues and is prepared to govern. The complete text of our Platform is available on-line at:

<http://www.greens.org/georgia/pdf/GvrnDocs/Platform-2003.pdf>

But to give you a sense of that Platform, we reprint here as an appendix our Priority Agenda and the Platform Planks which underscore these key campaigns which serve as the public face of our Party.

Ballot Access and Party status

The Georgia Election Code draws a distinction between a Political Party (O.C.G.A. 21-2-2(25) which has ballot access and nominates by Primary) and a Political Body (O.C.G.A. 21-2-2(23) which lacks a ballot line and must nominate by Convention and Petition). At O.C.G.A. 21-2-180 et seq, the process for obtaining and retaining ballot access for the state wide candidates of a Political Body is laid out. In short, a statewide slate must gather petition signatures from 1% of the registered electorate (roughly 40,000 voters) to obtain a ballot line and achieve the votes of a like number of voters once every two years to retain such access.

Whether a political body had obtained or retained ballot access under this rule, its candidates for local office are still required to circulate petitions for ballot access distinct from the unified state-wide slate petitions. This process is governed by O.C.G.A. 21-2-170 et seq and requires 5% of the registered electorate in a district to sign a petition in support of a political body (or independent) candidate. No provision is made for retaining ballot access for local offices except qualifying as a political party by taking 20% of the vote for President or Governor, or by running for re-election having previously won election as the nominee of a political body.

While the Election Code requires nomination by a primary for Party's partisan candidates and nomination by petition and convention for a Political Body's partisan candidates, for non-partisan races a candidate merely needs to pay a filing fee and file the candidate's affidavit to access a place on the ballot. The Georgia Election Code requires action by a political body's nominating convention to place a candidate for partisan office on the ballot. The Nominating Rules of the Georgia Green Party permit either the Party's Annual Convention or the Party's State Executive Committee, known in the By-Laws as the Coordinating Council, to endorse a candidate in a non-partisan race.

Our next step as a new political party is to achieve and retain ballot access under the 21-2-180 rule by collecting and filing, not later than July 13th, 2004, 38,113 valid signatures.

Accomplishments/capabilities

We are building on a base of eight years of organizing in Georgia. In general, we are currently:

- staffing an office,
- holding an Annual Convention (2004 is our eighth),
- supporting the development of local affiliates (existing affiliates in six counties, in communication with Green organizers in other counties),
- supporting candidates nominated or endorsed by our Party (twenty-seven since 1998 and currently communicating with five additional potential candidates, other than Presidential candidates, for the 2004 cycle),
- supporting members' efforts to organize campaign committees for their Presidential candidates of choice,
- building a membership services program to serve our 400 plus members who have contributed in the past and which will encourage their ongoing support,
- working an election reform agenda at the state Assembly (including in the 2004 session a bill to democratize Georgia's ballot access regime and two bills to require voter verified auditable paper ballots),

- publishing two or three newsletters each year (since 2000),
- publishing five to seven Internal Discussion Bulletins each year (since 1998, to facilitate our internal decision-making process),
- administering several email lists for public outreach, membership education and internal deliberations,
- publishing and distributing to the media and internally four to twelve press releases each month, and
- building an Information Technology infrastructure to support our affiliates, candidates, and campaigns with databases of registered voters, phone number matching, databases of working media in Georgia, web site and email list hosting, out-call and out-fax servers, a Precinct Campaign Leaders Support application and a petition signature verification application. This infrastructure already includes a server rack in the office with an application server (biko), a fax server (being tested), an outcall server (gpgadialer), a Samba server (planned) and an LTSP (Linux Terminal Server Project) server (being tested, which permits us to support multiple computer workstations at minimal cost). In addition, off-site, we have a database server (gpga) in Atlanta and share capacity on a mail and web server (pk.greens.org) hosted by the Green Internet Society in San Jose California.

With respect to preparations for our ballot access drive, we have in place the following infrastructure to support this effort.

We are already staffing an Office, equipped with eight computer work stations and two phone lines (with the capacity of building to five or more phone lines, funding contingent).

We have named Melody Powell as our Petition Drive Coordinator for the 2004 campaign cycle. Our Party's governing Coordinating Council has already authorized us to contract for petition circulators under two different compensation formulas: one paying a commission on fund-raising and another paying a piece rate for verifiable signatures should our officers determine that these fund raising efforts have been sufficiently successful to permit us to honor such a contract.

We have the lists of voters who signed our 1998 and 2000 Petitions.

We have an application called PetVerify2004, which will permit us to track those voters and others who may yet sign our 2004 petition, pre-verify signatures as likely valid and build a list of voters who support our right to ballot access so they might be later contacted in support of our campaigns.

We also continue to develop PCLSupport (or Precinct Campaign Leaders Support Application) which will put voter lists, church lists, media lists, and other essential campaign tools in the hands of county and precinct level campaign leadership.

We are receiving emails from several web forms identifying new Party volunteers willing to help us with our ballot access work.

A Work Plan for Ballot Access

Having opened an office and named a Petition Drive Coordinator, our ballot access work plan includes the following elements:

- stepping up the urgency by rescheduling our monthly ballot access petition drive meetings as bi-monthly and eventually as weekly gatherings here at our office while encouraging similar meetings at other venues around the state;
- printing petition circulators packages (see Appendix E) for use in responding to and supporting new ballot access volunteers;
- exploring opportunities for cooperation with the campaigns of candidates seeking our nomination for national, state-wide or local office;
- broadly advertising our existing offer to contract with self-funded petition circulators;
- further developing our PetVerify application to include a reporting module which will permit the automated tabulation of collected and pre-verified signatures;
- subject to adequate fundraising, contracting with petition circulators on a per signature basis as authorized by a January 31st, 2004 resolution of our Coordinating Council;
- building a presence at our office and volunteer participation in conducting office work in support of Party operations, and particularly in our ballot access efforts;
- coordinating volunteer and contract petition circulators coverage of large public gatherings;
- exploring how our existing automated dialing "outcall" server can be used to pre-identify voters supportive of our ballot access petition for efficient door-to-door signature collection.

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Appendix A: Budget

Our state Party's Budget and Fiscal Policy permit Party funds to be spent on our ballot access work in two ways:

(1) revenue raised by self-funded contract solicitors is deposited in a segregated Fundraising Reserve Account, from which a commission on fundraising may be paid to contractors; or

(2) revenues from this (and other) special appeals intended to fund our ballot access work may be deposited in a segregated Ballot Access Account, from which funds may be spent on the overhead needed to support ballot access work and “Should the Quick Decision Council find that sufficient funds have been raised in the segregated Ballot Access Account of the Georgia Green Party and that the successful completion of the petition drive might be obtained by doing so, the Quick Decision Council is authorized to offer piece rate compensation for the collection of valid signatures.”

E. Fundraising Reserve Account

Ballot Access Petition Circulators Team

Petition Circulators	\$110,500.00
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(per circulator)

Contract Stipends	\$7,800.00
Bonus Account	\$650.00
Merchandise Inventory	\$1,300.00
Material Costs	\$780.00
Travel Expenses	\$520.00

G. Ballot Access Account

Income:	\$50,000.00
Special Appeals	\$50,000.00

Expenses:	\$50,000.00
Signature Collection Contracts	
	\$31,000.00
Travel	\$10,000.00
Printing and Materials	\$5,000.00
Postage	\$3,000.00
Recognitions and Awards	\$1,000.00

Appendix B: Officers / Staff bios

Party Officers --

Badili Jones, Co-Chair

Badili Jones serves as the Co-Chair to both The Georgia Green Party and The Green Party of the United States. He was active in the early efforts to organize the national Party's Black Caucus. He came to social change activism at fourteen years of age when he fundraised and organized a cultural trip to Kenya for his high school's African American cultural group, The Circle. Through his college years, he participated in work, including the university divestment movement, to support the African Liberation struggles throughout Southern Africa including Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Angola and to end the Apartheid regime in South Africa. As a resident of New Jersey, he was active with work place organizing efforts and in community organizing to end police brutality. Since moving to Atlanta, he has been active with ALGA, the African-American Lesbian Gay Alliance, with Second Sunday and In the Life. He worked for a while for AID-Atlanta doing AIDS prevention education work. He worked as a union organizing for UNITE. Badili Jones is a frequent speaker before campus groups, is currently active with the Black Radical Congress and with Jobs with Justice.

Denice Traina, Co-Chair and Press Secretary

Denice Traina is a practicing licensed physical therapist who has resided in Richmond County since 1983. She has been active with the Green Party since the 2000 Presidential election when her respect and admiration for Ralph Nader drew her to the Party. Since joining she has promoted peace and justice issues, ballot access, Voters Choice reforms, childrens rights, Repeal of the Patriot Act and a moratorium on the death penalty. She has worked on behalf of immigrants regarding drivers licenses and their access to health care. Closer to home she has given testimony to the Department of Energy regarding its plans to ship nuclear waste to SRS and to upgrade its facility to produce MOX fuel and to manufacture the triggers for nuclear bombs. Besides campaigning against privatization of water in our State, she currently serves as Secretary of the Green Party of Richmond County and as one of its Delegates to the Party's State Convention. She also serves as Press Secretary for the Georgia Green Party.

Harry Lyde, Treasurer

Harry Lyde served two terms on Board of Education for New York City, District #13 and was the 2002 Georgia Green Party nominee for State Representative in District #146, including parts of Glynn, McIntosh, Liberty and Bryan Counties. He is the father to seven (including two step children), the brother to thirty siblings and the son of Rev. N.

L. and Mrs. Geneiva Lyde of Brunswick Georgia. He served fifteen years with the New York City Police Department. He completed his graduate studies at Maymount College in New York, served on Board of Trustees of Emmanuel Baptist Church, on an Advisory Committee to New York State Senator Velman Montgomery and an Advisory Board to New York Congressman Major Owens' Think Tank.

Adam Shapiro, Secretary and Membership Development Coordinator

Adam Shapiro produces and hosts *Current Events*, a weekly show on WRFG, Radio Free Georgia. He serves as the First Vice President of the South Metro Atlanta Chapter of the American Council of the Blind and has been involved with various blindness organizations since 1979. He is a member of the Elderly and Disabled Access Advisory Committee (EDAAC) for the Metro Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority as a representative for the the blindness community. He is also active with the Bet Havrim Social Justice Committee at his Synagogue.

Staff Roles --

Hugh Esco, Political Coordinator

Hugh Esco is under contract with the Party as its Political Coordinator. He was the founding Secretary of the Georgia Green Party, has twice run as the Party's nominee for Lieutenant Governor of Georgia, and in 2003 ran on the ballot with the Party's endorsement in a Special Election for State Representative in House District #8 which includes Rabun, Towns and Union County, plus the Northern precincts of White County. He has advocated at the Georgia General Assembly for a range of progressive organizations since 1989 and on behalf of the Georgia Green Party since 1999. He represents the Green Party on the Board of Voter Choice Coalition, which he chairs. The Voter Choice Coalition is a multi-partisan election reform group advocating open ballot access, proportional representation and a transparent and auditable election system.

Melody Powell, Petition Drive Coordinator

Born Melody Kelley and raised in South Carolina, Ms. Powell has a BA in Political Science from Winthrop University. She served as the 5th District Coordinator for the SC Young Democrats in the early 80's, but always wondered why the Democrats pandered to Reaganites. In 1984, she moved to Atlanta to attend Emory Law School, intent on being an activist lawyer before changing her plans. Since moving to Atlanta, she has joined several different political organizations, including NOW and the ACLU. She formerly worked for Georgia Environmental Project as a canvasser. Melody joined the Green Party about two years ago because understanding that if the Greens didn't "reign in corporate power, no one else will".

James Jones, Director of Information Technology Development

James Jones serves in a volunteer capacity as the Director of Information Technology Development for the Georgia Green Party. In that capacity he has consulted on and overseen the development of the Party's IT infrastructure since 2000. Previously, he served as the Web Clerk for the Party, almost since becoming active with Green Party organizing at the end of 1998. He has served as a co-chair of the Green Party of Fulton County and is active with Solidarity, Jobs with Justice and Atlanta Palestinian Solidarity. He works as a systems administrator for the Georgia State University College of Law.

Appendix C: Priority Agenda of the Georgia Green Party

A. Non-Violent Juvenile Offender Sentencing Reform Act:

No youth accused or convicted of a non-violent crime should be incarcerated. Communities, courts, local and state government should fund alternatives to incarceration and the elements of a restorative justice system.

B. Healthy School Lunches Act:

Prohibit the use of BGH-treated dairy products, irradiated meats and produce and the products of genetic engineering in the preparation of school lunches. Phase-out over seven years all non-organic meats and produce from school lunches. Establish a unit of the Department of Agriculture to cooperate with the Georgia Organic Growers Association to assist farmers in the transition from the use of chemical inputs to operating practices that will allow for Organic Certification.

C. Democratically Financed Elections Act:

Prohibit the use of private money for public elections. Establish the Georgia Public Elections Campaign Fund. Establish a method of qualifying for an equitable share of the Fund to allow all candidates for public office access to the resources necessary to effectively campaign to the voting public.

D. Create a Pollution Victim's Compensation Fund

to receive dedicated revenue from a pollution tax on all releases reportable in the Toxic Release Inventory. The Fund is to be divided into separate accounts and disbursed to pay a) the health-care costs of Pollution Victims; b) providing technical assistance to community groups in holding responsible corporations accountable for containing and cleaning up uncontrolled toxic sites; c) funding grants for technical assistance by the Office of Pollution Prevention to be matched by and to assist polluting industries to retool production processes to reduce reportable discharges; and d) for retraining, job placement and worker transition costs associated with displacement created by production process changes motivated by pollution prevention efforts.

E. Open the Electoral Process.

Provide for the use of Proportional Representation systems for casting and counting ballots in the election of multi-member bodies and for the use of instant run-off voting for electing a single candidate to a public office. Amend the Constitution of the State of Georgia, Article II, Section I, Paragraph I to provide that the ballot access procedures for political bodies and independent candidates cannot be more difficult than for members of political parties. Amend the ballot access petitioning requirements to base the number of signatures required on the number of voters who actually participate in elections and not on the number of people "registered and eligible" to participate; or to provide whatever other relief might be gained from Georgia's ballot access standard, which is ten times more difficult to meet than the national average. Provide for Election Day Voter Registration.

F. Fund Universal Access to Health Care

Use Georgia's share of the tobacco class action settlement to fund the start-up costs of a single-payer health care system. Create a Georgia Health Care Corporation to receive the tobacco settlement funds and to use them to provide universal access to health care in a system that includes all providers, and assures consumer choice and freedom, including proven "alternative" and "complementary" health care disciplines and practices, and with emphasis and priority given to health measures and education designed to prevent the need for curative health measures.

G. Implement a Living Wage for Georgia Workers.

Campaign at the municipal and state level to support the passage of municipal Living Wage ordinances and of a state statute that will guarantee to Georgia's full-time workers an income that will support a family at above the poverty line.

Originally adopted as the Priority Agenda of the Georgia Green Party on December 11th, 1998. Published here, as amended August 18th, 2001.

Paid for by the Georgia Green Party, Harry Lyde Treasurer
Post Office Box 5332; Atlanta GA 31107

<http://www.greens.org/georgia/> * 404-806-0480 * ggp@greens.org

Appendix D: Pledge Form – Skip a Meal to Feed the Greens

***I'll Meet the Party Building Challenge!
I'm Giving Up a Meal a Month to Feed the Greens!
And to Join the Sustaining Pledge Program
of the Georgia Green Party!***

I want to see the Georgia Green Party on the Ballot. I'll help match the \$40,000 challenge to fund our Party's **Ballot Access Account**. Enclosed please find my one time contribution:

\$5,000.00 \$2,000.00 \$1,000.00 \$500.00
 \$250.00 \$100.00 \$75.00 \$50.00

I'm committed to the ongoing growth and sustainance of this Party. I'm ready to join other Party supporters in pledging a monthly contribution to the work of building this Party year in and year out. You can count on me for regular sustaining contributions for the amount indicated below:

\$1,000.00 \$500.00 \$250.00 \$100.00
 \$50.00 \$25.00 \$10.00 other: _____

I'll renew this pledge of support:

Monthly Quarterly Annually
 please debit my card I'll write regular checks

Visa / MC / Amex Account #: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____

Name: _____ *(as it appears on card)*

Address: _____

Phones: _____

Email: _____

We could not have opened the Party's office, supported a half dozen locals, convened eight Conventions, fielded two dozen plus candidates, published more than a hundred press releases, raised thousands of dollars or delivered votes from all but one Georgia county without the help and support of people like you. Your support builds an institutional base of support which will make our first electoral victory possible.

Paid for by *The Georgia Green Party*, Harry Lyde, Treasurer

P.O. Box 5332; Atlanta GA 31107 * 404-806-0480 (ofc)

ggp@greens.org * <http://www.greens.org/georgia/>

Appendix F: A Brief History of Green Candidacies in Georgia

The Georgia Green Party nominated its first slate of four candidates for state-wide office at its 1998 Wrightsville Convention. The slate collected and filed a little more than 8,000 signatures and were certified by the Party as write-in candidates. In November of that year, Hugh Lovel, our candidate for Agriculture Commissioner led the slate with 374 votes from forty-six counties across Georgia.

In 1999, the Americus Convention endorsed Charles Sumblin for Mayor of Wrightsville and nominated a slate of candidates for Presidential Electors, permitting the Party to begin circulating a petition for the 2000 Presidential race. Mr. Sumblin took 18% of the vote in his municipal race.

The Party held two Conventions in 2000, returning to Americus to elect its Delegates to the Denver Convention, as well as nominating two candidates for state Assembly seats. The Party gathered again in Brunswick to fill vacancies among its Delegation to the Denver Presidential Nominating Convention and to nominate one additional candidate for the Georgia House. Immediately after the petition filing deadline, with only about 13,000 signatures filed, U.S. Senator Paul Coverdell died, resulting in a Special Election to fill his unexpired term. The Council authorized a write-in campaign and steps were taken to certify our slate. The Council also agreed to endorse Jeff Gates in the non-partisan Special Election for the U.S. Senate. He appeared on the ballot and was widely acknowledged in the media as our candidate.

Kerrie Dickson filed a petition which exceeded the number of signatures required, but was still denied access to the ballot. She proceeded to file a complaint in Fulton County Superior Court asking the Judge to declare the 5% ballot access rule unconstitutional. Her amended pleadings asked:

Is the high signature requirements in Georgia Law an unconstitutional burden, on the First Amendment Speech and Associational Rights or the Fourteenth Amendment Equal Protection Rights of Georgia voters disposed to vote for Green candidates, in light of the State's refusal to recognize a state constitutional right to petition on private property to which the public has been invited or to respect the right to petition in traditional public fora, including state, county and municipal parks?

The Nader-LaDuke ticket made history by garnering 13,273 write-in votes from 131 of Georgia's 159 counties, doing better than Pat Buchanan who was qualified to appear on the Georgia ballot in 2000. Even so, we fell about 2/3 shy of the mark required to retain a ballot line for the 2002 cycle. Jeff Gates took 21,247 votes from every county in Georgia except Taliaferro County. Kerrie Dickson set the pace among the three Assembly

candidates with 45 write-ins from her four county district. Oral arguments on her challenge to the 5% petitioning standard were finally heard in October 2002 and her complaint was eventually denied in October 2003. Faced with demanding family responsibilities, she declined to appeal at that time.

The 2001 Athens Convention endorsed two candidates in non-partisan municipal races, Gloria Bromell-Tinubu took 14% of the vote in her bid for Mayor of Atlanta. Marvin Crafter took 35% in his race for Mayor of Fort Valley.

The 2002 Macon Convention nominated the Party's largest slate to date, with nine candidates seeking election to state-wide, Congressional, state Assembly and local offices. Most ran as write-ins. We placed Reverend Zack Lyde and Ed Vaughn on the ballot -- our first two candidates for partisan office to ever appear on a Georgia ballot.

The Congressional candidates litigated the abbreviated petitioning opportunity created by their maps being left unsettled until a third of the way into the petitioning cycle. Harry Lyde, candidate for State Assembly District #146 (against Jerry Keen, former Chairman of the Christian Coalition of Georgia) brought a Voting Rights Act challenge to Georgia's ballot access regime in the Southern District. His brother, Zack Lyde took 30.2% of the vote in the Glynn County School Board race. Ed Vaughn delivered 8.35% of the vote in a Clarke County Commission race.

One of our ballot access circulators was arrested in 2002 for petitioning for signatures in a public park during the July 4th fireworks celebration. The Party is now a plaintiff represented by attorneys with the ACLU who seek to strike down the Rome Georgia ordinance under which Mitch Lawson was arrested.

In 2003, the Party put two more candidates on the ballot in non-partisan races when Hugh Esco was one of seven candidates in a Special Election to succeed Representative Ralph Twiggs when he died half way through his term and Zack Lyde ran for the Brunswick City Commission, pulling 20.3% of the vote.

As the 2004 petitioning deadline looms ahead and we prepare for the Brunswick state Convention and the 2004 Presidential Nominating Convention in Milwaukee Wisconsin, eleven candidates have either sought our nomination for the top of the ticket or been the subject of draft efforts. One candidate has already declared for state-wide office. And Party staff have discussed various races with another five potential candidates for local office.

Appendix E: Petition Circulators Package

1. Sample Petition and Circulators Affidavit
(Apologies, but we lack a scanner necessary to include this document)
2. Blank Petition with Completed Caption
(Apologies, but we lack a scanner necessary to include this document)
3. Circulator's Pledge Form
4. Petitioning Tips
5. IT Resources to Support Ballot Access Work
6. Ballot Access Orientation Meetings
7. Democracy Starts Here: Letter from Petition Drive Coordinator
8. Georgia Green Party Membership Form

Georgia Green Party
2004 Ballot Access Petition Drive
Circulators' Pledge Form

You can count on me. I share this Party's commitment to putting its candidates on the ballot in 2004. I pledge to collect by the July 13th, 2004 filing deadline:

___ 2000 signatures, ___ 1000 signatures,
___ 500 signatures, ___ 250 signatures,
___ 100 signatures, _____ signatures.

In recognition of the enormity of the ballot access hurdle before us, I recognize that our ability to meet our goals of placing our state-wide Green Party candidates on the ballot will depend on my steady and consistent contribution to our overall goal. In light of this, I pledge to file by the last day of each month, my ballot access signatures on petition forms with completed, signed and notarized Circulator's Affidavits. I pledge that consistent with my overall pledge made above, that my monthly filings will contain ___ 200 signatures, ___ 100 signatures, ___ 50 signatures, ___ 25 signatures, ___ 10 signatures, _____ signatures; and that I will either deliver to my county petition drive coordinator or mail to our state-wide petition drive coordinator, by the last day of each month my monthly pledged signatures.

I pledge to learn the State rules related to the petition drive and to take care to collect validate-able signatures on the form of their county of residence and only from registered voters, who print and sign their name, share their birthdate, address, county and the date of their signature.

Signature:

See reverse for contact and schedule details

Please Return To:

*Melody Powell, Petition Drive Coord.;
Post Office Box 5332; Atlanta GA 31107*

And Here's How I'll Help . . .

- I'd serve as a County Coordinator for the Petition Drive.
 - I prefer to work with others when petitioning.
 - I prefer to petition on my own schedule.
 - I'll pre-verify my signatures over the internet, tell me how.
 - I'll door-knock my precinct, please provide me a list.
 - I'll train others how to effectively collect validate-able signatures.
 - I'll invite others to help me petition, please let me know how.
 - I'd like a full or part time position collecting ballot access signatures.
 - Please subscribe me to the ba04@ga.greens.org list to keep me in the loop about developments in the Ballot Access Petition Drive Campaign.
- My e-mail address is listed below.

*I am most available for petitioning work as follows
(list specific times, as appropriate):*

- | | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Monday: | <input type="checkbox"/> Morning | <input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon | <input type="checkbox"/> Evening |
| Tuesday: | <input type="checkbox"/> Morning | <input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon | <input type="checkbox"/> Evening |
| Wednesday: | <input type="checkbox"/> Morning | <input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon | <input type="checkbox"/> Evening |
| Thursday: | <input type="checkbox"/> Morning | <input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon | <input type="checkbox"/> Evening |
| Friday: | <input type="checkbox"/> Morning | <input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon | <input type="checkbox"/> Evening |
| Saturday: | <input type="checkbox"/> Morning | <input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon | <input type="checkbox"/> Evening |
| Sunday: | <input type="checkbox"/> Morning | <input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon | <input type="checkbox"/> Evening |
| <input type="checkbox"/> At events | <input type="checkbox"/> in my community | <input type="checkbox"/> door-to-door | |

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone (hm): _____

Phone (wk): _____

Phone (cell/bpr): _____

Phone (fax): _____

E-mail: _____

*please check above if we may add you to our ballot access announce list
Paid for by the **Georgia Green Party**, Harry Lyde, Treasurer*

Petitioning Tips -- Twice a Day for Ballot Access

How To Collect Valid Signatures and Put Green Candidates on the Ballot

1. Carry Voter Registration forms, membership forms and a sign up sheet for folks who want to register join, volunteer or subscribe to our lists.
2. One County per Page! Once someone agrees to sign, ask them: In what county are you registered to vote? You are verifying that they are registered and determining which one of your forms they should sign. Use a different sheet for each county.
3. Approach EVERYONE. Republicans and Democrats will sign in the interest of fairness, or for their own perception of partisan advantage. There is NO Green look. Greens come in all ages, colors, shapes and styles. We're a Big Tent Party. Don't Exclude Greens from it.
4. Make sure people who are unsure about signing understand they don't have to agree with our politics to agree that we should be on the ballot.
5. Petitioning at big festivals is great, but **consistently** petitioning at busy local hot spots for half an hour every day can be just as successful. Don't wait for the county fair or next year to get started. Set weekly goals for yourself. Stick to them. We're asking Greens to commit to 2 signatures a day, one sheet a week, for 15 months. Only 100 Greens committing two signatures a day will achieve our goal. Carry your clip board everyday.
6. Carry multiple clipboards, or better still, use the buddy system. Train new folks how to do this. Petition in groups of 2 or 3 to improve your success rate significantly, by decreasing people's wait to sign.
7. If a person is not registered to vote, or has moved from the county where he or she is registered, he or she must postmark a Voter Registration Form the day prior to signing the Petition. You may share Voter Registration forms, but you may not register voters while doing partisan electoral work (including circulating a petition). If a person has moved within the same county, give them a Registration form to change their address. But if the person is still registered with no lapse and you may collect their signature.
8. All petitions must be notarized. The circulator may have them notarized or may attend a notary Party hosted by the Green Party. The circulator must be physically present with identification, before the notary. Notaries are not permitted to sign or circulate, otherwise your signatures will be invalid. Mail notarized signatures each month to track progress, build momentum
9. If threatened with arrest, please call ASAP. While it is your Constitutional Right to petition in public venues, you can't collect signatures in jail.

Melody Powell, Petition Drive Coordinator,
<gpga-pdc@greens.org> c/o P.O. Box 5332; Atlanta GA 31107

Pledge your participation at: <http://www.greens.org/georgia/ba04.php>
Link here for a calendar of petitioning opportunities, progress reports, etc.

Paid for by the Georgia Green Party, Harry Lyde, Treasurer

IT Resources to Support Our Work for Ballot Access

The Georgia Green Party has organized an IT team of Party supporters who are computer professionals. This team has collaborated to develop a number of computer applications to support our work to build an independent political party.

PetVerify

PetVerify was written during the 2002 campaign to help us pre-verify ballot access signatures against the registered voter list. If you are willing to help in this way, please say so. We will send you a password giving you access to ***PetVerify***, a web application which searches the registered voters for likely matches to the signatures you collect. Without knowing anything about databases, and if you can use a web browser and web forms, you can use ***PetVerify***.
<http://gpga.greens.org/PetVerify2002/>

PetVerify

pclSupport has been the subject of ongoing development since the 2001 campaign. It will make lists of registered voters available to our candidates and campaigns and to the Precinct Campaign Leaders whose activism will make our campaigns successful. We are able to match phone numbers to a third or half the households in a precinct. These lists can keep you focused on talking to the registered voters whose signatures would be counted as valid, while helping you build a Voter ID database for future campaign activities in your community. Access requires agreement with our Acceptable Use Policy.

To request a password for ***PetVerify*** or a list from ***pclSupport***, please contact Melody Powell <gpga-pdc@greens.org> 404-806-0480, our Petition Drive Coordinator.

Join us, as we:

- distribute materials to support your petitioning work to help Green candidates access Georgia's ballot;
- catch up on news of the latest developments in the Green Party Presidential nominating process
- review the rules required to collect valid signatures;
- discuss successful strategies and tactics for effectively collecting valid signatures;
- discuss upcoming petitioning opportunities and our plans for covering them;
- meet like minded Greens who are also committed to ballot access.

Democracy Starts Here!

Ballot Access 2004

An Orientation for Greens Committed to Ballot Access

at 10:00 am, on 1st and 3rd

Saturday of each month,

(till July 13th filing deadline)

at the State Party Office of

The Georgia Green Party

Little Five Points Community Center,

1083 Austin Avenue NE; Ste 203-A

Atlanta GA 30307

For further information, contact Melody Powell, Petition Drive Coordinator, Georgia Green Party at 404-806-0480, <gpga-pdc@greens.org>.

Democracy Starts Here!

Hi! I'm Melody Powell, the new petition drive coordinator for the Georgia Green Party. I write to ask that you circulate a ballot access petitions for our Party, that you use the enclosed pledge form to let me know you are doing so, and that you subscribe to our ba04@ga.greens.org email list and that you also attend our orientation on Sat., January 17th, 2004.

As a Green Party supporter, you are surely as concerned as I, about the failure of the supposed two party system to represent human needs. I am excited about getting Green candidates on the ballot because it is clear that almost no one else will stand up for the environment or for social justice.

In order to change the stranglehold on the process, we have got to get the Greens on the ballot. That means collecting the valid signatures of 40,000 registered voters in the state. Georgia needs us, and with the help of like-minded people like yourself, we can achieve our goal of a Green ballot line in 2004.

We can make it happen! Georgia has the most onerous rules in the nation for getting a new party on the ballot. Even so, we know that we can do this. It may seem like a monumental task, but if we begin now to consistently gather signatures, we will gain ballot access. If the Libertarians can do this, we can do it too!

Please reply with your pledge, committing to your share of the signatures we must collect. Let me know if I may add you to our ba04 email list serve. Please join us for the January 17, 2004 Orientation described on the reverse.

Please do not wait to collect signatures, though. You can get started right away. Contact me, and I will get you petitions and more information about the process. We can assist you with the names of registered voters in your area.

My e-mail address is gpga-pdc@greens.org. The Green Party office telephone number is 404-806-0480.

I hope to hear from you soon. Again, thank you so much for your efforts to build the Georgia Green Party, the Party of Compassion, the Politics of Hope!

The Georgia Green Party

A party of Compassion, the Politics of Hope

Why we need a Georgia Green Party NOW . . .

Because the children's future depends on it.

Because the future of life itself depends on it.

Because we have a RIGHT to clean air, clean water, clean soil, clean food and clean politics.

Because public forests and the public airwaves should serve people and future generations, not the profits of corporations.

Because tripling the number of Georgians imprisoned at taxpayer's expense has not made our communities safer.

Because spending half of federal tax dollars on preparations for war does not make us more secure.

Because neither race baiting nor ignoring racism has saved our jobs, wages or working conditions.

Because the globe is warming, the seas are rising, the polar caps are melting and hundreds of species become extinct every month.

Because the state DOT wants to spend \$5+ Billion on a Second Perimeter Highway while a 1,000 people die annually from polluted air diseases in metro Atlanta, alone.

Because we lose dozens of acres of forests in the metro Atlanta area every day while chip mills are decimating southern native forests.

Because Du Pont wants to either mine the Okefenokee Swamp or have the public pay it \$90 million not to.

Because ending welfare as we know it doesn't seem to deal with the subsidies benefiting corporations that pay wages that have families in poverty.

Because the nuclear industry wants to ship radioactive wastes on the rails and highways of Georgia to dump it on Native lands out West.

Because instead of a peace dividend, women are raped every six minutes in the midst of an ongoing reliance on impoverishing militarism, including at least two Georgia bases with nuclear weapons.

Why do we need a Green Party now?

Because the madness must stop. Because peace and justice are possible in our lifetimes.

**Help Be
The Cause of That!**

The Ten Key Values of the Green Party:

Ecological Wisdom * Grassroots Democracy * Social Justice * Peace and Non-Violence
Decentralization * Community-Based Economics * Feminism * Respect for Diversity
Personal & Global Responsibility * Future Focus on Sustainability

Local Contact:

Paid for by the Georgia Green Party, Harry Lyde, Treasurer
P.O. Box 5332; Atlanta, GA 31107 * 404-806-0480 (office)
ggp@greens.org * <http://www.greens.org/georgia/> * revised 4/17/04

Get involved in our **Campaign for Ballot Access** and our **Priority Agenda**.
Our **Ballot Access Petition Drive** Coordinator gpga-petdrivecoord@greens.org

Ballot Access & Prop. Rep. Hugh Esco, hesco@greens.org, 404-806-0480

Non-Violent Juvenile Offender Sentencing Reform
Kerrie Dickson, foxfire@greens.org, and Charles Sumblin

Democratically Financed Elections and **Pollution Victims Compensation Fund**
Reverend Zack Lyde 912-466-0154

Universal Access to Health and Wellness Care & Organic School Lunches.
Kerrie Dickson, foxfire@greens.org

Party Affiliation Process and Local Organizing Support.
Affiliation Committee: Badili Jones, Chair, gpga-badili@greens.org
Please call our office to learn how to build a local, run Green candidates in local races and participate in our state Nominating Conventions.

I wish to make application for membership with the Georgia Green Party. I am in basic agreement with the Ten Key Values and political practices of the Greens as a framework for organizing and political action. I understand that payment of dues is not necessary to credential or participate at state conventions.

Enclosed are my dues of \$25.00/year. My means are modest. I'm setting my dues at \$15.00/year.
 I am unemployed. I'm setting my dues at \$5.00/year. I authorize that the following visa /
mastercard / amex account # _____ be debited for a total of: \$ _____, as
a one time contribution, or as my monthly / quarterly / annual pledge of support to the ongoing
development of the Georgia Green Party.

Signature:

Name:

Email and website:

Address:

Phone numbers:

City, State and Zip:

County:

Occupation/ Employer:

I want to subscribe to the paper edition of the Internal Discussion Bulletin. Enclosed is another \$35.00.
 Yes, tell me about organizing a local. I want to host a Green Party event in my house or
community. I'll carry a clipboard and collect 10, 100, 1000 ballot access petition
signatures by the July 13th, 2004 deadline. I'll distribute literature in my community. I pledge
volunteer hrs. / week for the 2004 Election. I'm enclosing an additional contribution of:
\$ _____.