



# Mountain Party News

www.mtparty.org

Volume eight,

Number one

March 2008

## Convention Set for April 27th

Let your voice be heard

You are cordially invited to attend the Mountain Party 2008 convention. The voice of Mountain Party members is vital on a number of important issues to be addressed at the convention. The State Convention will be held on **Sunday, April 27**, at **La Dolce Vita Cafe** in **Sutton, West Virginia**, near the center of the state.

Credentialed delegates to the Mountain Party State Convention will select a candidate to run for the office of Governor on the Mountain Party ticket.

Also, Regional representatives will be able to caucus and select Regional officers and Regional Delegates to the Mountain Party State Executive Committee for the next two years.

State convention delegates will also be electing the party's Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and three Deputy Executive officers for the next two years.

And as per our recent affiliation with the Green Party of the United States (GPUS), state convention delegates will choose up to eight Mountain Party members and eight alternates to represent the Mountain Party at the GPUS National Convention in Chicago on July 10-13.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, all Mountain Party members present (absentee ballots are also available in this newsletter) will cast a presidential preference vote, deciding how Mountain Party representatives

*Continued on page three*

## Support your Candidates

Local, State & Federal

The Mountain Party is on track to have a record number of candidates on the ballot for the November general elections. Currently we have Klaus Heitmann, a candidate for Berkeley County Commission; Robin Mills, (Hampshire County)- a candidate for WV House of Delegates in the 51<sup>st</sup> District; James "Andy" Waddell, (Clay County)- a candidate for WV State Senate in the 11<sup>th</sup> District, and John Wellborne (Kanawha County)- a candidate for WV House of Delegates in the 30<sup>th</sup> District.

After the April 27th convention, we will have a candidate for governor. And by late July we expect to have candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States. This is shaping up to be an exciting year for the Mountain Party of West Virginia!

We invited all state and local Mountain Party candidates to submit a brief statement or announcement about their campaign. As of press time, JA "Andy" Waddell had submitted a statement:

**Mountain party member James Andy Waddell announced his candidacy for the 11<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District last week.** Waddell is a long time resident of Clay County and active in various non-profit agencies. His background includes a BA degree in Management from West Virginia State College earned in 1985.

With 30 years experience in printing including many years as a

*Continued on page three*



# The Fundamentals of Change

*editorial by Bob Henry Baber , Mt. Party Chair*

Every four years we hear the accolades of “change” sung from virtually every corner of the American political universe. Even politicians that have been part of the political system for years miraculously emerge as “change” candidates. Like phoenix, they rise from the ashes of the status quo.

The shrewd Hillary Clinton and the military hero John McCain have been part of the establishment for decades. Now, on the scene comes the eloquent Barack Obama. I've read his books. He's brilliant, measured, and seems to have the capability of “reaching across the aisle.” The phenomena of a half-black man, and a white woman, competing to run for the presidency is fascinating for the 20% of the American public that truly are political junkies. I know I'm hooked and I suspect most of you reading this column are as well. As I write this it seems more and more likely that the Democratic Party is headed towards a fractious convention and a potentially bitter aftermath. The absurd possibility that a Republican could actually be elected given the horrors of the Bush administration seems beyond belief. But the truth is, that the election will be very tight and will boil down to a half-dozen “toss-up” states. I don't believe West Virginia will be one of them, sparing the “realists” amongst us the dilemma of how to vote. However, I'm going to now write the unthinkable: If West Virginia was in play come Election Day I'd have to think long and hard about how I would vote—and I'm the chair of the Party! Please forgive me that politically incorrect confession, but how can we not recognize the looming gorilla in the room? This has been a wild year and it's going to continue to be so. Our compatriots in the swing states truly may have some very difficult choices to make.

Where, then, does that leave us, the alternative to war, environmental carnage, and economic injustice? I think the answer is clear: it is our mission to offer a vision of fundamental change, not incremental revisionism. Furthermore, it's our purpose to shape the debate, offer an alternative, and continue to build for the peaceful but revolutionary changes that we all know needed to happen years ago.

I recollect in the 70's the awful split between the abolitionists and the regulationists over the issue of strip-mining. At the time both sides had what seemed like valid positions. The abolitionists said that to “legalize” strip-mining was an abomination and a legitimization of environmental rape, plain and simple; the regulationists' realistic position (at the time) was that there was no way that strip-mining was going to

be stopped, and therefore it would be better to contain the industry's push and shove practices with at least some measure of abatement. Only later did we find out that despite vocal public howling against regulation on the part of the coal industry, they were secretly pushing regulation/legalization and gearing up for the next phase of mining: Mountain Top Removal. Ultimately, time has proven that the “realists” were wrong. Jimmy Carter signed the 1977 law but called it too weak. In 1989 the Federal Office of Surface Mining “wrote off” all fines levied due to “poor record keeping.” Morris Udall, of Arizona, called it the most blatant example of governmental incompetency he'd witnessed in his political career. One has to wonder if it was intended all along. Since then, as we all know, things have only gotten worse. We've gone from “ring around the mountain” to mountain range removal.

Given these realities, it's clear that the Mountain Party is the only party of justice in this race, and the Green Party is the only national party with the vision to create fundamental change. This year our own home-grown candidate, Jesse Johnson, has a chance to be selected as the Presidential Candidate of the Green Party. Arguably, he has an even greater chance to be the Vice-Presidential candidate. How amazing is that? What cannot be argued is the impressive energy he (and the ever-diligent Frank Young) have expended in West Virginia to get the Green Party on the ballot...and the exposure Jesse has brought nationally to the Mountain Party and to the critical issue of Mountaintop removal. Go Mr. Johnson, go!

But we are not a one-issue party. Our platform, carefully hammered out by committees and our general membership, is holistic and comprehensive. It is unique, concise, and doable. Furthermore, we've adopted the four principles of the Green Party, which coincide perfectly with our own:

## **GRASSROOTS DEMOCRACY:**

Every human being deserves a say in the decisions that affect their lives and not be subject to the will of another. Therefore, we will work to increase public participation at every level of government and to ensure that our public representatives are fully accountable to the people who elect them. We will also work to create new types of political organizations which expand the process of participatory democracy by directly including citizens in the decision-making process.

## **SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY:**

All persons should have the rights and opportunity to benefit equally from the resources afforded us by society and the environment. We must consciously

confront in ourselves, our organizations, and society at large, barriers such as racism and class oppression, sexism and homophobia, ageism and disability, which act to deny fair treatment and equal justice under the law.

#### **ECOLOGICAL WISDOM:**

Human societies must operate with the understanding that we are part of nature, not separate from nature. We must maintain an ecological balance and live within the ecological and resource limits of our communities and our planet. We support a sustainable society which utilizes resources in such a way that future generations will benefit and not suffer from the practices of our generation. To this end we must practice agriculture which replenishes the soil; move to an energy efficient economy; and live in ways that respect the integrity of natural systems.

#### **NON-VIOLENCE:**

It is essential that we develop effective alternatives to society's current patterns of violence. We will work to demilitarize, and eliminate weapons of mass destruction, without being naive about the intentions of other governments. We recognize the need for self-defense and the defense of others who are in helpless situations. We promote non-violent methods to oppose practices and policies with which we disagree, and will guide our actions toward lasting personal, community and global peace.

We can be proud of our accomplishments to date, and the true change we are going to help bring to West Virginia and the nation in the future. Let's come together at and after our convention and be prepared to invest our time and energy for the sake of the people and earth. My brothers and sisters, now is not the time for realism, it must be the time of fierce idealism. In short, it is our time, and high time, we made fundamental change. Let's do it.

#### ***Convention, continued from page one***

will vote at the United States Green Party Convention. State Green Party affiliates such as the WV Mountain Party from across the country will meet at the national convention and deliver the results of their state's vote for a Green Party / Mountain Party presidential candidate. The winners of that election will appear on the West Virginia ballot as the WV Mountain Party candidate for President and Vice-President of the United States.

La Dolce Vita is located at 400 North 4th Street (the corner of 4th and Main) in downtown Sutton.

Attendees are encouraged to support our hosts at La Dolce Vita by joining us for what will likely be a buffet style lunch, and which will include vegetarian fare. This restaurant is normally closed on Sunday. We will have exclusive use of the facility for the entire day, with convention attendees paying individually for their own "all day buffet" lunch.

The Convention will begin at 10:00 AM and last until about 4:00 PM. A \$15 registration fee helps cover the costs of organizing and holding the convention, including this newsletter. Low income scholarships are available at the door. Or you can pre-register with the convention registration form on the next page.

The future of the Mountain Party depends on the active participation of its members. Attend the convention and ensure that your voice is heard within the Mountain Party, within the state of West Virginia, and within the United States Green Party.

**DIRECTIONS:** Take I-79 to exit # 62, then take Rt. 4 north about 2 miles to the "Y"; stay right at the "Y", going into town. La Dolce Vita is located at 400 North 4th Street (the corner of 4th and Main) in downtown Sutton. Since this is a Sunday, there is plenty of no time limit street parking.

#### ***Candidates, continued from page one***

private business owner, Waddell turned his attention to growing an independent newspaper, The Communicator, over 12 years ago. He continues today as the "ace cub reporter" with emphasis on county meeting coverage. Since the beginning of the near award winning newspaper, Waddell has sought for transparency by government agencies

He is married to Nada Mullins and with one son, Dayton, now 18 years old.

Clay County lies in the center of the 11<sup>th</sup> district. Other counties or parts of the counties include: Webster, Nicholas, Fayette and Upshur.

Waddell has spent of his life in leadership roles including stints on the local Business Development Authority, the Clay Housing Authority, and local non profit radio station, 101.7FM

His pledge, "*Use every tool in the arsenal to grow the 11th Senatorial District for the benefit of the taxpayer.*"

The 54 year old candidate for office asks that Mountain party members in any of the five county district to contact him and help plan out the November General Election. Day time number: 587-6007; evenings 587-7586 until 11 PM nightly; or by email [jawaddell@frontiernet.net](mailto:jawaddell@frontiernet.net)

# Your Party Needs Your Support!

Our grassroots Party is staffed by unpaid volunteers. This means that our treasury is not burdened with staff salaries and expense accounts. The Chairman, other officers and district party organizers pay their own telephone, travel and other expenses for organizing and leading the Mountain Party.

The largest single cost we incur is for printing and mailing the newsletter. At today's rates, this mailing will cost about \$1,000 to print and deliver to your door. Accordingly, we try to keep costs down by communicating more by e-mail and web site, and less by paper and postage. However, as election time approaches, we do need to send out this snail mail.

So here we are "passing the hat" in hopes that

you can help keep the Mountain Party growing. Statewide registration has almost doubled since the 2004 convention. Our costs of printing and mailing have increased accordingly - please do what you can to support the only independent party on the ballot in West Virginia.

**As we complete this edition of the Mt. Party newsletter, our treasurer issues this urgent request for your financial contribution to the Mountain Party. Your registration as a Mountain Party voter shows you believe in the Party's social, economic and environmental justice platform. Thank you for sending in your member contribution to support your Party!**



## WV Mountain Party

RR 1, Box 108, Ripley WV 25271

[www.mtparty.org](http://www.mtparty.org)

---

### Mountain Party Convention Registration & Dues Contribution

10 AM-4 PM, April 27, at La Dolce Vita Cafe, 400 North 4th Street (the corner of 4th and Main) Sutton, WV

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee: \$15/person (\$10 student/low income):\$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed Additional Dues \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I am a registered Mountain Party Voter and I wish to be Credentialed as a Voting Delegate

I will fill out a voter registration change at the convention to become a Voting Mountain Party Delegate

I wish to attend the Convention as a participant without voting privileges

**YES! I want the Mountain Party to succeed in promoting a clean environment and responsible government. Here is my membership contribution to help make it happen...**

\$5/month  \$10/month \$ \_\_\_\_\_/month I'm sending it all at once, Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Send to: Mountain Party, RR 1, Box 108 Ripley WV 25271**

# Green Party Presidential Candidate Statements

The following brief statements by the four official Green Party Presidential candidates, listed alphabetically, were either provided by the candidates or derived from their web sites. We invite you, prior to voting either the enclosed absentee ballot or at the state party convention April 27<sup>th</sup>, to review these statements, and to view the candidates' internet web sites at the indicated web addresses.

**Jesse Johnson:** Helping Hands - The Mountain Party sprang onto the political scene seven years ago through them. When I ran for Governor in 2004 they were provided. I offered mine to the first ever third party national convention in Merrimack N.H. in 2005 and good things happened. In 2006 we used them instead of money to reinforce our message and the need for campaign finance reform when I faced Senator Byrd. I extended yours and mine in friendship and affiliation with our new national partner the Green Party of the U.S. During the time I was privileged to serve as your State Chair, I used mine (and therefore ours) to seal the agreement with the State of W.V. to honor our bylaws thus allowing the GPUS Presidential and Vice Presidential nominees their place at the top federal spots on our ballot in the general election. Now I need yours again, to help me to help this nation get back on track with the Constitution and Bill of Rights. [www.jesse08.org](http://www.jesse08.org)

**Cynthia McKinney:** Cynthia McKinney is leading a peace slate to reclaim our nation. A six-term former Member of Congress from Georgia, Cynthia McKinney is seeking nomination as the Green Party candidate for President of the United States. Cynthia has consistently opposed funding for bloated military and secret intelligence budgets; introduced Articles of Impeachment for George Bush, Dick Cheney, and Condoleezza Rice; introduced, championed, and passed in the U.S. House the Arms Trade Code of Conduct, prohibiting the sale of arms to known human rights abusers; authored legislation to end the use of depleted uranium weapons; and passed legislation to extend health benefits for Vietnam War veterans still suffering the health effects from exposure to the defoliant Agent Orange. McKinney currently serves on the International tribunal on Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and the Brussels Tribunal on Iraq. She is participating in War Crimes prosecutions in Spain and is working with the Malaysian Peace organization to criminalize war. <http://www.runcynthiarun.org>

**Kent Mesplay:** The pragmatic choice would be to support the front-runner. I ask that you not be pragmatic. At this point in the candidate selection process Greens and their affiliates can be confident that the four remaining presidential candidates have all "passed muster" and would serve our party well with the coalesced support coming from being the general-election nominee. I intend to be that nominee, with your support. The strategic Green message, during this time of insecurity and on-going war, is that sustainability is a security issue. Meeting our basic needs of water, food and energy in a local manner not depleting or diminishing the options of future generations means we are all better off. With political leadership we can move beyond fouling the air, water and land toward a time of greater efficiency, reduced waste, less foreign dependency and more local solutions. Please support "Mesplay for President." Thank you. [www.mesplay.org](http://www.mesplay.org)

**Kat Swift:** Are you ready for radical changes? We must take firm and non-negotiable stances on maintaining and implementing our Ten Key Values. We need to respectfully embrace the full spectrum of human individuality and recreate a healthy planet to sustain our lives. Everyone needs to be free to pursue happiness, life, and liberty without the artificial scarcity that enriches the plutocracy (government by the wealthy). Everyone who does her/his best to live the Ten Key Values and unlearn patterns of oppression needs access to the means of seeking public office as a way to implement our Ten Key Values in Government policies. The Green Party can become that vehicle to support candidates running for office, regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, skin color, class, religion, disability, etc. Unite, support each other, run for office, volunteer for and donate to campaigns. These are my missions, will you join me? Thank you! [www.VoteSwift.org](http://www.VoteSwift.org)

## What about Ralph Nader?

*By Frank Young*

Until recently the Green Party Presidential Candidate Support Committee (PCSC) recognized Ralph Nader as a "draft candidate" for the Green Party presidential nomination. Then, in late February, Ralph Nader announced that he was an independent candidate for President, and that he had selected former San Francisco Green Party mayoral candidate Matt Gonzalez as his Vice-Presidential running mate. More recently, on March 8<sup>th</sup>, Ralph Nader issued a statement that said, in part, "Matt Gonzalez and I wish to

*Continued on page seven*

# Mail-In Voter Registration Application

# West Virginia

## QUESTIONS?

CALL TOLL FREE 1-866-SOS-VOTE

### West Virginia Secretary of State

#### Registration Deadline:

You may register at any time. In order to vote in an election, you must be registered twenty (20) days before that election.

#### Mailing Directions:

Provide all required information (1, 2, 3, 4 & 10) before mailing form to county clerk.

**Box 10.** Check applicable boxes & sign your <sup>required</sup> name if you meet these requirements. Signature must match the name given in Box 1. **Note:** It is a felony to sign this form if you know you do not meet the requirements listed in Box 10.

**Box 11.** If you were registered before, enter your full name & complete address as they were on your last registration.

I would like to be a pollworker.

- You Can Use This Form To:**
- apply to register to vote in West Virginia
  - change your address or name on your voter record
  - change your political party on your voter record

### Follow These Steps To Complete Form:

Note: If available, use black ink & print.

**Box 1.** Give your full name--(last name, first name, middle or maiden name--no nicknames)

**Box 2.** Give your birth date--(month/day/year).

**Box 3.** Enter your driver's license number or the last four numbers of your social security number. If you do not have a driver's license number or a social security number, an identification number will be assigned to you. If this form is submitted by mail & it is the first time you have registered to vote in this county, you **MUST submit a copy of a current and valid ID with this application** or at the polls the first time you vote. To send it with this application you should enclose one of the following:  
 (1) A copy of a current & valid photo ID with current residence address *or*  
 (2) A copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows your name and current residence address.

**Box 4.** Provide residence & mailing addresses. If the address where you live does not include a street name & number, describe where you live by giving a road number, intersection, or landmark to help identify your precinct. (for example: 5 miles past church on the right, City, WV ZipCode)  
 For military, overseas, or students, list your military / school address as your mailing address & your legal West Virginia address for the residence address. Provide a mailing address (for example: Rt. 5, Box 3, City, WV ZipCode) if it is different than where you live.

**Box 5.** Mark if you live within city limits.

**Box 6.** Give the telephone number where you can be reached during the day.

**Box 7.** Circle "M" for male or "F" for female.

**Box 8.** Mark the party of your choice, list another party on the line provided or mark the "No Party Choice" box.

**Box 9.** Check if this is a new registration, a name / address change or a party change.

#### ATTENTION APPLICANT FOR REGISTRATION!

\* FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY AND COMPLETE THE ENTIRE FORM IN INK.

\* BE SURE TO SIGN YOUR LEGAL NAME IN THE SIGNATURE BOX.

\* MAIL YOUR APPLICATION TO THE COUNTY CLERK OF YOUR HOME COUNTY.

\* REMEMBER, THIS IS AN APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION. If the confirmation card mailed to your home address is returned undeliverable or you are not eligible, you will not be registered.

\* ON ACCEPTANCE, A VOTER REGISTRATION CARD WITH YOUR PRECINCT NUMBER WILL BE MAILED TO YOU.

1.	LAST NAME: _____ FIRST NAME: _____ MIDDLE OR MAIDEN NAME: _____	2.	BIRTH DATE: <u>  </u> / <u>  </u> / <u>  </u>	3.	DRIVER'S LICENSE # _____ - OR - SOC. SEC. LAST 4 #'S XXX -XX - _____ I do not have a driver's license # or a social security #: <input type="checkbox"/>	PRECINCT: _____
4.	GIVE ADDRESS WHERE YOU LIVE OR A DESCRIPTION OF ADDRESS WHERE YOU LIVE: <small>(For Example: 5 miles past church on the right, City, WV ZipCode)</small>		COUNTY WHERE YOU LIVE: _____	REGISTRATION NO: _____		
	LIST YOUR MAILING ADDRESS HERE: <small>(For Example: Rt. 5, Box 3, City, WV ZipCode)</small>		5. <input type="checkbox"/> live within city limits	6.	DAYTIME PHONE: _____ ID/CONFIRMATION: _____	
8.	PARTY CHOICE - CHECK ONE BOX <input type="checkbox"/> DEMOCRAT <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER PARTY _____ <input type="checkbox"/> REPUBLICAN <input type="checkbox"/> NO PARTY CHOICE <input type="checkbox"/> MOUNTAIN <small>If a party choice is NOT marked, you will be listed as having No Party Choice</small>		<b>Please Note</b> You may vote a party primary ballot only if you are registered with that party. However, some parties may allow voters who are not affiliated with their party to vote their ballot upon request.		7.	GENDER: Circle One M      F
	VOTER DECLARATION -- READ, CHECK BOXES AND SIGN		SIGN YOUR NAME IN THE SPACE BELOW:		9.	THIS IS A: <input type="checkbox"/> NEW REGISTRATION <input type="checkbox"/> NAME and/or ADDRESS CHANGE <input type="checkbox"/> PARTY CHANGE
10.	I SWEAR OR AFFIRM THAT: <input type="checkbox"/> I am a United States citizen; <input type="checkbox"/> I live in West Virginia at the above address; <input type="checkbox"/> I am at least 18 years old or am 17 years old and will be 18 years old on or before the next general election; <input type="checkbox"/> I am not currently under conviction, probation or parole for a felony, treason or election bribery; and <input type="checkbox"/> I have not been judged mentally incompetent in a court of competent jurisdiction.		_____ First Name                      Middle /Maiden Name                      Last Name		DATE RECEIVED: _____	
11.	Name and Address of Last Voter Registration		WARNING: If this statement is untrue and you sign it, you will be guilty of a felony and upon conviction can be fined up to \$5,000.00 and/or jailed up to three (3) years.		OFFICE INFO: _____	
	Name _____		For an application to be complete, boxes 1, 2, 3, 4 and 10 must be completed.			
	Street _____		LASTNAME	FIRST NAME	M. INIT.	NO. & STREET
R-2 8-03	City _____ County _____ State _____				PRECINCT	

**Mountain Party 2008 Presidential Preference Official Ballot,  
For President of the United States, in alphabetical order:  
VOTE FOR ONE ONLY**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Jesse Johnson**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Cynthia McKinney**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Kent Misplay**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Kat Swift**



\_\_\_\_\_ **Write-in** \_\_\_\_\_

---

**Presidential Preference Voting and Ballot:**

***The four official candidates***

***seeking the GPUS nomination for President are:***

**Jesse Johnson:** [www.jesse08.org](http://www.jesse08.org)

**Cynthia McKinney:** [www.runcynthiarun.org](http://www.runcynthiarun.org)

**Kent Mesplay :** [www.mesplay.org](http://www.mesplay.org)

**Kat Swift:** [www.bexargreens.org/katforprez](http://www.bexargreens.org/katforprez)

Attached is your absentee ballot for Mountain Party/Green Party presidential preference voting. The ballot includes a place for a write in vote for any other candidate which will count the same as a vote for a listed candidate.

**To have your absentee ballot qualify and be counted, please follow these directions carefully:**

Vote your ballot with an "X", and then fold it. Tear off enough of the page to make sure your pre-printed name/address label appears on the outside of the folded ballot. This is important so that we can identify you as a Mountain or Green Party registered voter. Mail it to: **MP Nominations Committee, Frank Young Chair, Rt. 1 Box 108, Ripley WV 25271.**

If you are still registered as "Green Party", you can vote using this ballot - **provided** you fill out, sign and return to us, along with your voted ballot, the **Voter Registration Form** on Page 6 of this newsletter, with "Mountain Party" checked as party choice. In other words, those Greens still registered as "Green Party" in WV instead of Mountain Party, must complete the Voter Registration Form. If you're in doubt go ahead and send it the voter registration.

**We must actually receive your ballot by no later than April 25<sup>th</sup>** the Friday before the state convention. Also, if you vote by absentee ballot, but want to change your vote, we will exchange your absentee ballot for a new, blank ballot if you come to the convention on Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>.

We will count the ballots on the day of the state convention, by first determining that the person named on the outside of the ballot is an actual Mountain Party member (or Green Party member changing to Mountain Party) as indicated on official WV voter registration rolls. If the ballot is verified, it will be counted.

Voting results will be presented to the State Convention before nominations begin for GPUS national convention delegates

For purposes of first ballot voting at the GPUS national Presidential Nominating Convention, WV delegates will be apportioned to candidates according to the percentage of votes the Presidential candidates receive in both absentee balloting and in person voting at the state convention.

***Nader, continued from page five***

restate that we are not seeking the Green Party nomination in 2008 at their Chicago convention."

Subsequently, based on Ralph Nader's own statements, both the Green Party PCSC and the Mountain Party Executive Committee agreed that Ralph Nader is no longer a candidate for the Green Party or WV Mountain Party nomination for President. Had we listed a candidate who declared he is not seeking the GP nomination, and, by extension, the Mt. Party nomination, we would have been unfairly promoting an undeclared candidate over the four declared candidates.

However, as per the Presidential Preference voting procedures developed in February by our Executive Committee, the absentee ballot enclosed with this newsletter includes a line to write in and vote for any person not listed on the ballot. A vote for a write-in candidate will be counted the same as a vote for a listed candidate.

**West Virginia Mountain Party**  
**RR 1, Box 108, Ripley WV 25271**  
**www.mtparty.org**

PRSRT STD  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit # 2793  
Charleston, WV 25301



*See inside for exciting news of the upcoming  
2008 Convention and how to mail-in vote for your  
Green Party Presidential Choice see inside!*

## **Inside - Absentee Ballot for Mountain & Green Party US Presidential Primary Voting**

Active, grassroots participation is critical to the success of any political party. Therefore, your presence is requested for the 2008 Mountain Party Convention on Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. There Party members will cast and tally the presidential preference vote directing Mountain Party delegates how to vote in the GPUS National Convention's presidential candidate selection process.

If, however, you are unable to attend the Mountain Party 2008 state convention, you can cast your presidential preference vote by mail. An official ballot is included in this newsletter. Mailed-in votes for the 2008 presidential nomination process must be **received** no later than **Friday, April 25th, 2008**. Qualifying votes received by this date will be counted. And, if you change your mind, votes submitted by mail may be exchanged for a new, in-person ballot at the state convention.

**See page seven in this newsletter for your absentee presidential preference voting ballot, along with instructions on how to both vote and return a qualifying ballot.**

In July, representatives from state Green Party organizations and affiliates (including the Mountain Party) will meet in Chicago to choose which Presidential candidate will appear on the ballot for the Green Party (GPUS) and on our West Virginia Mountain Party ballot.

The Green Party's ballot access in West Virginia is through official affiliation with the Mountain Party. However, if you are still registered as **Green Party** in West Virginia, there is good news. By following the directions with the absentee ballot on Page 7 of this newsletter, you can still vote in this Mountain Party presidential preference election. Since the Mountain Party IS the official Green Party in WV you'll need to switch your registration to participate. (see form on page six)

The Mountain Party is working hard to extend grassroots democracy to all phases and levels of elections. As a registered Mountain Party voter, it is your right to influence our ballot options in November. So vote your conscience either by mail or in person at the Mountain Party 2008 state convention.