



OVERVIEW for House Party Host

“We can have democracy in this country, or we can have great wealth concentrated in the hands of a few, but we can’t have both.”

—Louis Brandeis

A House Party is a great social occasion for lively discussion and a tremendous opportunity to raise money for our Nader/Gonzalez grassroots campaign. You get to spend two hours with your friends, family, and neighbors helping to bring real change to American political life! As a thank you for coordinating a House Party, we will send you two DVDs autographed by Ralph Nader: *An Unreasonable Man*, and *Ralph Nader and Patti Smith: AWAKE from Your Slumber*.

Getting Ready to Throw a House Party

House Party Instructions

Copies of these instructions are found on the votenader.org website under the “Get Involved Today” banner.

A. download:

- ✓ Overview (includes sample invitation and sign-in sheet)
- ✓ Scripts & Tips
- ✓ Host Checklist

B. checkout other pages at votenader.org — particularly Issues and Media

Sign-Up to Host

You can sign-up online using the online form, or email the information to houseparty@votenader.org. We need your name, contact information, number of people you anticipate attending, and the amount of money you think you’ll be able to raise. The House Party Coordinator will contact you once we have this information.

What You Supply

- House Party Kit (\$30) ordered from the votenader.org store (buttons, bumper stickers, yard sign and window sign). You might also want to order extra merchandise to offer your guests as well.
- Location for Party (the location is up to you, your house, park, coffee shop, beach – be creative)
- Invitations and guests
- TV/DVD player/computer for playing DVD
- Name tags
- Voter registration cards — check with your local post office or city, or county, etc.
- Baskets for campaign and merchandise contributions
- Pens
- Enthusiasm!

DVDs for House Party Viewing

After you have signed up to host a Party and ordered your House Party Kit, the House Party Coordinator will contact you to arrange sending you copies of the two DVDs, autographed by Ralph Nader:

- ***An Unreasonable Man*** – “One man. A million consequences. Nader has had more impact on our daily lives than most presidents. Now, this first-hand account takes you behind his groundbreaking consumer advocacy campaigns and contested presidential runs. An Unreasonable Man shows why Nader continues to be one of the most unique and important American political figures of our time.”
- ***Ralph Nader and Patti Smith: AWAKE From Your Slumber*** – “Brings together two visionaries: citizen-activist Ralph Nader and punk poet Patti Smith, in a powerful dialogue of war and peace. They make the case against the Iraq war and the corporate takeover of our democracy.”

Set a Fundraising Goal

Inspire your guests to become involved in the only campaign with a strategy for peace and systemic political change. We have had good results suggesting a minimum of \$50 from each guest, but the actual amount could be lower or higher – it’s up to you. Of course, your guests are free to give up to the legal maximum of \$4,600.

Take the \$2,000 Challenge!

If you are able to get a minimum of \$2,000 in pledges from your guests before the party, either Ralph Nader or Matt Gonzalez will call your party live! Sign-up your pledges early so that this can be arranged.

—Overview for House Party Host, pg. 2—

Inviting Guests

Not every person you invite will be able to come. Our experience is that you need to invite four times as many people as you think you need to meet your goal.

Tell everyone to bring friends. Don't forget to invite: family members, co-workers, neighbors, members of your place of worship, as well as members of local peace & justice groups, etc.

Send Out Invitations

The sample invitation is on page 5 of this Overview section. Rewrite it to fit your unique party and send it out at least a couple of weeks before your Party. Include the date, time, address, phone number and directions. Ask everyone to RSVP, so you will be prepared. Let them know it is a fundraiser, so they will be sure to bring their checkbooks or credit cards. It is a good idea to call everyone a few days after you mail the RSVP to make sure they have received your invitation. An email or call a few days before your party, is a good reminder.

Plan the Party

People will enjoy your party more if there's food and drink! Finger foods are simple and easy, but you choose. House Party menus have ranged from the super easy like salsa and chips, to 7-course sit down dinners! Have a coffee, buffet, barbeque, or beach party — whatever appeals to you and your guests.

Learn the Rules

For the campaign to accept contributions, certain forms must be completed. This will help the campaign qualify for public matching funds. The instructions — *Filling Out the Contribution Form and Instructions for Conduits* — as well as the forms, will be sent to you with your autographed DVDs. The House Party Coordinator will help you fill out the forms and answer any questions (houseparty@votenader.org or (202) 471-5833).

The Day of Your Party

Sample Plan — Feel Free to Modify

- People arrive, meet and greet, mingle, snack on munchies and appetizers.
- Gather your guests and present your reasons for supporting the Nader/Gonzalez campaign. Encourage everyone to join in. Show selected sections of the DVDs and let your guests know that their contributions up to \$250 will qualify for federal matching funds. Hand out contribution forms.
- If guests are inspired by the video and message, they will probably want to give more than they had originally planned. Tell your guests that we need volunteers, and they could host their own House Party. If they are willing to help, show them where to check the volunteer box on their contribution form.
- The party can go on as long as you want! Thank everyone for their support and tell them as they leave, "Your vote and support won't change just one administration, but has the possibility to change the entire country".

—Overview for House Party Host, pg. 3—

After Your House Party

- Tell us about your House Party. Send comments to houseparty@votenader.org.
- Follow up with people who “sent regrets” when they RSVP’d. Encourage them to send contributions directly to the campaign through the website.
- Have a digital camera? Send us pictures of your House Party to post on the votenader.org website!
- Within 3 days after the Party, send in contributions, and the completed forms. (Remember, the House Party Coordinator is going to help you fill the forms out!)

Many thanks for hosting a Nader/Gonzalez House Party.

—Nader/Gonzalez Team

Who to Contact with Questions

House Party Coordinator
houseparty@votenader.org or (202) 471-5833



Dear Friends,

I'm pleased to announce that on [Saturday, June 28, 5pm] I will be hosting an event to raise money for the Nader for President 2008 campaign.

As you know, I feel very strongly about the Nader/Gonzalez campaign and what it represents. It is essential that we raise as much money as possible in order to ensure that the Nader/Gonzalez positions, are given the national attention they deserve.

Nader/Gonzalez are on opposite side of the political fence from Obama/McCain. Nader/Gonzalez favor a single payer health care system; cutting the bloated, wasteful military budget; taking nuclear power off the table; and reversing U.S. policy in the Middle East. Not so Obama/McCain. Check out: votenader.org!

My fundraising House Party (or Beach Party or Park Party) is an opportunity for everyone to engage in lively discussion about independent candidacy, positive political change, and uncompromised stands on the principles of peace, justice and equality.

Please let me know if Saturday, June 28, 5pm fits into your schedule and if you can commit to contributing. I'd love to have you be my guest.

Very Truly Yours,
Name

Date/Time: Saturday, June 28, 5pm

Location: My House, 3457 Riverview Drive, Madison 54007

Directions:

RSVP: (234) 422-5867

—Overview for House Party Host, pg. 5—

Paid for by Nader for President 2008

Contributions to Nader for President 2008 are not tax deductible.

Nader/Gonzalez House Party

Nader'08 Gonzalez

First Name	Last Name	Address, City, State, ZIP	Phone (area code)	e-Mail (please print clearly)