

Free? **LIBERTARIAN** March 2003

Newsletter of the **LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF MARYLAND**

New Cable Access Program Produced by Libertarian in Montgomery County

Recent graduates of the *Studio Producer* and *Studio Technician* courses offered by Montgomery Community TV, Bob Creager and his son Rob are producing the monthly program:

THREATCON DELTA —

Your Role in Homeland Defense

This program, hosted by Kenn Blanchard, features volunteer opportunities in the homeland defense arena. Programs like the inaugural show on the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) highlight the current and future opportunities for those with defense skills that are under- or unused.

THREATCON DELTA (TCD) attempts to promote the libertarian belief in self-defense and individual responsibility. The earlier shows are promoting programs that are more accepted in Maryland society (read politically correct). The CAP and the Coast Guard Auxiliary (CGA) shows meet that criterion. Later episodes will focus on opportunities like the Maryland Defense Force (MDDF) and personal training on the use of firearms.



Bob Creager (right) and son Rob (left) recording Computers for the Intelligent Adult on January 26th

Future show ideas:

MD Emergency Management Agency (MEMA)
Volunteer Fire Department, EMT
Scouts, Explorers, etc.
Red Cross, Salvation Army
Police, Sheriff Auxiliaries
Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL)
Medical: EMT, CGA, CAP, MDDF, etc.
VFW, American Legion, DAR, etc.
Citizens Corps
Interagency OPSEC Support Staff (IOSS)
U.S. Commission on National Security/21st Century
Self-Defense (Guns): SAS, GOA, Cato, etc.
Self-Defense (non-gun): Aikido, Tai Kwon Do, etc.

The CAP and the CGA are official auxiliaries of the Air Force and Coast Guard, respectively. For those who are not familiar with the MDDF (www.mddefenseforce.org), it is the organized militia attached to the Military Department of Maryland. The Adjutant General (TAG) of Maryland heads the MDDF, and TAG works directly for the Governor. The Military Department of Maryland also includes the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and the Army and Air National Guards. The latter organizations are the subject of future shows.

TCD will originally be shown on Montgomery Community TV (MCT) cable channels 19 and 21. After the initial hurdles of launching a new show are overcome, the show will expand to other Maryland cable access channels. This may require local sponsorship to get the program aired. If anyone has experience airing programs on other Maryland cable access channels, send Bob Creager a note at creager11@msn.com.

As a condition of their license, some cable providers are required to provide volunteer opportunities for residents of their franchise area. Bob Creager, as part of a homeschooling project for his high school aged son Rob, is taking advantage of those opportunities at MCT. As of this writing, Bob and Rob have served as studio technicians on 23 different shoots.

CONVENTION



APRIL 26

Information on Page 2

Maryland Libertarian Party 2003 Convention

Date: Saturday, April 26th 2003

Location: Old Station 8 Firehouse
13 E. Diamond Ave.
Gaithersburg, MD 20877

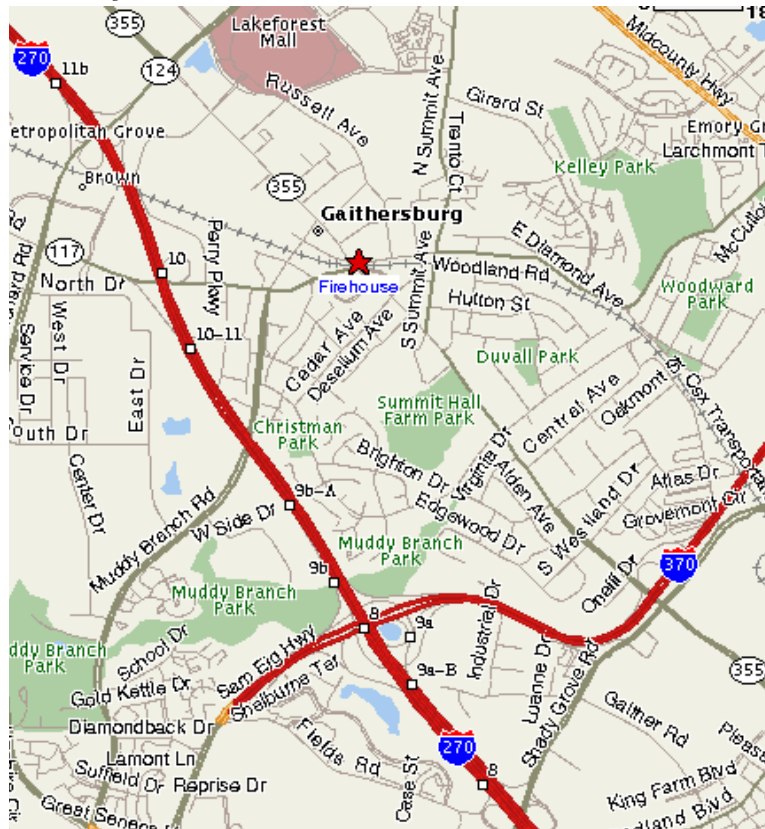
Agenda: (subject to change)

- 10:00 am: Registration, Continental Breakfast
- 10:30 am: Central Committee meeting
Election of Executive Board
- 12:00 pm: Buffet Lunch: meat and vegetarian sandwiches and
salads; coffee, iced tea, lemonade, soda, water
- 1:00 pm: Speakers, including:
Sharon Harris, President *Advocates for Self-Government*
Michael Badnarik, Libertarian Candidate for President
Ron Crickenberger, National LP Political Director
Jan Helfeld, *Free State Project* Media Contact
Spear Lancaster, Libertarian Party Activist
Steve Wilson, Montgomery County LP Chair
Other Speakers TBA
- 5:30 pm: Auction, Raffle, and Prize Winners
- 6:00 pm: Break, dinner set-up
- 6:30 pm: Buffet Banquet: meat and vegetarian entrees;
coffee, iced tea, lemonade, soda, water;
beer, wine, punch (included)
- 7:00 pm: Featured Speaker – Sharon Harris
- 8:00 pm: Awards and Thanks
- 8:15 pm: “Abuses of the First Amendment”

Directions: From the south: take I-270 to Exit 8 (Shady Grove Rd.) and turn right (East); turn left onto Route 355 North (Frederick Rd.); turn right onto Summit Ave.; turn left on E. Diamond Ave. just past the RR tracks – the Firehouse is on the left.
From the north: take I-270 to Exit 11, turn left at the traffic light onto Quince Orchard Rd. (later becomes Montgomery Village Ave.); turn right onto Route 355 (Frederick Rd.) heading south; turn right onto Chestnut St.; turn left onto E. Diamond Ave. (if you cross over the RR tracks, you’ve gone too far) – the Firehouse is on the right.

Parking: Use the lot east of the Firehouse, or the MARC station garage off of Summit Ave.

Updates and online (credit card) registration: www.MD.LP.org/2003/convention.html



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Fax: 801-640-0953. Newsletter submissions are solicited.

Editor: Robert E. Glaser

Check www.MD.LP.org regularly for the current event calendar, news, email listserves, photo album, and more! Be certain to submit all of your current event information to LPMD.Event@ICengineering.com to get the information online.

Content Policy

The views expressed by contributors to this publication are not necessarily the views of the Libertarian Party of Maryland, its Executive Board, or the Central Committee. The *Free? State Libertarian* is a first amendment publication, and welcomes diverse participation from many sources.

The Libertarian Party of Maryland

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The *Free? State Libertarian* is mailed to all Libertarian Party of Maryland members and paid subscribers. You may have received a gratis copy (mailing label says “Join the MD Libertarian Party”) because you are registered Libertarian, are a member of the National Libertarian Party, or requested information. We appreciate you acting to: join the MdLP with the back page form: (if you’re a National member, it’s only \$5 more than National-only for both Md + National if you renew through us!); join the Central Committee; become a newsletter subscriber only (send \$15 to above address); and/or register Libertarian (when we get 1% of the state registered, we can run candidates without petition signatures).

MdLP 4/26/2003 Convention Payment FormDiscount Deadline: 4/11/2003 Before Student* After

Central Committee Meeting	\$0	\$0	\$0	Name(s):
Entire Day Package	\$65	\$45	\$85	Address:
Daytime & Lunch (to 6:00 pm)	\$30	\$20	\$40	
Evening & Banquet (after 5:00 pm)	\$40	\$30	\$50	

Number attending Central Committee Meeting: ____

Circle the charges above. Note special needs:

Telephone:
(for registration confirmation)

Total Enclosed (payable to the MdLP): \$_____, or

Email:

Charge to: VISA MC AmExp Discover (circle one)

Chip Spangler

_____ exp. date: _____

Mail to ➡ 11902 Beltsville Dr., Apt. 16
Beltsville, MD 20705

Signature _____

*Student rate available prior to 4/11 for full-time students

State Executive Board Officers

Chairman	Nick Sarwark	301-439-2139	Chair*MD.LP.org
Vice Chairman			
Secretary	Robert E. Glaser	410-363-8748	N3IC*ICEngineering.com
Treasurer	Joe Miller	410-789-3899	hatsIwear*aol.com
Membership	Steven Sass	410-602-8401	Crestln*erols.com
At Large			
At Large			

The executive board meets monthly. All meetings are open. Contact Nick Sarwark for date and location.

County Affiliates

Anne Arundel County	Chris Panasuk	410-636-6112	ChrisPanasuk*yahoo.com
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Baltimore County	Steve Boone	410-789-4249	GoobGrover*netzero.net
Caroline County	Allen Thomas	410-634-1540	gts*crosslink.net
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Frederick County	Mike Barnes	---	MontyBarnes*yahoo.com
Harford County	Roy J. Meyers III	410-879-5300	RMeyers*rjcc.net
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Chair's Report



Happy New Year! The snows of winter are finally waning, just in time for our party to emerge stronger and more vibrant than ever. We enter this New Year with more party members, stronger local organizations, and a clear focus. It promises to be a great year!

We had an incredible year last year, with Spear Lancaster and Lorenzo Gaztañaga running in our first ever statewide race for Governor and Lieutenant Governor. While we did not win (this time), the amazing efforts put forth by the candidates and all of the supporters showed us what we are capable of. The campaign set the bar high, but I am confident that we can exceed it in the future.

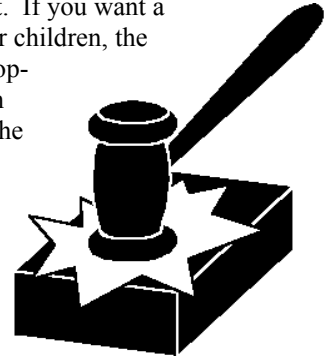
At our upcoming state party convention we will set the direction of **your** party for the next year. There are three openings on the state executive board ready to be filled by Libertarians dedicated to making a positive difference in Maryland. You'll have a chance to meet the various Presidential hopefuls coming from around the country, get some great activist training, hear exciting speakers, and have a wonderful time with fellow Libertarians. I'm looking forward to seeing you there.

Our main focus for the early part of this year is regaining ballot access. We have to petition to regain our status as a recognized party in Maryland. Roy Meyers III is coordinating volunteers for the drive. We're almost halfway to our goal in just a couple of months, so we should be able to finish just as we're getting into the spring outreach season. Please contact Roy and let him know when you can help with gathering signatures.

After that, we'll be kicking it back into high gear for another season of outreach. We plan to maintain our presence at all of the major events that we've been at in the past, and this year we are looking to have a presence at the Maryland State Fair for the first time in our party's history.

2003 will be what we make of it. If you want a truly Free State for yourself and your children, the time to act is now. We all have the opportunity to make a more Libertarian world. What we choose to do with the opportunity determines what kind of people we are. What are **you** going to do?

Yours in liberty,
— *Nicholas J. Sarwark*



[E]very act of a delegated authority, contrary to the tenor of the commission under which it is exercised, is void. No legislative act, therefore, contrary to the Constitution, can be valid. To deny this, would be to affirm, that the deputy is greater than his principal; that the servant is above his master; that the representatives of the people are superior to the people themselves; that men acting by virtue of powers, may do not only what their powers do not authorize, but what they forbid.

— *Alexander Hamilton*

Coup for Wisconsin, Maryland's Loss

The Wisconsin Libertarian Party has hired its first Executive Director with the hope of building on its showing in the 2002 race for governor. Libertarian nominee Ed Thompson, the brother of former Republican Gov. Tommy G. Thompson, got about 10% of the statewide vote in the race won by Democrat Jim Doyle over GOP Gov. Scott McCallum.

The new Executive Director is 22-year-old **Jeremy Keil** (photo), who said that he will focus on building party membership, raising money, and finding good candidates for the 2004 elections. Wisconsin is now one of about a dozen states with a full-time, permanent Executive Director. Jeremy said the party will focus on local, state, and potentially the U.S. Senate race in 2004.

In an AP report, Ed Thompson credited Keil with helping rally support on college campuses for his gubernatorial bid. "We've got to strike while the iron is hot," Thompson said, "and Jeremy is the one to do it."

Jeremy was a major force in organizing Libertarian groups and events while he was a student at Western Maryland College, now McDaniel College. He was elected to the MdLP Executive Board at the July Central Committee meeting; since then, he was instrumental in the petition signature campaign ongoing in Maryland post election. He was also elected chair of the Anne Arundel LP.

We will sorely miss Jeremy here in Maryland, but congratulate him on his new position. We look forward to hearing of all the great things he will certainly accomplish in Wisconsin.



The 2002 National Convention

I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank Nick Sarwark, Lorenzo Gaztañaga, Dean Ahmad, and Steve Boone for all of the work they did at the convention in Indianapolis in July.

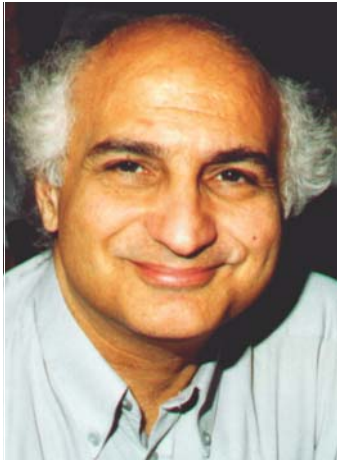
Even though Spear had his speaking engagement moved back from Saturday afternoon to Sunday morning, the floor of the convention center was covered with yellow and black “Spear” banners. Even other delegations were waving “Spear” signs.

For those of you who could not attend, the Maryland delegation was by far the most organized, focused, and prepared delegation at the convention.

Again, thanks to those who went above and beyond the call of duty for all Maryland Libertarians. — *Steve Wilson*

The following were elected to the Judicial Committee by acclamation (seven candidates for seven positions): Dean Ahmad (left photo), Greg Clark, Rock Howard, Tom Knapp, Richard Moroney, David Nolan, and Blay Tarnoff (the Judicial Committee elected Dean Ahmad as Judicial Committee Chair.)

The regional representatives for DC, DE, MD, NJ, PA, VA, and WV are Lorenzo Gaztañaga (right) and alternate Fred Childress.



MdLP's Amendment to WRAA

On May 11, 2002, the MdLP Central Committee passed a proposal to amend the “Women’s Rights and Abortion” plank in the national platform. As directed, MdLP Secretary Robert Glaser sent the proposal to Platform Committee chair Mike Dixon and the other Committee members.

The proposal was to replace the 2nd and 3rd paragraphs of WRAA with this:

We oppose forced abortion and tax-funding of abortion. Since there is principled disagreement among Libertarians about whether or not abortion is consistent with libertarian philosophy, the Libertarian Party therefore takes no position concerning to what extent abortion should be regulated by law and leaves the question to each of its members and candidates for their conscientious consideration.

I, too, sent the proposal to each PlatCom member, and three said they would introduce it at the meeting. None did, so it never got discussed. Abortion was discussed, however, when one PlatCom member tried to delete it from the “Population” plank. Unfortunately, the MdLP’s proposal was not included in the collection of other proposals handed out to each PlatCom member. I was assured it would be included in the meeting’s Minutes, but I haven’t seen them.

Nonetheless, the MdLP amendment did get broad attention. Before the convention, I told the delegates about it by email. So did the June 2002 *LP News*; it carried an adapted version of my January 2002 *Free? State Libertarian* article about it. Interestingly, in the plank-by-plank retention vote taken at the onset of the convention, WRAA was almost deleted from the platform. The count was Retain: 180 (53.4%); Delete: 165; and Abstain: 12. Copies of the amendment were also distributed two days later on the floor by some delegates from other states.

— *Doris Gordon*, Delegate
libertarian*erols.com

Libertarian Party De-Certified in Maryland?

Soon... Technically, we are *already* gone. Zero Libertarians. Party’s Over. We must get the signatures to re-create the party.

We currently have less than half – approximately 4,200. We must have 10,000 so we have to collect at least 5,800 more signatures. Plus probably a few thousand more to cover the signatures that will be invalid on the first pass.

So you may be asking yourself: “What can I do to help?”

Well, first: **SIGN A PETITION.** Download one from the web site (www.MD.LP.org) or contact us. Come to a Libertarian Night Out (LNO) or a business meeting and sign a petition. There are easily a dozen Libertarian events each month in the state – get to one and sign.

Next: **ASK OTHERS TO SIGN.** Get some blank petitions, circulate them among family, friends, co-workers, neighbors. Get everyone you can to sign. Many people don’t even care what your petition is for – they are glad to help you out.

Then: **ASK OTHERS TO CIRCULATE PETITIONS FOR YOU.** Someone you know might be perfectly willing to get all their co-workers to sign. Again, this isn’t a big ideological issue, just keep it personal: “Help me out, get me a few signatures.” You will be surprised to find that people will be happy to lend a hand.

If you are interested in doing group door-to-door, outside grocery store, or other organized collection activities – please contact me first.

If you can, **CONTRIBUTE FUNDS** to your local or state party. Every time we do a mailing, we get more signatures. Speak up and indicate how you want your funds spent – if you are willing to buy pizza for a group of people who are collecting signatures, *say so*. If you are willing to fund the purchase of t-shirts or some other “give away” for volunteers – send in some bucks, and *say so*. You do know the extraordinary hardships people will go through when motivated by free pizza or a cool t-shirt, don’t you?

So please... Sign a petition, get others to sign one... get others to get people to sign... send us your money so we can motivate and reward our signature collectors.

Act now – today – get and sign a petition, please. Otherwise, we will eventually have to track you down and bother you to sign while you are eating dinner or watching Jeopardy. No one wants to do that. This could go easy for you – just *sign* a petition and then everything will be OK.

— *Roy J. Meyers III*
410-879-5300
Czar of Signature Collection (or is it Signature Collection Czar?)

Afterthoughts on the Gubernatorial Race

As a relatively new Libertarian, I am prone to be oblivious to the many failures and false starts that have not only plagued the Libertarian party, but all third parties. While I had a keen interest in politics, and had read about races for years, I had no idea of just how little I understood the political process. Much of what I thought was *information* was, as I later realized, *misinformation*.

Looking back, I have to take responsibility for much of this, but in my defense there is very little effort on the part of the power players to really educate the public on what's really happening. Or who is really pulling the strings. If you have only a basic understanding of oligarchies, this is obvious, but like children who were told fairy tales, we hate to give them up. It's a lot harder to unlearn than it is to learn. This is especially true when you have held ideas for a long time, and have a desire to believe them. So I accepted several assumptions that proved to be difficult to overcome.

First and foremost, I had no illusions that as Libertarians we would be major players. If it came down to being a tight race, we might or might not have a chance to play the role of spoiler. We might have some influence by being able to throw our support to create the winner. Our main, and for the most part, only real goal was to win the necessary votes to retain ballot access. While we would appreciate any other benefits that might accrue, most of our effort was to retain ballot access.

What made us think we could achieve this goal? I don't know. Perhaps we sort of talked ourselves into it. Not having any experience in the political arena, I believed Steve Boone when he said, "If we get on the ballot you can't miss. Even Mickey Mouse or None of the Above can win." Dear reader, I hate to admit it, but it was a bit humiliating to realize on November 6th that I had been beat out by Mickey Mouse. Or worse, by "None of the Above," but that's how the best laid plans of men and mice...



Election night at *Fuddruckers* – all eyes are on the overhead televisions tuned to various news reports

It is important to review the obstacles to achieving our goal. Also, to understand why most, if not all, of these obstacles exist. Nothing operates in a vacuum. Every obstacle is there for a reason. Maybe not the right reason, and certainly not the reason given by the people who form the obstacles, but nevertheless they have a reason, and it's important to understand the whys.

Pure and simple, it's to ensure that the system works to protect the people who benefit from the system. This is almost as trite as saying, "when the sun rises, darkness disappears" but we must always keep this in our focus. If you have ever hunted, you

realize that you can't hit what you can't sight in on. Much political capital is wasted fighting windmills.

I am not saying that the system is all wrong, or even all that bad. As exasperated as I may get about a particular situation, I still realize just how much better our system is than most other systems. My recent visit to Guatemala, where they had a thirty-year civil war – that's correct, thirty years – and the poverty that follows, helps develop one's appreciation of a stable democratic government. Even one with lots of flaws that just about guarantees that there will be no major challenge to the system.

The number one obstacle was getting on the ballot. The qualifications didn't seem all that difficult to me. Did I hear someone say "ignorance is bliss?" We got off to a bad start because it was not really clear that we had to have the Governor *and* the Lt. Governor on the petition form. So we gathered a few thousand signatures and had to discard them. Lauren Hill was gracious enough to let us place her name on the ballot, and we started again. Later, Lauren Hill asked to be taken off the ballot, and Lorenzo Gaztañaga [above right, at the *Red Rooster* celebrating ballot access] agreed to run as Lt. Governor. This seemed to upset people more than I thought was reasonable. It was especially disturbing when most of the fire came from people who were inactive at the time.



We recovered and started over. Things picked up, and by the time I left for vacation in December of 2001, it looked good. However, when I returned and discovered that very few additional signatures had been gathered, I started to get worried. Getting the signatures was beginning to look a lot more difficult. It was becoming clear why there had not been a third party candidate in years.

The realization that we needed to develop a campaign team was becoming more obvious every day. Steve Boone was working night and day, but there were just too many things for any one person to do. Since I had virtually no experience, I wasn't a lot of help. Luckily, Troy Zinderman joined as the treasurer. I had a lot of respect for what that job entailed, and as we progressed that respect grew. Troy not only set up the checking account and rented a PO Box (which he checked regularly during the campaign), but he also ordered signs, t-shirts, yard signs, stickers, etc. Troy also drove to Washington, DC on many occasions late at night to pick up petitions and pay the petitioners. Not to mention the many, many, forms that had to be filed with the State Board of Elections.

Dan O'Neil agreed to be the media manager. Again, I have no experience with how to interface with the different media outlets. Nor did I know what type of photos would be needed. Or to watch for the typical pitfalls that I would face. With Dan on board, all I had to do was give him a call and I had the answer.

If anything was soothing my nerves about that time, it was the core team that we had in place. We had many, many, meetings, and I can say without reservation, that in the 45 plus years of being in business, I never worked with a better team. As crises came up, one of us seemed to be able to come up with an answer. No job was too much. For example, for over a year petitions had

to be collected and verified. To ensure that we would not lose the petitions in case of a fire or other calamity, we decided to rent a storage area. This meant that Troy had another job. Weekly, Troy and Steve would add up the petitions and store them.



We knew we would need money, but we didn't have precise estimates. The old bromide that money is mother's milk to politics was becoming quite evident. We had Libertarian members like Tony Spezio [left, at the *Red Rooster*] who were able to collect quite a few petition signatures, but we ended up spending the majority of our funds to obtain enough signatures to qualify for the ballot. It was only after we qualified that I realized what we had accomplished. At a Chamber of Commerce

meeting, someone would ask "are you really on the ballot?" My politician friends were especially surprised that we made it.

There was no way that the usual political contributors were going to give us money. We are Libertarians, and we are not into selling favors. We want to reduce government, and the folks who contribute to the standard political parties want the opposite. We thought we would run ads in the Libertarian media. Ads were run in *LP News* and *Liberty*. I don't have the exact numbers, but we did not even recoup our cost. We had some really generous contributors from our Maryland members, and we even received a few contributions from well-wishers. However, I feel that we never got close to figuring out how to raise money for our type of campaign. We spent \$44,473.60 officially, and most of this was to gather petitions. My guess is that our members spent at least another \$5,000 for booths at fairs, festivals, and activities related to petitions.

In spite of continued effort on Dan O'Neil's part, we received very little help from the media. I had started making contact with the press. I was told that until we became certified on the ballot, they were not interested. The same with talk radio. We did get a chance to be on cable TV in St. Mary's county in November of 2001, and Dan was able to get me a spot on several of the talk radio programs at his station, WNAV, but all in all we were stonewalled.

The day of submitting the petitions was filled with tension. There were thousands of petitions filed in box after box that had been recorded and stored. Troy was in charge of getting them safely to the State Board of Elections in Annapolis. I can only say that I was as nervous as a teenager on his first date. Would Troy have an accident? Would there be a glitch in the paperwork? Would someone in the state hierarchy decide it was not in their interest to have a third party candidate on the ballot, and bring legal action that would be impossible to overcome in time to run a campaign? How many petitions would be voided for some arcane excuse?



After what seemed like a long, long time, Steve called and said, "it's official, we are on the ballot." [left, Spear and Steve at the *Red Rooster*] We were now ready to roll the presses, or so we thought. We were able to obtain interviews with folks like David Nitkin of *The Sun*, but it was slow going. We never received any real coverage from *The Sun* or the *Washington Post*. However, we did make it into several papers, and actually the front page of the



Governor/Lt. Governor candidates Spear Lancaster/Lorenzo Gaztañaga on election night at *Fuddruckers*

papers in southern Maryland and the *City Paper* in Baltimore. We received a really nice release from the *Associated Press*, and the *Daily Record* gave a generous report. We also received time on Channel 22 of Montgomery County cable, as well as spots on Fox and other channels. We also were given time on talk radio. In retrospect, I have to admit that being a nobody running as a third party candidate, it is hard to complain too much. When the big boys are spending twenty million and up, it's sort of hard for a reporter to want to waste too much ink on rank amateurs. We didn't have one full time employee, we didn't have an office, we didn't have one serious endorsement from a recognizable organization, and we had a candidate who had never run for political office before, so it is understandable that what coverage we did receive was more than appreciated.

The subject of debates came up in the early part of the campaign. As it happened, the whole idea of debates turned out to be academic. Would we have had a chance to be included in the debates if they had occurred? I doubt it. I am on the government affairs committee of the Anne Arundel Chamber of Commerce, and they were discussing when to invite the candidates to debate in Anne Arundel county. There was lengthy discussion about the chance of getting KKT to agree. Lots of ideas on how to appeal to her vanity so that the Chamber would reap brownie points for being the sponsor, etc. But at no time was the inclusion of a Libertarian mentioned. I sat silently, enjoying the footwork and tap dancing of the chairman and the executive director as they waltzed around the issue. They were somewhat embarrassed, and I loved it. I sat back like an old lover at a wedding.

It was almost as funny with the pollsters. We were included in one poll by *Arcsott and Gonzales*. I called *Mason Dixon*, and *Potomac* also. Somehow, I was put through to the president of *Potomac*. After introducing myself to Mr. Keith Haller, I mentioned that I was the first certified candidate for the office of governor, and was surprised that he had not included us in his poll. After a long pause, he said that he was not aware that we had been certified. I asked for his fax number, and advised him that I was going to fax him a copy of the official letter that we had received. I also mentioned that I would call him again to follow up. Many attempts to reach him finally paid off, and after the usual pleasantries, he told me that the people who he was doing the poll for gave him instructions to only ask about the two con-

tenders. I made a few comments about civic duty to the readers, etc., but realized that embarrassing him further at this point would be a bit like kicking a watermelon.

What did we achieve? Was it worth the effort? What is the downside of running this type of campaign? Let's cover the negatives first. We spent roughly \$50,000. Could we have received better long-term results if we had spent the money in other ways? I can't answer that. For example, would we have received the same amount of donations to run a voter education program? Or if we had gone all out for a voter registration drive? Maybe raise money for a scholarship to educate future leaders? All good ways to promote Libertarian values, but I don't feel we could have generated the enthusiasm and commitment that we did by running a statewide candidate.

We did gather a lot of experience that we can use in the future to run our own candidates, or to help other candidates succeed. When the campaign started, I was too inexperienced to even ask

the right questions. Forget the right answer, if you don't know what to ask, you will rarely get good answers. Just being aware of the odds against you – and the minimum resources you will need to make a showing – is very, very, important. For example, trying to run for the governorship without a full time employee or office takes either a lot of courage or foolhardiness. Maybe both.

Do I have any regrets? Only one: THAT WE did not get the number of votes needed to retain party status. The pluses are too numerous to even start to mention. The support from a small cadre of people was unreal. The time and money put forth by some of our members was gratifying beyond belief. It's not like I would be in a position to reward them with anything. Only the love of liberty and freedom motivated them. I was really overwhelmed BY THEIR hard work.

At this time, I want to thank everyone for the chance to REPRESENT the party, and I look forward to working with everyone in the future.
— *Spear Lancaster*

NRA Endorsement?



This is particularly galling, since the NRAPVF endorsed neither Ehrlich nor Townsend, but merely graded them "B" and "F", respectively. That means there is no excuse for not even mentioning Spear Lancaster, who was on the ballot and who would almost certainly merit an "A" grade, for fear of taking some votes away from an endorsed gubernatorial candidate. The organization has endorsed only two of the 16 on-the-ballot congressional candidates listed, yet I note that several of

the other congressional candidates who are not endorsed have yet been given an "A" grade. Likewise, Spear should have been listed, and given a grade.

It should be noted that the NRA's PVF makes endorsements sparingly, requiring both that the candidate endorsed have a high pro-gun-rights grade, and that the candidate have a realistic chance of winning. For that reason it is quite understandable that they would withhold endorsement from Spear, as they have withheld endorsement from a number of other "A" graded candidates. It seems that the NRAPVF loads the dice by endorsing only candidates who have a reasonable expectation of winning, so as to make their record of success in political endorsements look better. That is their privilege. What is inexcusable on grounds of fairness is their omission of any mention of Spear, who is an on-the-ballot pro-gun-rights candidate for the single most influential elective office in the state.

It is inconceivable that the organization could have carefully researched the stands of Maryland candidates and somehow have missed the fact that Spear Lancaster is on the ballot for Governor. I am led to the conclusion that Spear is being ignored because he is running as a Libertarian. I am appalled. I am at a complete loss to explain why they would omit any mention of the one most strongly pro-gun-rights candidate for Governor, alienating Libertarians and Libertarian-leaning voters throughout the state of Maryland.

See www.nrapvf.org/MD.HTM.

— *Ron Kean*

????????????????????????????????



The National Rifle Association Political Victory Fund created a list of candidate endorsements for the November election. Unfortunately, they left Spear out of the list of candidates. This was not unexpected, but a big disappointment. For all of the time and effort put into supporting the NRA and the Second Amendment, you would hope that the NRA would at least *acknowledge* that Spear was on the ballot.

Please let the NRA know how much of a disappointment this was to us. Contact the NRA!

— *Steve Wilson*

What *Were* You Thinking?

An Insider's Look at the Spear Campaign 2002

It's been three months since the November election, when Congressman Robert Ehrlich defeated two other candidates to become Maryland's new governor. For the most part, I've maintained radio silence on the whole issue, but I believe it's time to now give an inside view on what went on during the campaign.

At the very beginning, we had several goals – unfortunately, not all of which came to pass. It's important to understand the conditions we saw, and the assumptions we made in starting the drive. Two years out, this is a lot of what we saw:

① Kathleen Kennedy Townsend was vulnerable, but would likely squeak through in the race for Governor. Glendening was doing everything he could to buy off all primary opposition that could possibly defeat her.

② Robert Ehrlich was pussy-footing around with whether he was going to make the race, and was putting some conditions on running. The more he played around, the less likely he might be to receive solid Republican support. If Ehrlich didn't make the race, then Ross Pierpont might have the edge, with no likelihood of defeating KKT.

③ Despite the problems on both sides, it didn't look like a close race, which would augur well for a third party candidate, such as Spear.

④ The Greens were not likely going to run a candidate, leaving Spear as the only third party candidate in the race.

⑤ Although a daunting task, we were confident we could get the needed signatures to get an LP candidate on the ballot. Our original estimate was 30,000 valid max. We ended up needing 27,117.

⑥ Once we made history by getting Spear qualified, we would jazz up the LP members, who would likely help with both financial and volunteer contributions, and also enlist more people to join the Party.

⑦ An active campaign would then allow us to disseminate the Libertarian message to a wider audience, make us a news story, and perhaps get more news coverage – and even slightly less likely, an invitation to participate in any debate.

We honestly thought that, given the above, achieving 1% of the vote might not be all that out of the question.

As it turned out, we did a moderate job of bringing new people into the campaign and into the party. Several new faces are now involved in their county parties, including Jack Mitcham and Kelly Real in Baltimore County. Troy Zinderman's great web

design work helped the Spear campaign, and is now supporting a new Baltimore County website. Brothers Aaron and Zach Jones each contributed many hours in literature drops and time at the polls in Anne Arundel county.

We had some exhilarating highs: gathering and turning in the signatures, reaching the ballot, and getting great press coverage in southern Maryland.

We also had some excruciating lows: lack of funding and support, even after making it to the ballot, lack of press coverage even after making history, and the inability to be included in any of the major forums.

Most disturbing was hearing from self-identified Libertarians, even county activists and chairs, that they would be voting Republican rather than for Spear.

Many of the volunteers who worked at the polls that day reported numerous people coming out from the polls who said, "We really wanted to vote for your guy, but we were so afraid of that woman that we voted for Bob." Some identified themselves as Libertarians, others said they were disgusted by both of the other candidates, but voted for Ehrlich anyway. By 9:00 am, I knew it was Ehrlich in a walk.

In the end, people who entered the voting booth had the chance to see the word Libertarian on the ballot along with the Democrat and Republican candidates. People heard the message of liberty in Maryland who might not otherwise have been exposed to it without Spear's going on the campaign trail.

Obviously, the original assumptions changed. Nobody expected the Townsend campaign to be as weak and self-destructive as it turned out to be. Similarly, in a close election, fewer people were willing to vote for a third party than might normally have occurred.

Would more money have made a difference? Sure. Instead of having to spend \$35,000 to reach the ballot, even half of that in advertising and outreach might have done so much more.

Finally, I want to stress that unlike other Libertarian campaigns, not one member of the staff drew even one cent in salary or perks. Our entire effort was volunteer, and we're pretty proud of that fact.

Either way, we gave it a shot. Was it worth it?

— *Steve Boone*



Spear and Steve on Election Night at *Fuddruckers*

Reflections of a County Council Candidate



Last year I ran for a seat on the Howard County Council as a write-in Libertarian candidate. Although I never expected to win (or even come close) I hoped to spread the message of individual liberty and limited government. My expectations were exceeded. A local paper, the *Howard County Times*, featured me in two articles, one which included my photograph. I gained further notoriety with an entry in the League of Women Voters Guide. And the

League invited me to a candidate's forum held in late October. Finally, my name and political party appeared in the general election sample ballot sent to over 144,000 registered voters in my county.

With financial assistance from my local chapter, the Carroll/Howard County Libertarian Party, I ordered 1,000 professional looking campaign brochures. Nearly all of these were distributed to hundreds of homes in my district. A Glenelg restaurant owner graciously allowed me to display my campaign brochure on a window facing the parking lot. The aforementioned *Howard County Times* invited me to an editor's candidate

meeting held at their office in Columbia. As a result of appearing at different candidate's forums, a reporter for *The View*, an Ellicott City paper, interviewed and featured me in a subsequent issue.

Why am I telling you this? Because I want you to run as a Libertarian candidate in a future election. You can run on a shoestring budget and get noticed. Testify at enough county council meetings, for instance, and reporters will soon ask you questions. You will probably develop a rapport with one, as happened in my case. Unlike the "Republicrats" – and most civic activists – we Libertarians clamor for *less* government. I guarantee your local politicians will remember you.

Our party desperately needs exposure in a public setting. But a party and its platform are nothing more than abstract ideas unless fronted by people like you. I know many of you do much worthy behind-the-scenes work, and realize running for office is not for everyone. Some say our party should only run for offices that we have a reasonable chance of winning. I respectfully disagree. Without more Libertarians contesting offices, we will never get the widespread attention we desire and deserve.

Spread the Libertarian gospel – and go for it!

— *David Margolis*
herrdave@hotmail.com

Job Jar

Getting tired of re-runs of *Dr. Who*, *Stargate*, and *Left ...er... West Wing*? Not enough adventure and fun in your daily life? Are you ready to move beyond the challenges of family, work, and taking out the trash on the proper night?

Well... we have lots of fabulous opportunities for you. We are actively searching for highly motivated self-starters, full of energy and idealism, and able to handle solemn responsibilities.

Until we find *those* people, we will be happy if **you** will help!

Please review the following "job descriptions," and determine which of them you would like to do most – and contact us before you have any time to think about it:

Communications Director

This is a fancy name for press secretary. Applicant must possess the ability to write well and possibly edit, but definitely have the ability to act with *speed*. The ideal applicant will be able to get a heads-up from someone that a particular issue needs to be addressed (state legislation, reaction to comments by a public official, etc.) – then write up a perfectly formatted media release which presents the party in a positive manner, and distribute it to various media organizations. We could possibly use a few people in this capacity so that there is a backup or two if someone is unavailable.

Advertising Manager

The applicant will have the time and skills to contact and *solicit* businesses to advertise in the *Free? State Libertarian* to help fund its publication.



Legislation Monitors

We are looking for people with too much time on their hands, to monitor the activities, hearings, and news of the state legislature and other local bodies so that we receive advance notice of issues we should address where we can likely influence public policy. Several people are required to monitor various issues on the state level, and every county could use a person or two.

Volunteer Coordinator

Someone to handle the deluge of responses from *Job Jar* requests. Must be able to interview a volunteer, determine his skills, interests, and match them appropriately; or set up the volunteer as a person in charge of a particular initiative.

Other Odd Jobs

We also need people with experience in marketing, sales, computers, and management. We need lawyers, writers, and people who can stuff envelopes and apply labels.

We'll match your skills and interests with work that needs doing. Please contact us now! Until we fill the position of volunteer coordinator, you can call Roy J. Meyers III at 410-879-5300.

Executive Board

The entire Board is up for election at the Convention (page 2); should all of the current officers be reelected, that still leaves three openings. Board members must be members of the Central Committee, which requires Libertarian registration and MdLP membership.

The New Voting Machines

I had the opportunity to use the new voting machines in the last election. I will discuss voting machines in general, and then make some positive and negative observations about the new machines.

I have been voting regularly since 1974. This has exposed me to a variety of voting machines.

Most of the machines used have been those large booth machines. The kind with the curtains, all of those levers, and the push back windows for write ins. The way those machines work is that when the finish lever is pulled, a card is punched with all of the votes. The card is then read through a machine, with all the others, to tally up the votes. Write-ins go on a large scroll of paper for later tallying.

I have also had the opportunity to vote using the cards that the voter sticks with a punch. That is the same kind that Al Gore's honchos would later shake down in Florida to get the chads to fall out.

I did not like those ballots. To enter a write-in, one had to write the candidate's name, and the office, at the top of the card. But there were only three blanks available.

I have not voted for a Republican or a Democrat since 1976. If there is not a Libertarian running for the office, I write one in.

Having only three offices which I could supply with a write-in left me with many offices I simply would not vote for. I felt cheated.

The latest in voting technology are these fully electronic gizmos. One votes by pressing the names of the candidates on the GUI windows that are presented in series. If one presses the "Write-In" square on the screen, one is given a blank line in which to type. There is a rudimentary keyboard located at the bottom.

I was pleased that I could write in a Libertarian for almost every office. The one exception was for a judge, which was either a yes or no vote for continuance in office. I did not vote either way, but it appears to have taken a yes vote as the default. Still, on the whole, I was pleased that voters are allowed to express their write-in opinions in almost all of the offices at the same time.

But I was not pleased to find that there is no audit trail. There is no way that anyone can verify that my votes are counted as they were presented on the screen.

Someone could secretly replace the boot ROMs in these machines and hijack the operating system. There would be little chance to detect that someone has inserted a virus on the system.

A virus might be a simple one line hack that adds the votes to always keep a certain politician 100 votes ahead of any other. What is displayed on the screen may not have anything to do with how the votes are actually tallied.

A virus could also check the date, and only become active on election day, between the hours of 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM. This would permit it to escape any verification testing done days before or days after.

A ROM reader/burner can be bought for several hundred dollars. Blank ROMs can be bought for just a few dollars each. The actual cost of hijacking every election machine in the state of Maryland, including the cost of the programmer's time to write the virus, could be a mere \$10,000 or \$20,000. This is only a small fraction of the millions of dollars some politicians spend to get elected.

Elections could be made secure again by simply adding a receipt printer on each machine. Using the same size paper as the kind of receipts printed at grocery stores, like Giant. After each voter presses the "Finished" button, the votes are tallied, and then a receipt is printed with each of the candidates that received a vote. The voter could verify that it is correct, and then drop it in a ballot box.

Concerned persons should be able to ask to count the votes

from the receipts at the time the polls close. If the receipts do not match the official vote totals from the machines, the concerned persons should complain loudly to authorities, and anyone else who will listen.

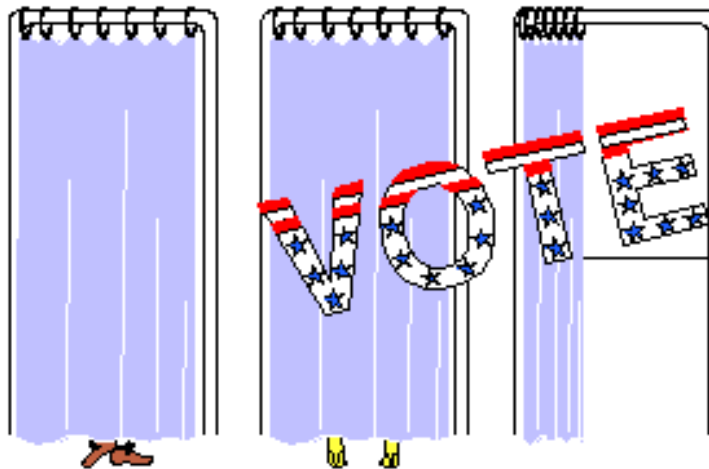
The point I am making is that unless there is some way to expose fraud, then there is no way to stop it.

Should government be trusted to do what is right? That is a bit like trusting the fox to guard the hen house. I have already mentioned Al Gore's fraud squad down

in Florida. There are many other examples of election fraud that most people never even hear about.

Let me encourage everyone to ask their congresspersons for hardcopy audit trails in all elections. And the right for any concerned citizen to audit them.

— *Luke Bryan*



Scriptwriters Needed

If there are any amateur scriptwriters out there with ideas for public service announcements, let me know. I need public service announcements (PSA) to fill out THREATCON DELTA [p. 1].

Each show includes four 30-second PSA's. One PSA is related to the show; the rest are up for grabs. Since the focus of the show is volunteerism, the PSA should include an element of this. We can always use a generic voter registration PSA, but I would prefer something uniquely Maryland LP. The Baltimore *Adopt-A-Highway* program is one such possibility.

Some of the rules associated with PSA's are: they cannot be commercial, solicit funds, be overtly partisan, plus a few other rules (details at www.montgomerycommunitytv.com/submitting.html). We can discuss this in relation to your ideas.

— *Bob Creager*
Creager11*msn.com



MdLP Annual Picnic

The MdLP picnic was held on September 29 at *Granville Gude Park* in Laurel. Even though it was held later in the year than usual due to scheduling conflicts, it was a beautiful day and warm. Great last-minute preparations were made by Katie Marshall and Bill Walker for the food. Thanks! (photos courtesy Luke Bryan – more at www.MD.LP.org/a1bum/)



Central Committee Meeting

The Libertarian State Central Committee of Maryland met at *Granville Gude Park* in Laurel, Maryland. The meeting was called to order at 12:46 pm by chairman Nick Sarwark. Prior to the meeting, the following were distributed: the minutes of the 11 May 2002 and 21 July 2002 Central Committee meetings; the treasurer's report; and the Proposed Libertarian Party of Maryland Program.

The minutes were accepted as distributed. Chip Spangler presented the treasurer's report as received from Joe Miller; he verbally noted that the rate for the Party's liability insurance policy has jumped from \$850 to \$1700 per year, reportedly due to the 9/11 events; he appealed for donations to the Party to help with this unplanned expense. The report was accepted.

Chip Spangler resigned from the Executive Board to concentrate on his duties as PG county chair. Jeremy Keil was elected as Chip's replacement.

A committee consisting of Susan Gaztañaga, Lorenzo Gaztañaga, Glenn Howard, and Chip Spangler worked on a revision of the Proposed Libertarian Party of Maryland Program. Various sections and bullet points were debated and voted upon. The revised Program dated 9/29/2002 reflects these changes.

Robert Glaser reported that, as directed, he communicated by letter and email in a timely manner the recommendation passed by the Central Committee at its 11 May 2002 meeting on the Women's Rights and Abortion plank, including the text of the proposed amendment, to the National LP Platform Committee; and that he requested from the Platform Committee Chair a report of the disposition of the proposal; and that none was received.

The Central Committee meeting adjourned at 2:33 pm.

This is a condensed version of the official minutes, which have not yet been approved by the Central Committee. Approved minutes can be found at www.MD.LP.org/docs/cc/

— Robert E. Glaser

Libertarian Party of Maryland Program

First Steps Towards Freeing the Citizens of the Free State

The purpose of the Libertarian Party of Maryland is to use the political process to promote freedom as the primary value in the organization of a healthy society. To that end, it seeks to elect Libertarians to public office, influence other elected and appointed officials, and move public opinion toward increased liberty in our daily affairs. Our liberties were not curtailed overnight and we do not expect them to be restored overnight. This program represents our first steps toward restoring our freedoms.

Education

Variety in education through local control. Increase family choices by:

- Allowing parental choice of school at least within the government public school system. Education funds will follow each child accordingly;
- Supporting small autonomous schools of 250-500 pupils within the larger school buildings;
- Allowing K-12 neighborhood schools (reducing busing costs);
- Encouraging privately funded K-12 scholarships for non-government educational activities.

Open and Responsible Government

- Create or maintain small, single member legislative districts at the state and local levels with fewer residents. This will encourage politicians to be accountable to their constituents for their actions.
- Take steps to remove politics from redistricting processes. Politicians should not be able to choose who votes for them.
- Work to decentralize the governmental bodies in Maryland. Politicians should respect the right of local communities to govern themselves and not micro-manage every aspect of citizens' lives.

Job and Wealth Creation without Corporate Welfare

Reduce government spending and lower the tax burden by:

- Ending public funding for stadiums, hotels, etc. (Just say "No");
- Promoting economic growth by restructuring the tax system without subsidies or special tax breaks to businesses;
- Reforming licensing laws that unfairly restrict competition, thus allowing the creation of more jobs and business opportunities;
- Reducing government expenditures and lowering the tax burden on individuals.

Secure Property Rights

- Forbid government entities from abusing the power of eminent domain in order to transfer private property to privileged individuals.
- Phase out government entities that compete against the private sector, such as the Maryland Economic Development Corporation (MEDCO).

Sprawl, Transportation, and the Environment

Redevelop vacant and underused urban land and remove developmental pressure on farms and wilderness lands by:

- Removing subsidies to developers, such as publicly funded infrastructure for new developments;
- Encouraging efficient land use by reducing the tax on buildings and property improvements, leaving only assessments on land itself;
- Revising zoning laws to allow the development of self-sufficient communities.

Transportation systems in the compact communities resulting from the above policies would increase pedestrian, rail, and privately provided public transportation relative to automobile traffic.

Crime and Public Safety

- Free up our law enforcement resources by concentrating efforts on crimes against persons and property, and prosecuting those who sell drugs to minors, rather than non-violent offenders.
- Stop any use of "asset forfeiture" until a person has been properly convicted of a crime in the judicial system. Seizure of property before a conviction supports the un-American policy of "guilty until proven innocent."
- Drug prohibition, as alcohol prohibition before it, has increased crime. Drive-by shootings, which first occurred during alcohol prohibition, have become far too frequent during the War on Drugs. Criminals should not be excused of their crimes based on impairment from drug or alcohol abuse.
- The Second Amendment means that any attempts to take guns away from criminals must not deprive any law-abiding adults of the right to arm themselves to protect their homes and liberties. Permit the carrying of firearms with training and a background check. Waiting periods, bans, and registration may actually increase crime.

Revised 29 September 2002

I am only one, but I *am* one. I cannot do everything, but I can do *something*. And because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something that I *can* do. What I can do, I *should* do. And what I should do, by the grace of God, I *will* do.

— *Edward Everett Hale*

Crab & Clam Bake



The 27th Annual *J. Millard Tawes Crab & Clam Bake* is on Wednesday, July 16, from 1:00 - 5:00 pm at Somers Cove Marina in Crisfield. Tickets are a \$30 donation, which includes a mug and mallet. Food: all you can eat; steamed crabs; fresh fried fish; clams, raw bar, steamed and fried; french fries; corn on the cob; onion rings; watermelon; beer and soft drinks. You will have a chance to see our Governor and thank him for the spending increases, and maybe tax increases.

We plan to get there early and get a nice spot under the 7,000 square foot pavilion so that we may be seen by all, and eat with the oppressed masses. Wear a shirt with a Libertarian logo.



This will be the fifth year in a row that we have been there [photos from the 2002 event: above, Michael Linder and Derek Mancinho; below left, group; below right, fan with Spear Lancaster]. I would like to get the first order in by Friday, June 20. There will be 5,000 tickets sold. Send a check made out to Michael Linder, P.O. Box 1261, Edgewood, MD 21040.

— *Michael Linder*

AbingdonMike@yahoo.com, 410-569-2186



The Ant and the Grasshopper – Two Versions

Classic Version

The ant works hard in the withering heat all summer long, building his house and laying up supplies for the winter. The grasshopper thinks he's a fool, and laughs and dances and plays the summer away. Come winter, the ant is warm and well fed. The grasshopper has no food or shelter, so he dies out in the cold.

Modern Version

The ant works hard in the withering heat all summer long, building his house and laying up supplies for the winter. The grasshopper thinks he's a fool, and laughs and dances and plays the summer away. Come winter, the shivering grasshopper calls a press conference and demands to know why the ant should be allowed to be warm and well-fed, while others are cold and starving. CBS, PBS, CNN, NBC, and ABC show up to provide pictures of the shivering grasshopper next to a video of the ant in

his comfortable home with a table filled with food. The media circus is relentless.

America is stunned by the sharp contrast. How can this be, that in a country of such wealth, this poor grasshopper is allowed to suffer so? Kermit the Frog appears on Oprah with the grasshopper, and everybody cries when they sing "It's Not Easy Being Green." Jesse Jackson stages a demonstration in front of the ant's house where the news stations film the group singing "We shall overcome." Jesse then has the group kneel down to pray to God for the grasshopper's state.

A spokesman for a congressional committee exclaims in an interview with Peter Jennings that the ant has gotten rich off the back of the grasshopper, and calls for an immediate tax hike on the ant to make him pay his "fair share." Finally, the EEOC drafts the "Economic Equity and Anti-Grasshopper Act," retroactive to

County Line: Nuts and Bolts of Local Politics for Affiliates

The Board of Elections is your friend – an introduction to the Voter Registration Volunteer system

I have on a few occasions heard some folks in our organization blaming some injustice on some supposedly evil person at the Board of Elections, or someone saying we should threaten to sue them for some trespass or another. I certainly hope this is a narrowly held view.

I submit to you that building a successful political party is hard enough in its own right – but it will be *impossible* if we alienate our Boards of Elections. Establishing and maintaining friendly relationships with your county Board of Elections is a requirement for success.

An easy requirement to fulfil. The people that work at the Boards of Elections are some of the nicest, most helpful folks you can ever work with.

In addition to working with Harford county's Board of Elections, I have gone to Baltimore County's BoE, and talked with the State Board of Elections while working on the Linder campaign. Recently I have had calls and faxes with 17 other counties getting voter registration lists for a state party mailing.

I have never met an elections worker who didn't have a deep respect for the political process... an intense drive to see that things are done right.

In most dealings with the people at the Boards of Elections, even when confronted with bizarre requests, they seem to ask themselves "How can I make this happen?"

I strongly urge every county chair, treasurer, or secretary – whoever has the responsibility of working with them – if you don't already have a relationship with your BoE: start one soon.

Additionally, if you have some question about campaign finance law (and who doesn't?) – you should always feel free to call up the State Board of Elections and talk to someone there about your concern.

the beginning of the summer. The ant is fined for failing to hire a proportionate number of green bugs and, having nothing left to pay his retroactive taxes, his home is confiscated by the government. ACLU (American Communist Lawyers Union) gets to represent the grasshopper in a defamation suit against the ant, and the case is tried before a panel of liberal federal judges. The ant takes the stand and pleads his case that all he did was work to lay aside for the cold weather while the grasshopper did nothing.

No one hears. The ant loses the case. No one is surprised.

The story ends as we see the grasshopper finishing up the last bits of the ant's food, while the government house he is in, which just happens to be the ant's old house, crumbles around him because he doesn't maintain it.

The ant has disappeared in the snow. The grasshopper is found dead in a drug related incident and the house, now abandoned, is taken over by a gang of spiders who terrorize the once peaceful neighborhood.

— via *Bill Buzzell*

Now, back to your local Board of Elections: one of the best ways to get to know these folks is to become a **Voter Registration Volunteer**. Every outreach and fair volunteer *should* be one.

A Voter Registration Volunteer (VRV) is basically someone who has been trained by the local Board of Elections to administer and accept a voter registration application from a citizen. The VRV training is relatively quick, and very informative. You are given an orientation and a booklet with rules and regulations. After completion of the training, you will receive a certificate in the mail.

In Harford County, we had six or seven people trained at once after-hours by special arrangement. If you have a sufficiently large group, the Elections Director (or equivalent at your BoE) might be willing to come to your regular business meeting to do the training.

In summary: if you are going to be involved in politics in your county it is critical that you have a good working relationship with your Elections Director and their staff. Every outreach volunteer who will conceivably be registering people to vote should be a Voter Registration Volunteer. Setting up and attending a group VRV training for your organization is a great way to start or strengthen your relationship with the very important people who work at your local Board of Elections.

Remember, in every contact with your BoE (or any political meeting), you represent more than just yourself – be on your best behavior. Smile, be friendly, be human, treat everyone you meet with respect, and always expect the best possible outcome.

— *Roy J. Meyers III*



Steve Wilson unloads a mailing to all Montgomery County registered Libertarians

Editor's Corner



We skipped an issue to better concentrate on end-of-the-year petition mailings, etc. – but we're *baaaaaack*. The next newsletter is scheduled for July, so please send in articles, recaps of the beginning of the summer outreach events, and announcements for the remainder of the summer plus the fall happenings. Thanks to this issue's contributors.

A lot has happened since the last issue. The gubernatorial race was an unprecedented advance for us, with

yeoman's tasks performed by Spear Lancaster, Lorenzo Gaztañaga, Steve Boone, and so many others as to defy enumeration.

Thank you! Remember that even the most magnificent building is not constructed all at once, but brick by brick. These folks have contributed many such bricks to the foundation already in place. Let's keep the momentum going, and begin planning for the next election cycle.

TECHNOLOGY vs. Liberty

As a design engineer, my natural inclination is to embrace all forms of high tech. But as my libertarian education grows, I also become more fearful of runaway technology not corralled by legal protections. Technological intrusions on our liberty are nothing new; for example, this excerpt is from the 5 July 1962 issue of *Electronic Design*:

The Senate gave speedy approval to house-passed administration legislation compelling television-set manufacturers to market all-channel receivers, but not without hearing a warning from Sen. Norris Cotton (R., NH). Among the few who stood with the Electronic Industries Association against the mandate, Cotton said the new law substitutes "government regulation for the public's freedom to choose among manufactured products." He went on:

"It might be a forerunner of the consumer controls of the future, and it would open up whole new vistas of coercion and confusion... If today we force people to buy TV sets they do not want and cannot use, where shall we draw the line tomorrow – if there is any line left to draw?"

That controversy was about mandating TV's to have a UHF dial in addition to the then-standard VHF selector. That issue pales against today's decision by the FCC to eliminate all analog TV broadcasting by 2007 (just wait – you can tax Americans, take away their freedoms, abuse them – but take away their TV's? There's going to be hell to pay when the average nonpolitical citizen learns of this at the last minute.) And now the FCC has mandated digital tuners, when only an estimated 13% actually receive such off-the-air broadcasts.

Many technological issues infringe upon our freedoms, from the Digital Millennium Copyright Act, to snooping through internet service providers, to the elimination of anonymous air travel with the proposed substitution of "smart" cards which will ultimately lead to a national ID. Here's another concern for the future which many people are probably not aware of:

We're all familiar with the "black boxes" which record airplane data, and are used to learn the causes of tragedies. Most are probably familiar with the so-called "computer" in modern auto-

mobiles, which has gradually taken over many of the functions in electronics-intensive cars. And we've all heard of global positioning system (GPS) equipment (Do you know that many cellphones will have GPS' integrated shortly – all carriers are under a federal mandate to be able to connect 911 systems with the vast majority of cellphone users by 2005. This tracking system, ostensibly for emergencies, provides the capability to locate you precisely.) Put these all together, and what do you get?

The 22 April 2002 *EE Times* reports that automakers, insurance companies, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, and authorities are creating standards for automotive black boxes which will deliver crash information electronically to a managed database. The hope is that by enabling vehicles to transmit crash data instantly, and by creating a central repository for the collection of that data, the system can improve experts' understanding of auto crashes, and reduce accident-related fatalities. It seems to me that this is a useful and desirable application of modern technology. What scares me about it is that once the data is there, *it will be used for other purposes*. Why debate radar cameras to find speeders when we can just ask your car if you have been exceeding the posted speed limit? Did you drive the wrong way on a one-way street? The GPS data can determine this. How many years down the road (sorry!) will it be before your car is tattling on you to law enforcement? You won't even know it's happening, with real-time radio data links.

Do you think this scenario is far-fetched? Right now, the Maryland Dept. of Transportation offers the *E-ZPass* toll pay system, which has a wireless interface. I had a conversation at the Maryland Technology Showcase in December with a state representative about that program. I pointed out that I was concerned about the privacy issues – does the state keep a record of the dates, times, and locations of participants? He told me that indeed they do. It is not insidious malicious intent, but rather a means to keep records to defend against billing discrepancies. I understand the point, but still the reality is that the information is then available to officials by court order, and unofficials via hackers who break into the system. The automotive black box extends this data collection to virtually every driver.

There is hope, however. At least when these high tech proposals come up in the trade journals, invariably there is at least the mention of civil liberty concerns, as from the *EE Times* article: "Several consumer groups have expressed qualms about potential privacy violations, particularly if the technology is associated with global positioning systems that could track a driver's whereabouts."

It is up to us to keep pointing out these small steps which can eventually lead to bigger problems. — **Robert E. Glaser**

"If the Pentagon has its way, every American – from the Nebraskan farmer to the Wall Street banker – will find themselves under the accusatory cyber-state of an all-powerful national security apparatus." — **Laura Murphy**,

director of the ACLU's national office, on the threat to civil liberties under the DoD's online surveillance plans.

"The belief that a government agency is better suited to define our products is nonsensical to us."

— **Don Whiteside**,
VP broadband and content,
Intel Corp. (from Sept 2002
Electronic Business)



In the News

There was much activity surrounding the November election, making it too difficult to keep track of all the media submissions made by our members. So here are just a few:

Larry Powers wrote to the *Washington Times* refuting Bob Barr's op-ed piece in its January 9th issue entitled, "Crimes Before the Fact." Barr had urged police to ignore unjust laws, while Larry stated that such laws should instead be repealed.

In response to the Montgomery County Council president's letter "Celebrating 30 years of Clean Water Act progress," **Gerald Schneider** turned to verse with this not-quite-Shakespearean reply, published in the November 22nd *The Gazette*:

*I will try to be terse
While I comment in verse.
Councilman Steven Silverman does not understand
What is meant by the "invisible hand."
He thinks the market cannot be the solution
To clean up water pollution.
But it is the government to whom he should complain
For the polluted waters are in the public domain.
The "invisible hand," as Adam Smith originally intoned,
Would work if the waterways were independently owned.
For while people may be careless and less than meek
About dumping garbage in waters such as the Chesapeake,
They have reasons not to act like a fool,
And trash their own privately titled pool.*

Katrina Groth (10/22) and **Alex Dzwonchyk** (11/05) had letters to the editor published in *The Diamondback*, the University of Maryland's student paper about Spear Lancaster.

David Goodwin and **Art Barber** had "For Lancaster" letters published in the *Capital Newspaper* on October 17th; **Art Huseonica** on September 16th.

The *Owings Mills Times* published **Robert Glaser**'s letter on October 3rd: "Why doesn't third party candidate get recognition?" about the NAACP debate at Morgan.

Nick Sarwark continues to make monthly appearances on the *Metrotalk with Jerry Phillips* radio show on 100.3 FM and 980 AM (first Sunday of the month, 8:10 - 9:00 am). **Steve Wilson** filled in for Nick on the December show, and **Gerald Schneider** did likewise in July. Go to www.MD.LP.org/audio/ to listen to archived show recordings.

Congratulations to our public advocates. Please send in reports of your successes, too!

Furthering Liberty

There are small things individuals can do in their daily lives to further liberty and freedom. Whenever you happen by a bookstore, ask for books on liberty and freedom. Suggest a list of titles and authors you would like to see; it helps if you can speak to whoever has authority to buy the books. It also helps if you are a serious bookbuyer, and the owner of the bookstore (or buyer) perceives you as such.

There has been an explosion of new titles over the last decade that concern liberty. Most bookstores are sadly lacking in these titles; if a store does carry some, support that store! Here is a short list of titles you might ask for:

James Bovard: *Freedom In Chains: The Rise of the State and the Demise of the Citizen*

James Bovard: *Lost Rights: The Destruction of American Liberty*

Harry Browne: *The Great Libertarian Offer*

Larry Elder: *Showdown: Confronting Bias, Lies, and the Special Interests That Divide America*

Larry Elder: *The Ten Things You Can't Say In America*

Walter E. Williams: *Do the Right Thing*

Walter E. Williams: *More Liberty Means Less Government*

Both bookstores and libraries are sorely lacking in books pertaining to liberty. It is worth your time to make requests for books, as well as for periodicals such as *Liberty*, *Reason*, and *Freedom Daily*.

I run a comic book store in College Park, Maryland, and I recently started carrying some books on liberty and freedom, as well as the regular comic book selections. While we are not selling tons, we are selling significant numbers of these books. If you run a business and are a Libertarian, you may want to consider carrying a few books.

Nearly every day, someone at least makes a comment about one of the books, and I have enjoyed some very pleasant conversations with both Libertarians and non-Libertarians. I also ordered a small stock of giveaway items: the *Cato Institute Declaration of Independence & Constitution* (www.cato.org, 800-767-1241); comics from the *Jews For the Preservation of Firearms Ownership* (www.jpfo.org, 262-673-9745); and a supply of *The Law* by Frederic Bastiat (*Foundation For Economic Education*, 800-452-3518).

Whether you are a bartender, cab driver, teacher, hair stylist, store owner, or make a living in any of the other thousands of ways – if you are a Libertarian – bring it with you wherever you go.

— **Jim Dodson**

ClosetofComicsJim@hotmail.com



Delegate Pat McDonough of Perry Hall was elected two decades ago as a Baltimore City Democrat, and last November as a Baltimore county Republican. "In another 20 years," he cracks, "I may be elected as a Libertarian from the Eastern Shore."

(16 January 2003 *Owings Mills Times*)

'Taint Funny, McGee



During the golden years of radio, one of the most popular shows was Fibber McGee and Molly. Toward the end of each episode, the husband would make some wisecrack about a bad situation. His wife, Molly, would always answer: "'Taint funny, McGee." Too many situations fit that mold today... as in:

- "It's dangerous to be right when the state is wrong" — Voltaire
- The crime rate dropped by over 50% during the Great Depression — despite terrible economic conditions. The chief cause of the improvement was the end of Alcohol Prohibition in 1933. (Think how much safer your city could be today if Drug Prohibition ended.)
- Italian police have arrested Monica Isa, a prostitute, because she charges too little, thereby breaking Italy's competition laws. They claim she is low balling clients to force other prostitutes out of business.
- In a July 1997 White House meeting, Enron CEO Ken Lay personally asked Bill Clinton and Al Gore to support pollution credits as a response to global warming. Enron planned to "make a market" in these credits and make a killing. A later Enron memo noted that the Kyoto pollution treaty — signed by Clinton but never ratified by the Senate — "would do more to promote Enron's business than will almost any other regulatory initiative outside of restructuring the energy and natural gas industries in Europe and the United States."
- In the 1960's, pharmaceutical companies developed beta blockers that kept blood flowing to and from the heart. But the FDA held these products off the US market for six long years — although there were no reported problems in countries where the drugs were already available. The delay caused an estimated 60,000 people to die prematurely from heart attacks.
- A Chilean police officer arrested five Chileans and one Argentinean who ran a counterfeiting ring producing Argentinean money that, because of the plummeting value of Argentinean money, had cost them three times more for the paper and ink than the value of the money they were printing.
— *La Cuarta* (Chile) via Ananova 24-May-02
- "Sometimes I wonder whether the world is being run by smart people who are putting us on, or by imbeciles who really mean it."
— Mark Twain
- When Congress first convened in 1789, members received \$6 a day. As of 1984, the rate was \$69,000 — today it is \$150,000, not counting hundreds of thousands in expense payments and millions for staff. Thus, once public service was an avocation, today it is a career and a very lucrative one at that. Name another job that features the ability to give yourself a raise.
- The topless photos of Kournikova weren't Kournikova, so the woman (Judith Soltesz-Benetton) whose pictures were in the magazine sued *Penthouse*. Then Kournikova sued *Penthouse*. So what could be next? After all, this is the US where there's no end to lawsuits. Now Miami lawyer Reed Stomberg is filing a class-action lawsuit against *Penthouse* on behalf of himself and everyone who bought that magazine issue claiming that the only reason they paid for the magazine is that they wanted to see a topless Kournikova.
— *NY Post* 28-May-02

- "I can accept anything, except what seems to be the easiest for most people: the half-way, the almost, the just about, the in-between."
— Ayn Rand
- Prior to the 1970's anyone could carry a loaded gun onto a commercial air flight. There were no metal detectors and no security guards. There seem to be no reports of a single gun being misused on an airplane.
- The modern environmentalist movement was launched in 1962, when Rachel Carson's anti-chemical landmark *Silent Spring* was published. In 1999, *Time* named Carson one of the "100 People of the Century." Several years earlier, a panel of distinguished Americans had selected *Silent Spring* as the most influential book of the previous 50 years. While she had some positive traits, the rally against DDT started by her is certainly questionable:
 - DDT's inventor was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1948. Testing by the US Public Health Service and the Food and Drug Administration's Division of Pharmacology found no serious human toxicity problems with DDT.
 - DDT was widely deployed by public health officials, who banished malaria from the southern United States with its help. The World Health Organization credits DDT with saving 50 MILLION to 100 million lives by preventing malaria. In Italy, the number of malaria cases dropped from 411,602 in 1945 to only 37 in 1968.
 - In 1972, the EPA banned DDT despite considerable evidence of its safety offered in seven months of agency hearings. After listening to that testimony, the EPA's own administrative law judge declared, "DDT is not a carcinogenic hazard to man... DDT is not a mutagenic or teratogenic hazard to man... The use of DDT under the regulations involved here [does] not have a deleterious effect on freshwater fish, estuarine organisms, wild birds, or other wildlife." Today, environmental activists celebrate the EPA's DDT ban as their first great victory.
 - Along with other researchers, Carson was simply ignorant of the facts, and didn't have the right tools. Now, after four decades and tens of billions of dollars wasted chasing imaginary risks without measurably improving American health, her legacy may be much worse than the chemicals she railed against.
— *Steven Sass*



Monthly Pledging

We send this newsletter out to 1,000+ people. If half of them signed up at the minimum monthly pledge level of \$10, we would have \$5,000 additional in monthly revenue.

So what?

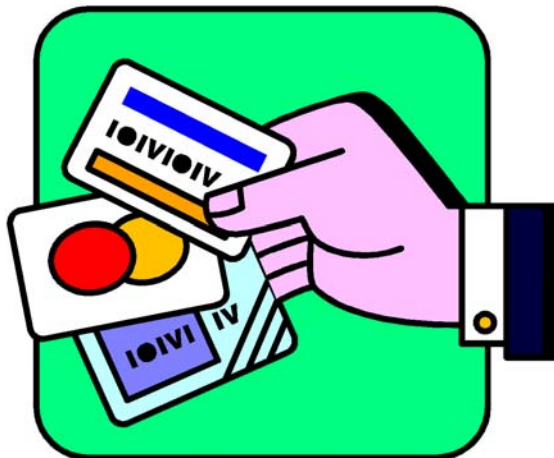
Well... our long term success and effectiveness depends on having sustained funding. So this is kind of an important thing.

\$5k a month means we can hire an executive director who will work to promote our cause every day. \$5k a month means we can do regular direct mail outreach to people who might be potential Libertarians, but have never heard from us before. \$5k a month means we can at the very least cover expenses and meals for those Libertarians who of their own volition go to Annapolis to lobby politicians and testify at hearings. \$5k a month means the difference between county organizations having the resources they need to be effective and not.

Just about everyone can afford \$10/month. If you aren't spending 5 to 10 hours per week doing Libertarian stuff – ease your guilt – just sign up at the \$10 minimum monthly pledge level. You can rest easy that you are doing your part.

What if I can give more? Sure... some people contribute \$15/month; some contribute \$83.33/ month (roughly \$1,000/year). If you can **SEND MORE** we can **DO** more.

If contributions reach the level where we have \$7k or \$10k or \$15k a month – we can afford to have activist lobbyists in Annapolis every day. Mailings and publications of a quality that will attract new members. Paid workers and staff supporting local activists. All the while building a war chest of funds to support credible candidates.



Certainly, money isn't the whole answer: training, organizing, communicating, activism, and a few dozen other things are required to make the Libertarian Party work effectively. And the ideas I present here for the funds are my own ramblings, not any official policy of the party.

However, here's the bottom line: the more money you can give each month, the sooner we can afford the resources we must have if we are to be successful in electing candidates and influencing public policy.

One guy says to me, "I give \$10/month to national, I give \$10/month to state, and as soon as you set it up I'll give \$10/month to the county party." He went on to explain that others are doing a lot of good work in the party and that he doesn't have the time and sometimes the interest to do likewise, so committing to the monthly pledge "is the least I can do."

Please sign up today on the monthly pledge system. You will find a membership application in the newsletter. Please fill it out and send it in today.

— Roy J. Meyers III

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NOVEMBER 19, 2002

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NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION	D+	SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	F
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Prepared by Chairman Stephen Horn, Subcommittee on Government Efficiency, Financial Management and Intergovernmental Relations, based on agency reports required by the Government Information Security Reform Act of 2000. Subcommittee homepage: <http://reform.house.gov/gefmir>

From the Trenches ... County Chapter Notes

Cecil County



Well, this past Fall I had the honor of being elected Chair of the Cecil County group. I've got one tough act to follow. Valerie McGlothlin did one heck of a job keeping our group on track. Last year was extremely busy and very exciting. The Cecil chapter even attended a few activities outside the county on the Eastern Shore. For example, we had a great time at the Queen Anne's *Watermen's Festival*. Spear was there chewing the ears of the locals. Most

of the people that we talk to are very supportive and friendly. This year we have had some discussions about returning to the Festival. I'm looking forward to defending my Rowing Title.

Tax day is coming up, and like other chapters, we are planning a protest. The past two years we have protested outside of the Elkton Post Office as last minute taxpayers scramble to hand in their returns.

Also we are planning to return to the June *SunFest* in Rising Sun. This will be our third year at the *SunFest*, and it's a great way to kick off the summer season.

For now, we have switched our regular meeting location to the Rising Sun Library. If you wish to hang out with us for any of our events, please contact us. We always welcome new faces.

I can't believe it! We actually got a website up and running. Banner Segraves III did a fantastic job in getting the site together! Check us out at www.LP-CC.org.

— Dave Sten

Harford County



In November 2002, our state delegate candidate Michael Linder, running in Legislative District 7 (parts of Harford and Baltimore counties), received 2,817 votes (2.56%). Not bad, considering that we were burned out after the ballot access phase (727 signatures collected, 664 in the five days prior to the deadline)!

We gained invaluable experience through the process. *Thank you* to the wonderful few who collected signatures, campaigned, contributed, and distributed literature and/or held a sign in the rain on election day.

December 2002 Board of Elections statistics show us having 398 registered Libertarians in Harford County. We had 304 in December the prior year (a 30% increase); over two years, we have a 90% increase in registered Libertarians (from 209 in December 2000).

Our active Libertarian population is relatively stable. Special elections were held at various times to bring on board Frank

Young as treasurer, and Russell Kominski as secretary. The outgoing treasurer and secretary – Michael Linder and LPO Martz (respectively) – have served for many years; much thanks to them.

Events: We are raising funds to cover costs associated with our three annual fairs: Dublin Fair (May), Harford County Farm Fair (July) and the Darlington Apple Festival (October). We have two events, a Libertarian Night Out (various locations), and a business meeting every month. More information is available on our web page: www.HarfordCountyLibertarianParty.org.

To increase our activist numbers... in December, January, and February we sent postcards (and one letter) to our registered Libertarians. As I write this in late February, the March mailing is in process. The plan, contingent on funding, is to continue mailing, calling, and otherwise contacting our registered Libertarians and interested parties until they volunteer, contribute, or tell us to buzz off. We have gotten a “good” (sorry, no hard numbers yet) response to requests for signatures and also a few financial contributions from the mailings.

Our one experiment with a “phone bank” – calling all the registered Libertarians in the county we have phone numbers for – was interesting. The sense we got was that people didn't notice our letter asking for signatures to maintain the state party. Again, sorry for not having any solid numbers (number of people called, contacted, messages left, favorable/unfavorable responses, etc.). So far, an important lesson learned is to have a mechanism for fulfilment (“send me a petition” requests in this case) set up in advance of calling lots of people.

We are poorly positioned for running candidates in municipal elections at this time. We have some potential candidates for state delegate or county council for 2006. If we are lucky – if there are any otherwise unopposed races in our area in 2006, we will be able to muster up a candidate.

Whether it is Harford or any county – we need your help... if you aren't already involved, please contact your county organization now.

Thanks,

— Roy J. Meyers III

University of Md./College Park

During the fall semester of 2002, a few tiny steps were taken towards the advancement of liberty at the University of Maryland at College Park. It was during this semester that (once again) the College Libertarian club formed. While the College Democrats and the College Republicans wasted their time bickering back and forth with one another, the College Libertarians put on successful events that drew a variety of people interested in liberty.

Spear Lancaster's campaign for governor was a great starting point for the newly formed club. It allowed students to rally around a common cause while getting to know one another. Appropriately, the most important event of the semester was a town hall style forum with Spear Lancaster, hosted by the Department of Communication's Center for Political Communication and Civic Leadership and the College Libertarians. The group advertised extensively across campus through flyers and chalking (and sometimes bleeding). (For those of you who have been out of college for more than a few years, chalking involves scraping your

knuckles beyond recognition while writing all over campus sidewalks with sidewalk chalk to advertise events; it's a lot harder than it looks, trust me.) Over 100 people were attracted to Spear's talk, many of whom later complimented our very visible, brightly colored, hard work. Spear's talk was a great way to get the word out about libertarianism and to let people know that a club for liberty-minded students did exist on campus.

Early in the semester, the University of Maryland hosts a two-day event called the First Look Fair, which allows all of the clubs on campus to come together and recruit new members. The first day of the First Look Fair was characterized by beautiful weather, an appearance by Spear, and many interested students joining our mailing list. We also handed out a good number of voter registration applications and libertarian information, along with over 500 free brownies that we had baked the night before. The second day was not quite as successful, with horrible downpours that all but canceled the fair. About ten of the 150 groups on campus actually stood out in the rain spreading the message, including the College Libertarians. We didn't exactly get a lot of people to sign up that day, but we had a lot of fun sloshing around in the mud.

At the First Look Fair, we were able to form alliances with many established clubs at UM that agreed to help us become an established club. The alliance with the UM ACLU proved fruitful, and we co-hosted a dorm rights seminar with the ACLU. The University of Maryland doesn't exactly promote the rights that we, as students, have (and on many occasions it attempts to keep us from knowing these rights so they can have a free pass to do anything they please). The dorm rights seminar was very informative, helping clarify the little-known rights that students have

while living in their dormitories, including the right to refuse an unreasonable search.

Members of the College Libertarians were also on hand for Bob Ehrlich's ~~propaganda~~ town hall forum. Not wanting to waste our time inside the forum exposed to the hot air spewed by our esteemed governor, some members of the College Libertarians wore Spear Lancaster t-shirts and waved signs, while others chalked the area around the chapel in which the talk was held, much to the consternation of the College Cretins ...err... Republicans, who promptly attempted to have us removed. After a police officer initially reprimanded us, her supervisor informed her that we had every right to be there. (HA!) Our chalking around the chapel proved to be successful, as every attendee at the Ehrlich talk (including people bussed in, presumably to make his event look bigger) was forced to pass over the name "Spear Lancaster" at least twice while exiting the talk.

After the election (and before finals) we also organized a group of people to go out and petition around campus. We gathered a good number of signatures in a short time due to the large concentration of people on campus, and the fact that college kids will sign just about anything.

So, with one semester behind us, the College Libertarians are still running strong. For the current semester, we're already planning to advertise at the Second Look Fair, go out to dinner together, show a few liberty-oriented movies on campus, make a website, and organize talks on libertarian issues that would interest a college crowd. Hopefully, as we get more well known around campus, we can gain momentum and encourage other students to be interested in the libertarian cause.

— Katrina Groth



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Full Page	\$100.00
1/2 Page	60.00
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— Steven Sass

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COMING EVENTS

Note: consult www.MD.LP.org/events/ for up-to-date info. Contact numbers for persons listed on page 3 are omitted here. Regularly scheduled events are listed separately on the back page. *Please mark your calendars now!*

March 17 (Monday): 7:30 pm. Montgomery County Business Meeting in Silver Spring. Steve Wilson

March 26 (Wednesday): 7:30 pm. MdLP Executive Board meeting in Pikesville. Steven Sass

April 15 (Tuesday): Tax Day protests. Check with county chair.

April 26 (Saturday): MdLP state convention. See page 2

May 3 (Saturday): Dublin Fair, Harford county. Roy J. Meyers III

May 3-4 (Saturday-Sunday): Towsontown Spring Festival. Steve Boone

June 7 (Saturday): 10:00 am - 5:00 pm. Sunfest in downtown Rising Sun. Banner Segraves, bsegraves*do1.net

July 16 (Wednesday): 1:00 - 5:00 pm. 27th Annual J. Millard Tawes Crab & Clam Bake in Crisfield. See page 14

July 24-27 (Thursday-Sunday): Harford County Farm Fair. Roy J. Meyers III

Copy or Clip Form ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒



Regularly Scheduled Libertarian Gatherings, cont'd from back:

Carroll/Howard County Lib's: last Sunday, 5:00 pm at *Nathan Henry's Restaurant* (in the upstairs lounge) at 6228 Sykesville Road (MD Route 32), Eldersburg. Kevin Wolf.

Cecil County Lib's: 4th Wednesday, 7:00 pm at the *Cecil County Public Library*, Newark Road in Elkton. Dave Sten

Harford County Lib's: 4th Monday, 7:30 pm at *Harford Community College*, Chspk Ctr, Dining rm west Roy J. Meyers III

Libertarian Party of Maryland www.MD.LP.org/join-form.pdf Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

County: _____ Email: _____

Phone: day _____ evening _____

New National Members Only

The National LP requires all members to sign in agreement with the following statement: "I oppose the initiation of force to achieve political or social goals." Signature: _____

Federal law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, and occupation and name of employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. Political contributions are not tax deductible.

Occupation: _____ Employer: _____

Payment Information

Combined MdLP/National dues \$30

Maryland/county-only dues \$20

Additional donation: \$ _____

Total Payment: \$ _____

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Signature _____

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- ☐ Public Relations
- ☐ Other: _____

Libertarian Party
of Maryland
P.O. Box 2343
Annapolis, MD 21404

Anyone may become a member of the MdLP. To become a voting member of the Central Committee, your voter registration must be Libertarian (or request it if the state does not permit Libertarian registration): verbally certify your registration status and your agreement with the non-aggression principle with your local chapter officers or the state Membership Director, Steven Sass. For more information, contact Steven at Crest1n@erols.com or 410-602-8401.

www.MD.LP.org

Regularly Scheduled Libertarian Gatherings

Stay up-to-date on MdLP activities with our online calendar-of-events: visit www.MD.LP.org/events/ (often!). Check page 3 for contact numbers not listed here.

Libertarian Night Out (Rockville): 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 pm at *Bennigan's*, Rockville Pike in Federal Plaza near Twinbrook Pkwy. (behind Texaco gas station). Steve Wilson

LNO (Silver Spring): 1st Tuesday, 7:00 pm at *Ruby Tuesday*, 8662 Colesville Road in the City Place Mall. Steve Wilson

LNO (Germantown): 3rd Thursday, 7:00 pm at *Ruby Tuesday*, 19800 Century Blvd. (near Safeway). Steve Wilson

LNO (College Park): 4th Tuesday, 7:00 pm at the *94th Aero Squadron*, 5240 Paint Branch Parkway. Chip Spangler, 301-346-2361, senator*corrupt.net

LNO (Havre de Grace): 2nd Wednesday, 7:30 pm at *Coakley's Pub*, 406 Saint John St. Roy J. Meyers III

Libertarian Drinking and Debating Society (Timonium): 3rd Friday, 7:00 pm in *AMF Bowling Alley lounge*, opposite Fairgrounds. Jack Mitcham, jaymitch@comcast.net

Gallery Gang: Mondays through April 7 to lobby legislators. Meet on the State House steps at Lawyer's Mall in Annapolis at 7:45 pm. Steve Boone

Metro Talk: 1st Sunday, 8:10 - 9:00 am. Nick Sarwark on the radio, stations WBIG 100.3 FM and WTEM 980 AM.

Anne Arundel County Lib's: 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 pm at *Mike's Crab House* on 3030 Old Riva Road, Riva. Chris Panasuk

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