

You're Invited!

ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

We will be having our annual holiday party at the home of Stuart Simms on Saturday, December 14, 6:30-9:30 pm. The address is 9755 Knowledge Dr., Laurel, MD 20723. Primary parking is at the clubhouse parking area. The clubhouse address is 9815 Wilderness Lane, approximately a one-tenth of a mile walk to the party.

If there are no available parking spaces at the clubhouse, additional street parking is available at the "bottom of the loop" where Wilderness Lane and Knowledge Drive meet at the other end of the neighborhood.

PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE OF NEIGHBORS BY NOT PARKING ON THE STREET BLOCKING DRIVEWAYS.

The event is pot luck, please bring a food item. Juice, soda, and water will be provided. BYOB.

Chair's Report – Are you a Libertarian, or are you a Republican?



A month ago, a former Maryland Libertarian Party candidate called to let me know that he is going to run for the same race in 2020 as a Republican. I thanked him for having the courtesy to let me know, and asked him why he was planning on running as a Republican. He replied that he wanted to win.

I asked him why not run as a Democrat for that seat. He sputtered incredulously “Why would I do that?” I said “Because a Democrat has won that seat the last three elections, the last two by double digits.”

After a pause, he replied “Well, I have a better chance getting elected to the seat as a Republican than as a Libertarian.” “True, but you still have a much better shot getting elected as a Democrat.” Nonetheless, he still couldn’t fathom running as a Democrat.

The supposed affinity with the Republican Party is a problem the Libertarian Party has had for most of its 47-year history. Part of the fault is on the Libertarian Party. For decades, the party has reached out mostly to disaffected conservatives, particularly on the issues of spending and gun rights. There has been a theme going around for years that the LP is a bunch of conservatives who like to smoke pot. In 2016, many Libertarians tried to position the party as one for Never Trumpers. Well, the Republican Party has sucked for a long time prior to Donald Trump getting elected President. The LP has done a poor job of reaching out to those who are anti-war, for civil liberties, against corporate welfare, and for immigration. Further, former Libertarians running as Republicans give the GOP libertarian credibility they don’t deserve.

The other part of the problem is that Republican candidates love using libertarian rhetoric when running for office. Never mind that they never deliver. In 2000, Bill Clinton’s last year as President, the budget was \$2.0 trillion and the deficit around \$5.5 trillion. The budget is now \$4.4 trillion and the deficit reaching \$23 trillion, with a majority of the spending since Clinton written and passed by Republican-controlled U.S. House members. They have been fully behind our aggressive foreign policy, where we have been mired in the Middle East for 16 years, with no end in sight. A war that has cost over a trillion dollars, thousands of deaths, and massive environmental destruction. Going back to Nixon, they have enforced the War on Drugs which has locked up tons of non-violent people and ruined their lives.

Some libertarianish people have been elected to Congress as Republicans, such as Rand Paul, Thomas Massie, and Justin Amash. Rand Paul has come out and said he isn’t a Libertarian, rather a Constitutional Conservative. While he has tried to push the Republican Party to limit our presence in our foreign wars and pushed for some changes to civil liberties, he is a full supporter of Donald Trump, and has backed some of Trump’s unlibertarian legislation and appointments, such as Mike Pompeo. He recently tried to get the Republicans in Congress to pass a budget that would cut a whopping 2% in spending. He got no takers. And Amash has basically been run out of the Republican Party for speaking out about Trump. Paul, Massie, and Amash have been fighting their own party as much as they have to fight the Democrats. And they haven’t made the Republican Party any more libertarian than it was prior to their getting elected.

When Rand’s father Ron Paul decided to run for Congress again in 1996 after being away for eight years, the GOP did everything they could to prevent him from getting reelected. They backed former Democrat-turned-Republican Greg Laughlin against Dr. Paul, since the district was strongly Republican and the winner of the Republican primary would most likely win the

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Fax: 214-889-3668. Newsletter submissions are solicited.

Editor: Robert E. Glaser, PhD

Check LPmaryland.org regularly for the current event calendar, news, blog posts, and more! Be certain to submit all of your current event information to Webmaster@LPmaryland.org 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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Other List Serves: LPmaryland.org/get-involved/connect

Facebook: www.Facebook.com/LPMaryland

Twitter/YouTube+: LPmaryland.org/get-involved/connect

If You Are Not a Subscriber

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; join the Central Committee; become a newsletter subscriber only (send \$20 to above address); and/or register Libertarian (when we get 1% of the state registered, we can end collecting petition signatures).

general election. Then-Texas-Governor George W. Bush, along with his father former President George H. W. Bush, both campaigned against Dr. Paul, along with then-Republican Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich. Fortunately, Dr. Paul still won.

In 2006, also in Texas, then-Republican House Majority Leader Tom DeLay resigned after winning the primary, due to ethics violations. It was too late for the Republicans to place another candidate on the ballot, thus there were only a Democrat and a Libertarian appearing in the general election for that seat. Did the Republicans back the Libertarian? Of course not. They chose to get behind a write-in campaign for a Republican candidate. It didn't work, and the Democrat won.

The Republican establishment would rather a Democrat win than a Libertarian.

The national GOP has made it extremely difficult for Libertarians to get on the ballot in partisan races in Arizona, spent over a decade trying to keep us off of the ballot in Ohio, and recently the Republican-led Texas legislature passed a law requiring minor

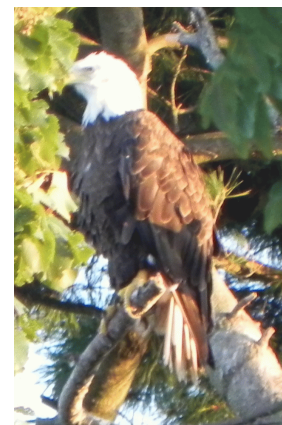
party candidates, such as ours, to pay expensive filing fees to get on the ballot – fees which will cost in the thousands to run for statewide office – and which few of our candidates can afford. Republicans (and Democrats) will do anything to prevent candidates who want to shrink government from winning elections.

Libertarianism isn't conservative nor liberal, in the current sense of that term. To be a Libertarian means you are against the initiation of force or fraud to get what you want or feel needs to be done. Period.

Working for freedom can be a long, slow grind. It is quite possible that I won't see a free society, or any significant shrinkage in government by the time I pass on. My time and efforts working for the cause through the Libertarian Party may not come to fruition. But I also know beyond the shadow of a doubt that I will never get a free society working through the Republican or Democrat parties.

Are you a Republican, or are you a Libertarian?

— Bob Johnston



MdLP Annual Picnic

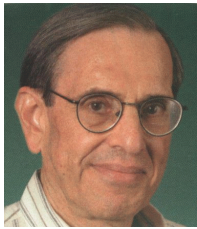
Stens' grounds in North East

August 10



The weather was great and this year's picnic was a grand success. At top left, Dave Sten grills with Chairman Bob Johnston observing; appropriately, a bald eagle keeps an eye on our doings at top right. Bottom left, David Dull works with the next generation of Libertarians. Bottom right we find Jim Lark addressing our group.

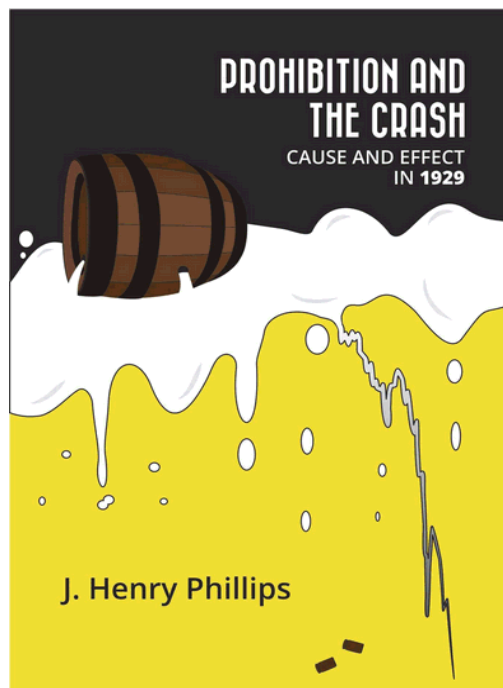
Letter to the Editor



I define *libertarianism* as universal support for individual human rights that transcends governments, nations, and religion. How do you define “libertarianism?”

Sincerely,

— *Gerald Schneider*, Ph.D.



Available on Amazon Kindle for \$4.99.

https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B07TDBZR69?pf_rd_p=12a5ebae-c2f7-4498-9459-3992b9367a0d&pf_rd_r=276FYTE705MJAN4ZSY9V

This is a History of how enforcement of Prohibition, especially the 1929 Increased Penalties Act, destabilized the national economy.

NEWS FLASH!

The *Baltimore Sun* published **David Griggs'** letter on July 28: “Libertarians don’t support drugs in vending machines” about healthy foods in Howard County vending machines. He says: “Unfortunately, your editorial contained a paragraph that you believed contained a ‘counterargument’ that you thought ‘committed libertarians’ might make. Your statements conspicuously showed that you have no real understanding of libertarian principles and did not take the time to talk to any informed libertarian.”

On October 2, **David Griggs'** letter was printed in the *Baltimore Sun*: “The problem with marijuana commission is government involvement” responding to a recent article noting continuing problems with the implementation of medical marijuana. He says these issues would not exist at all if the decisions were left up to individual adults.

The *Baltimore Sun* printed **Leo Wayne Dymowski's** letter on November 6, “Baltimore needs to police criminals, not foam containers.” He writes: “It is good to know that with the pandemic of violence, poverty, vacant houses and a failing educational system, that Baltimore government can focus on what is really important, foam containers. Unlike the response to violent criminals, the city will show no mercy on those business establishments still using foam containers, and the \$200 citations will begin immediately. Rumor has it that there are still a few businesses in the city that employ city residents. This should help remedy that situation.”

The *Baltimore Sun* published **David Griggs'** letter on November 12 “Maryland voters deserve third-party options.” He writes: “... there is a small but important error. It observes ‘The district’s voters are 68% Democratic ... and the rest unaffiliated or belonging to third parties.’ Currently, there is only one ‘third’ party recognized in Maryland: the socialist Bread and Roses Party. The two more mainstream parties, Libertarian and Green, cannot, at present, place any candidates on the Maryland ballot. Unfortunately, this situation means that not only the likelihood of a Democratic candidate will win election has increased but also and maybe more importantly the voters of the District suffer a significant reduction in their choices for representation.

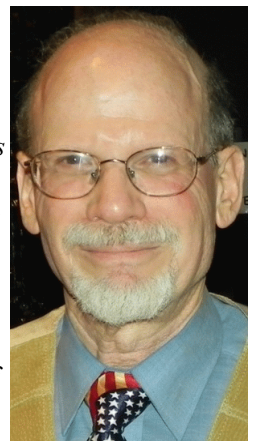
*Congratulations to our public advocates (David Griggs continues with his magic touch). Every time a newspaper prints your letter and you note yourself as a **Libertarian**, it tells readers that our party exists! Please send in reports of your success, too!*

Editor’s Note

There is nothing more important to the Libertarian Party of Maryland than to re-achieve ballot access. We need 10,000 *good* signatures on petitions to get that. Everything else must go on the back burner until we finish that difficult task. The primary election to replace Elijah Cummings’ Congressional seat is on February 4. *There is no better place to collect signatures than a poll.* I have approached voters after they come out from voting – they will tell you they already voted and it’s too late for candidate lobbying. The resultant low-pressure situation lets us briefly explain the situation and ask for their signature. If they agree, they probably have their voter ID card on them or BoE mailing showing their listed address and name on record. Plus you certainly know the proper county (or Baltimore City) for the form. And of course the person is a bona fide registered voter.

As we get closer to this special election, check the website for a list of polling locations in the 7th Congressional District. Also, peruse the explanations there for helpful information and handouts. You can print out blank pdf petition forms there, or copy the one on the next page.

— *Robert E. Glaser*



State of Maryland - New Party Petition

For _____ County or

☐ Baltimore City

We, the undersigned voters of Maryland, support the organization of a political party to be known as the

Libertarian Party.

The State Chairman is: Robert S. Johnston III,

Address: 1311-D Sheridan Place

Bel Air, MD 21015

NOTICE TO SIGNERS: Sign and print your name (1) as it appears on the voter registration list, OR (2) your surname of registration AND at least one full given name AND the initial of any other names. Please print or type all information other than your signature. Post Office Box addresses are not generally accepted as valid. By signing this petition, you agree that the aforementioned party should be recognized in Maryland and that, to the best of your knowledge, you are registered to vote in Maryland and are eligible to have your signature counted for this petition.

SBE 6-201-1C (Rev 11-2011)

Please Note: The information you provide on this petition is public information and may be used to change your voter registration address.

1	Print Name:	First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Birth Date:	Month	Date	Year
	Signature:				Date of Signature:	Month	Date	Year
	Maryland Residence Address:	Street Number	Street Name	Apt. No.	City or Town	Zip		
2	Print Name:	First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Birth Date:	Month	Date	Year
	Signature:				Date of Signature:	Month	Date	Year
	Maryland Residence Address:	Street Number	Street Name	Apt. No.	City or Town	Zip		
3	Print Name:	First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Birth Date:	Month	Date	Year
	Signature:				Date of Signature:	Month	Date	Year
	Maryland Residence Address:	Street Number	Street Name	Apt. No.	City or Town	Zip		
4	Print Name:	First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Birth Date:	Month	Date	Year
	Signature:				Date of Signature:	Month	Date	Year
	Maryland Residence Address:	Street Number	Street Name	Apt. No.	City or Town	Zip		
5	Print Name:	First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Birth Date:	Month	Date	Year
	Signature:				Date of Signature:	Month	Date	Year
	Maryland Residence Address:	Street Number	Street Name	Apt. No.	City or Town	Zip		

Individual Circulator's printed or typed name

Residence Address

City State Zip

Telephone (including area code)

Circulator's Affidavit Under penalties of perjury, I swear (or affirm) that: (a) I was at least 18 years old when each signature was obtained; (b) the information given to the left identifying me is true and correct; (c) I personally observed each signer as he or she signed this page; and (d) to the best of my knowledge and belief: (i) all signatures on this page are genuine; and (ii) all signers are registered voters of Maryland. (Sign and Date when signature collection is completed)

Circulator's Signature

Date (mm/dd/yy)

Minutes of the Central Committee of the Libertarian Party of Maryland — Saturday, 10 August 2019

Opening: The Libertarian State Central Committee of Maryland met on the grounds of Dave Sten's home in North East, Maryland. The Treasurer's report was distributed. The meeting was called to order at 4:42 pm by chairman Bob Johnston.

Attendance: the Credentials Committee consisted of: Robert Glaser; Scott Spencer; and Dean Ahmad. It validated that 15 Central Committee members were in attendance for the meeting. No proxies were represented. The Central Committee rolls consist of 36 members.

Minutes: The minutes of the 28 April 2019 Central Committee meeting were accepted as submitted.

Treasurer's report: was accepted as submitted by Michael Linder.

Chair's Report: Bob Johnston thanked Dave and René for hosting the picnic; he reports that we have 88 members. The federal lawsuit was thrown out and we filed an appeal with the U.S. Court of Appeals, which is not expected to be heard until next year. We need 10,000 petition signatures by the first Monday in August 2020. We're going to hire a paid petitioner. The 2020 national convention is on Memorial Day weekend, rooms are being booked now. We'll have about 22 delegates to be determined at our spring convention. In 2020 Maryland will have 8 U.S. House seats and some Balto. City offices up for election and we will be looking for nominations for those offices.

James Lark, LNC regional rep: Dr. Lark first paused to remember Bill Buzzell. Financially, National is still treading water. Several are interested in the presidential race. The courts are not helping us with ballot access, it takes from \$250,000 to \$500,000 just to get our candidates on the ballot. He offers to help us with petitioning and provides jwLark@virginia.edu for help. Q&A followed.

Constitutional Amendments

#1 replace the word "Program" with "Platform" in all appearances (14 occurrences: V7A, V7A3, V7A3, V7A3, V7A3, V8, V8A, V8A, V8B, V8B, V8C, V8C, V8C, V8C). This was approved at the last CC meeting, was recommended by the Investigating Committee, and this vote is up or down for final adoption. Approved unanimously on a voice vote.

#2 Change the sentence in VIII "At the time of filing, and continuously through the date of the corresponding General Election, all candidates of the Maryland Libertarian Party to public office must be registered Libertarian as defined in the qualification for Central Committee membership stated in Article IV, Section 2." to "At the time of filing, and continuously through the date of the corre-

sponding General Election, excepting judicial nominations, all candidates of the Maryland Libertarian Party to public office must be registered Libertarian as defined in the qualification for Central Committee membership stated in Article IV, Section 2." This was approved at the last CC meeting, was recommended by the Investigating Committee, and this vote is up or down for final adoption. Approved on a voice vote.

Proposed Constitutional Amendment

(Eric Blitz/Dean Ahmad): Several sections regarding Treasurer's duties, a budget, and an elected Finance Committee. Robert Glaser offered an amendment to the proposal to instead have the Finance Committee appointed by the Executive Board: vote 6 Yes, 6 No; the amendment fails. David Dull/Krystal Woodworth offered an amendment to the proposal to instead eliminate the Finance Committee plus provide 10-day notification of CC members of any budget changes: approved unanimously on a voice vote.

The final amendment to be voted upon is: V5D append: "The Treasurer is authorized to expend funds as directed in a budget approved by the Executive Board or by a separate resolution of the Executive Board." V5F, replace "Any action" with "The Executive Board shall authorize the expenditure of Party funds by adopting a budget, which shall be published to the members of the Central Committee by email 10 days prior to its adoption, or by separate resolution. Except for the funds already expended, any action". Remove all references to the Finance Committee.

Approved on a voice vote. The Investigating Committee is Bob Johnston, Robert Glaser, David Dull, Jonathon Woodworth, Eric Blitz, and Dean Ahmad.

Resolution (Bob Johnston, Krystal Woodworth takes gavel for this vote): For their pro bono service in the ballot access lawsuit efforts, Mark Grannis and Eric Blitz are granted MdLP Life Membership. Approved unanimously on a voice vote.

Announcements: Bob Johnston models the MdLP new tee shirts designed by Krystal Woodworth for sale. Krystal Woodworth reminds us of the Cornhole tournament on Aug. 24. Mark Leonard introduced the vice-chair of Northern VA LP Martin Overstrum who runs outreach activities; he invites our participation. David Dull advises of an AA county meeting on Monday. Robert Glaser has license plate applications and extra newsletters on hand, and MdLP caps for sale.

Adjournment: the meeting adjourned at 6:34 pm.

[Photos on page 3]

— Robert E. Glaser

Minutes of the Investigating Committee of the Libertarian Party of Maryland — Saturday, 10 August 2019

Opening: The Investigating Committee met on the grounds of Dave Sten's home in North East, Maryland. The meeting was called to order at 6:55 pm by chairman Bob Johnston.

Attendance: the Investigating Committee consisted of: Bob Johnston, Robert Glaser, David Dull, Jonathon Woodworth, Eric Blitz, and Dean Ahmad.

The Committee recommends passage unanimously and suggests an additional amendment that permits CC members to call a CC meeting.

— Robert E. Glaser

Libertarians typically are against the Fed, but what about the President attempting to influence it? From the Fall 2019 *T. Row Price Report*:

"It is worth asking: How important is central bank independence? ... The Republic of Turkey is a good example of what can happen when central bank independence deteriorates... In practice... direct the central bank to follow the party line. Consequently, inflation rose from 7.5% to 17.1%... hiked its rate from 5.75% to 24%... Russia is an example that has taken decisive shifts toward independence... The real policy rate is around 3%." *Wow, Putin keeps his hands off?*

State Executive Board Officers

Chairman	Bob Johnston	443-310-5373	Chair*LPmaryland.org
Vice Chairman	Krystal Woodworth		KrystalWoodworth@gmail.com
Secretary	Robert E. Glaser	410-363-6626	Secretary*LPmaryland.org
Treasurer	Michael Linder	410-569-2186	Treasurer*LPmaryland.org
Membership	Stuart Simms		StuSimms*LPmaryland.org
At-Large	Scott Spencer		ScottSpencer*LPmaryland.org
At-Large	David Dull		David.Dull*LPmaryland.org

The executive board meets monthly. All meetings are open to Central Committee members. Contact the Chairman for date, time, and location.

Local Groups

Anne Arundel County: Chris Wallace ChrisWallaceSr*LPmaryland.org
Baltimore City: Jonathan Gress Gressmeister@gmail.com
Baltimore County: Kyle Wagner Kyle.Wagner*LPmaryland.org
Carroll County: Matthew Geiger MattGeiger*LPmaryland.org
Frederick County: Zach Robinson ZachRobinson*LPmaryland.org
Harford County: Martin Cohen Martin.Cohen*LPmaryland.org
Howard County: Christopher Stanton LibertarianHoCo@gmail.com
Montgomery County: Perla Peralta PPeralta*wau.edu
Southern Maryland: Michael White Michael.White*LPmaryland.org
Upper Eastern Shore: Krystal Woodworth KrystalWoodworth@gmail.com
Western Maryland: Ken Buckler

Maryland voters registered Libertarian:

22,483 (0.56%)

(before de-certification!)

Copy or Clip Form ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒



Libertarian Party of Maryland

Membership Form

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

County:

Email:

Phone (day):

Phone (evening):

Phone (other):

Payment Information

Maryland/county-only dues \$ 20.00

Additional donation: _____

Total Payment: \$ _____

Monthly Credit Card Donation: \$ _____

☐ Check ☐ Mastercard ☐ VISA ☐ Discover

Card# _____ **Exp:** _____

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: _____

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, and not be registered with any other party): verbally certify your registration status and your agreement with the non-aggression principle with your affiliate officers or the state Secretary. For more information, contact Stuart Simms at StuSimms*LPmaryland.org.

I'd like to volunteer for:

- ☐ Envelope stuffing
- ☐ Outreach programs
- ☐ Computer work
- ☐ County organization
- ☐ Campaign help
- ☐ Public Relations
- ☐ Other: _____

**Libertarian Party
of Maryland
P.O. Box 176
Abingdon, MD
21009-0176**

LPmaryland.org

COMING EVENTS

Stay up-to-date on MdLP activities with our online calendar-of-events: visit LPmaryland.org/events/ (often!). Check page 7 for contact numbers not listed here.

December 14 (Saturday): MdLP Holiday Party. Page 1

February 4, 2020 (Tuesday): Special primary election. Page 4

March 15, 2020 (Sunday): *Tentative* MdLP Convention

May 21-25, 2020: National LP presidential nominating Convention in Austin, Texas

November 3, 2020 (Tuesday): General election.

Party Re-Certification Petition

Go to LPmaryland.org/petition to generate a form to be signed to get our Party recognized again by the state of Maryland. Explicit instructions are on the webpage. The voter information must be quite precise for the Board of Elections to count the signature. There is a link there to print a blank petition, too, along with other useful information. This is very important! Without completing this process we will not have any candidates on the 2020 ballot. We have permission to petition at Giant Food stores in four-hour increments, two days per month, Monday through Saturday, at least 20 feet from the entrance.

LPmaryland.org/petition

1-800-MLP-1776

Please check the first line of the
mailing label to verify your
MdLP status (see page 2)

"Individual Liberty is Our Top Priority"
Call 1-800-MLP-1776 if you agree

Libertarian Party of Maryland
P.O. Box 176
Abingdon, MD 21009-0176