



FREE STATE LIBERTARIAN LETTER

Volume 16 No. 5

September/October 1993

County Fair Thanks

Many thanks to the 36 volunteers who assisted at the Libertarian Party booth at the Montgomery County Fair. Your assistance helped a lot!

Over 400 people stopped by to take the "World's Smallest Political Quiz" during the 9 day fair. For every person that visited us, there had to be at least 10 others that noticed our presence. Our main objective was an outreach to the community to introduce others to the party and most of us enjoyed talking with our visitors. We got contributions from buttons, bumper stickers and books plus petition signatures for the state to recognize us as a political party again. The fair also served as a training opportunity for our members to improve their interfacing skills in putting the word out about our organization. After working in a fair booth, many members in the past have gone on to more involved projects. Some representatives from other counties were present to find out first hand how they might set up a booth in their own county. The booth project helped many of our own members get to know each other better so we can work easier together in future events. Potentially most important of all we received a list of names, addresses and telephone numbers of over 40 people interested in being contacted for further information or membership.

Special thanks to Terry Atwood, Ron Kean and Scott Becker for helping out in many prefair activities especially in fixing and installing the tent. Also to Gregory Fehy for allowing us to

(continued on p. 5)

Candidates' Corner

Congratulations go out to Joe Harrington from Frederick County. As you may remember, Joe was running to fill an unexpired term on the Brunswick City Council. Shortly after our last issue of the Free State Libertarian Letter, Joe won that special election. Even though the office is non-partisan, Joe is now the first Libertarian elected to a political office in Maryland.

Joe will be one of our speakers at the Maryland State LP Convention in November (see page 4).

In addition to Joe, we have another Libertarian out to make his mark in Frederick County politics.

Wayne Dougherty has turned in his petition to be on the ballot in the fall for a position on his city council. People interested in working with Wayne can contact him at (301) 834-6179.

And a reminder: Montgomery County Libertarian Scott Becker is planning to run for the 18th district seat of Representative Leon Billings. Billings is no stranger to any Libertarian who has followed the Ballot Access fight in Annapolis for the past few years. Representative Billings has been instrumental in killing all Ballot Access reform that has come his way.

Anyone interested in assisting Scott in his campaign should call (301) 589-2177.

FREE STATE LIBERTARIAN LETTER

The Free State Libertarian Letter is published bi-monthly by the Maryland Libertarian Party.

MD LP Executive Committee

Chair: Lorenzo Gaztañaga
(410) 325-2813
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(410) 730-7117
Parliamentarian: Dean Ahmad
(301) 951-0539
Treasurer: Jesse Markowitz
(301) 990-7512
Asst. Treasurer: Bill Buzzell
(410) 477-9173
Secretary: Susan Gaztañaga
(410) 325-2813
Asst. Secretary: Doug McNeil
(410) 685-6979

Affiliate Parties/Contacts

Anne Arundel Milton Palmer
(410) 672-5609
Baltimore City Doug McNeil
(410) 685-6979
Baltimore County Saul Baker
(410) 429-4339
Cecil County Mike Borland
(302) 992-4671
Charles County Stephen Zeigler
and Southern MD (301) 932-6808
Frederick County Wayne Dougherty
and Western MD (301) 834-6179
Harford County Dan Anderson
(410) 676-5687
Howard County Amy Rule
(410) 730-7117
Montgomery County Terry Atwood
(301) 229-4092
PG County Jim McLaughlin
(301) 464-8856
Newsletter Editor Norman Rule
(410) 730-7117

Other Useful Numbers

Libertarian BBS (301) 656-4714
after 6:00 PM and on weekends
National LP HQ (202) 543-1988
1-800-272-1776 or 1-800-682-1776

Notes from Salt Lake City

As you probably know, the Libertarian Party National Convention was held September 2 - 5, 1993 in Salt Lake City, Utah. The following report is a summary of notes taken by Regional Representative Dan Karlan.

Maryland was represented by: Dean Ahmad, Steve Baum, Wayne Daugherty, Linton Floyd, Lorenzo Gaztañaga, Kurt German, Doris Gordon, Jesse Markowitz and Don Monroe.

Highlights were as follows:

Delegates voted not to change the by-law requirement for signing of the certification as a condition of membership.

New officers were elected:

Chair - Steve Dasbach
Vice Chair - Karen Allard
Secretary - John Famularo
Treasurer - Hugh Butler

Maryland State Treasurer Jesse Markowitz was elected Alternate Regional Representative, and Wayne Daugherty, of Frederick County, was elected to the Judiciary Committee.

The Committee for a Libertarian Majority (CLM) successfully passed a motion to set up a mechanism whereby delegates to the 1996 convention could vote to delete from the Platform any planks which had lost the required two thirds majority support. Concerned that the new rule did not allow for debate on the planks to be deleted, Dean Ahmad and Lorenzo Gaztañaga of Maryland, and John Paff of New Jersey, worked with our Regional Representative, Dan Karlan, to prepare a motion to have the rule reconsidered—a motion which, in the end, was defeated.

Improvements were made in the Property Rights and Space Exploration planks of the Platform.

At the meeting of the Council of State Chairs, it was agreed to work for the establishment of regional conferences, and to lobby for increased regional representation on the National Committee, probably at the expense of the at-large members.

Dan Karlan is on the committee to choose the site for the 1996 convention. No decision has been made, but Dallas seems to be the front runner.

From The Chair

State of the State Party

As I near the end of my term as Chair, I look back on a year of solid growth for the State Party. New organizations were started in Howard, Baltimore and Harford counties, with the Baltimore County group even boasting its own newsletter.

I am particularly proud of the nine delegates who traveled to Salt Lake City at great personal expense to represent all of you at the National Convention. We met together three times prior to the convention to discuss the main issues under consideration : the party platform, the affirmation of principle as a condition for membership, and what constitutes membership in the Libertarian Party. We now have two members serving on the national level. Our state treasurer, Jesse Markowitz, is an Alternate Regional Representative on the National Committee, while Wayne Dougherty, of Frederick County, was elected to the National Judiciary Committee.

For a post-election year, we got a considerable amount of media exposure. Susan Gaztañaga, Doug McNeil, Dan Anderson, Keith Thompson and I were interviewed on radio talk shows as LP representatives. Dean Ahmad was a guest on Pat Buchanan's nationally syndicated radio talk show discussing the Palestinian issue (although not identified as a Libertarian). Amy Rule and Jim Voris were given extensive coverage in local newspapers for their libertarian activities. I can't even count the number of letters to the editor that have been published.

Libertarians have also begun to make inroads in local elections around Maryland. Amy Rule was elected to the Board of Directors of the homeowners association for her village in Columbia. Dean Ahmad was unanimously elected President of the East Bethesda Citizens Association. Saving the best for last, Joe Harrington was recently elected to the City Council of Brunswick in Frederick County, making him the first Libertarian elected to a political office in Maryland.

Running candidates for office is, of course, what a political party is supposed to do. This year, we came closer than ever before to improving the conditions for getting on the ballot in Maryland. House Bill 1043—which would have reduced the number of signatures required from three percent of the electorate to one percent—received nine votes in the House Judiciary Committee (compared to two or three votes in previous years).

Areas Needing Work

Every registered Libertarian can at least call his or her state delegate about issues of concern to the Party and freedom lovers in general. Every delegate that was lobbied for the improved ballot access bill (H.B. 1043) voted in favor of it. This would suggest that if more delegates had heard from us, we might actually have carried the day.

More people need to come forward as volunteers. There is much that needs to be done—organizing petition gathering, fund raising, finding out about fairs and festivals going on around the state in time for us to mount a booth, taking inventory of what local positions are up for election, when, and what the requirements are, developing and implementing a strategy to reach targeted groups such as youth and minorities—and any number of activities I probably haven't even thought of. If at any time you feel the urge to call the State Chair to say, "Why don't you...?" your idea is probably inspired. Go ahead—do it!

Finally, many state party members are not benefiting from these words of encouragement because they never read the Freestate Libertarian Letter. If asked, they can't remember for sure whether they get it or not. Those of you who are reading this, please encourage your friends to unstaple the Letter, unfold it and take a peek inside.

In liberty,
Lorenzo Gaztañaga

It's Convention Time!

The 1993 Maryland Libertarian Party State Convention will be held on Saturday, November 13 at the Holiday Inn Timonium Plaza in Timonium, MD.

The day will begin with the official MDLP business meeting from 9:30AM until noon. We will be electing State Executive Committee officers for the upcoming year, as well as planning our strategy for the 1994 elections.

After an hour for lunch (there are a number of fast food places nearby and a nice cafe in the hotel), we will reconvene for an afternoon of convention activities. First off, several MDLP members who took advantage of the campaign workshop offered at the National Convention at Salt Lake City over Labor Day weekend) will be bringing their new knowledge to us.

Then, a panel discussion on Educational Alternatives will feature southern Maryland's Linda Crandall who was instrumental in the recent passage of legislation making it easier for parents to teach their children at home, and Bob Marlowe, Executive director of

Citizens for Educational Freedom.

The convention price of \$42/person or \$80/couple (\$50/person after November 6) includes your dinner choice of beef, fish, or vegetarian platter. Dinner will feature special guest Tamara Clark, who got so much attention last year in her hotly contested race for the Nevada State Legislature. After dinner entertainment will include the presentation of the Samuel P. Chase Freedom Award.

The hotel is located just north of the Baltimore Beltway off I-83. (See map) Take the first exit, #16, Timonium Road. Turn right at light (Greenspring Rd) then right at 3rd driveway. For those travelling from some of our further counties, rooms area available at approximately \$70/night. Contact the hotel directly at (301) 525-7373. Sorry we're not big enough to get a group discount!

A flyer with a registration form is being sent out under separate cover. Make sure you send it in early to take advantage of the pre-convention discounts and to make your dinner selection. See you there!

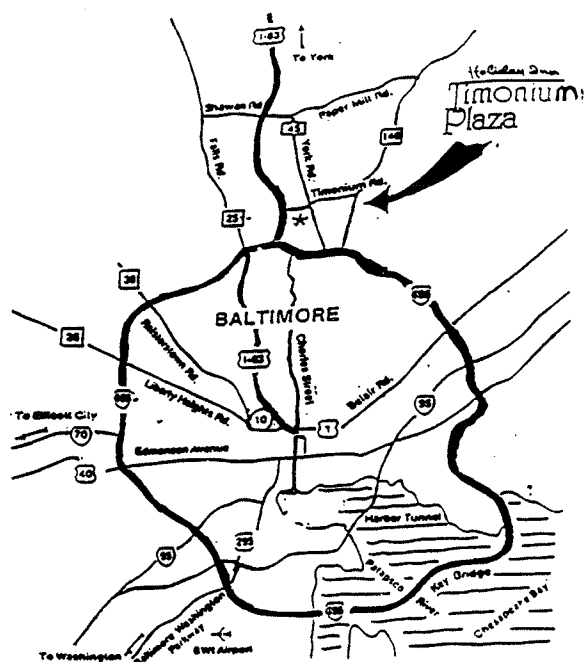
Why Abortion Violates Rights

by Doris Gordon
a talk given at the
1993 National LP Convention

For a copy, please send
\$1 and SASE to:

Libertarians for Life
13424 Hathaway Drive, #18
Wheaton, MD 20906
(301) 460-4141
Doris Gordon, National Coordinator

Advertisement paid for by
Don Monroe
2-4



Montgomery County Fair (cont.)

use his home for overnight storage of the fair supplies.

Scott Becker started his campaign for Maryland Delegate of the 18th district and spent many hours at the fair. We all wish him good luck and give him our support.

I enjoyed talking to you, the party members, over the phone and at the fair and listening to your concerns and suggestions. Anyone wishing to talk about how they thought the fair went, what to improve upon next time or ideas for other outreach projects, please come

to one of the Montgomery County social meetings in September or October or give me a call at home: (301) 585-1793.

Finally, special thanks to those who traveled from other counties to help. I am willing to assist any other county in setting up their own fair booth.

Glenn Howard
Montgomery County Fair Coordinator

(Editors' note: Thank YOU, Glenn!)

Libertarian Party Membership Form

- () \$15 State/Local annual dues* () \$30 Combined National/State Local**
Includes subscription to includes subscription to *L.P. News*
the Maryland LP Newsletter and the Maryland LP Newsletter

() Additional donation toward the fight for Liberty in Maryland \$ _____

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
County _____ Phone _____

The Federal Election Commission requires that we ask the following information:

Occupation _____
Employer _____

I would like to volunteer to help the MDLP with:

- Mailings/Envelope stuffing
 Man booths at county fairs and other outreach efforts
 Petition drives
 Other: _____

* do do not want to become a voting member of the MD LP Central Committee

** New National LP Members only: "I oppose the initiation of force to achieve political or social goals"

Signature: _____

Send to: Dean Ahmad Maryland L.P. 4323 Rosedale Ave., Bethesda MD 20814

FREE STATE CALENDAR

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| October 17 | Baltimore City/County LP | Contact Doug McNeil at (410) 685-6979 |
| October 18 7:00 PM | Montgomery County LP Social Meeting | 13424 Hathaway Dr. Wheaton, MD |
| October 20 7:00 PM | Harford County LP | Bel Air Public Library |
| October 26 7:15 PM | MD LP Executive Committee Meeting | 15175 Charles St. Baltimore, MD |
| November 13 9:30 AM to 10 PM | MD LP Annual State Convention Election of Officers, Panels, Dinner and Speakers | Holiday Inn Timonioum Plaza Timonium, MD |
| November 15 7:00 PM | Montgomery County LP Social Meeting | 13424 Hathaway Dr. Wheaton, MD |

Free State Libertarian Letter
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