



FREE STATE LIBERTARIAN LETTER

Volume 16 No. 6

November/December 1993

MDLP Convention

Welcome to your 1993 Maryland Libertarian Party Post-Convention report.

This year's convention, held on November 13 at the Timonium Holiday Inn, was a great success with approximately 50 people attending the various functions during the day.

The Convention began, as usual, with the State business meeting. The State of the State Party report, by State Chair Lorenzo Gatzanaga, reflected some of the high and low points the Maryland LP has had since the last convention. One of the highest points was the formation of 3 new county groups—Howard County, Baltimore County and Harford County. One of the low points is the uphill battle facing the Maryland LP in it's ballot access petition drive. To date, we have only collected 1,500 signatures.

Informal reports were also given by County chairs or their representatives.

Baltimore City and Baltimore County, although distinct groups, are holding their monthly meetings jointly. They have been having special talks on health care, property tax reform and monetary systems. There is also talk of running candidates for local office.

Harford County is holding regular monthly meetings and will be focusing on candidates for local offices. *(continued on p.4)*

Stamp Act Congress

All of you who regretted not being able to attend the Stamp Act Congress in Salt Lake City this summer: don't dismay. In the works is a plan to have a slightly reduced version right here in our own backyard. On the drawing board for April 29-May 1, 1994, are plans for a two- or two-and-a-half-day workshop on campaign strategy given by Sal Guzzetta. It will be held in Harrisburg, PA, and the room rates at the suggested location are rock-bottom: \$38/night!

The price for the 2-day workshop will be \$150, and for the 2-1/2 day workshop \$175. Any profits will be plowed back to the affiliates in region 5, including the Maryland LP, so everybody wins.

At this point, we need to get a firm estimate of expected attendance: if you are VERY serious, and expect you WILL attend this full weekend (plus half of Friday) please make your reservation REAL SOON by contacting LNC Region 5 Representative Dan Karlan at

97-A Manhattan Ave.
Waldwick, NJ 07463

Phone: (201) 444-2846
CompuServe: 71214,1747

MDLP Chair Lorenzo Gatzanaga will also coordinate reservations. Written commitments are preferred.

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

FREE STATE LIBERTARIAN LETTER

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

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(301) 229-4092
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(301) 464-8856
Newsletter 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
New member info only 1-800-682-1776

I'm honored to be back as Chair for another year. Let's try not to make it a habit!

I am happy to report that the State Convention this year, in terms of attendance, participant satisfaction, and money raised, was an unqualified success. We cleared \$1,466—the most money for any off-year convention, and the second or third highest return for any convention, period. I want to thank all the folks who contributed to making it so, particularly Amy Rule and Susan Gaztañaga for coordinating it, our keynote speaker, Brunswick City Delegate Joe Harrington (Lib.) and, very specially, Ms Tamara Clark, who surmounted the continental divide and personal tragedy to inspire us and to teach us how to successfully fight the oppressive system that currently rules us.

A particularly welcome announcement at the convention was news that a Libertarian Club has been officially formed on campus at the University of Maryland, College Park. Special thanks go to Alan Kleist for his work in making this a reality.

The main order of business, of course, was to elect our Executive Committee for the coming year. Amy Rule, Vice Chair and winner of this year's Samuel P. Chase Freedom Award, declined to run for a third term and was replaced by Kevin Schaefer of Ellicott City. Some reshuffling of positions occurred within the Committee. It now looks like this:

Lorenzo Gaztañaga	-	Chair
Kevin Schaefer	-	Vice Chair
Susan Gaztañaga	-	Secretary
Jesse Markowitz	-	Treasurer
Dean Ahmad	-	Parliamentarian
Bill Buzzell	-	Asst. Secretary
Doug McNeil	-	Asst. Treasurer

A very fruitful Executive Committee meeting took place on December 1, 1993. Saul Baker, Baltimore County Chair and Darrell Sutton, a Baltimore County Libertarian, attended the meeting along with the Committee members. We were all delighted when Darrell volunteered to take on the role of State Media Coordinator—a position we have been seeking to fill since April of last year. Darrell will be coordinating his efforts with me and other members of the Executive Committee. As I write this, he is working on an outline for a public relations/media strategy. His task is a daunting one, and I am certain that he would welcome any help he can get. Anyone

who would like to assist him in his new role, please give me a call.

Dean Ahmad has contacted State Senator Howard Dennis (R-Montgomery County), who is willing to introduce a ballot access bill in the State Senate in this legislative session. Details, such as the text of the bill and the bill number, will be announced shortly. You don't need to wait, however, to start learning who your State Senator is, who your House Delegate is, and begin calling or writing them to raise their awareness of the ballot access issue. If you are not sure how to go about this, give me a call. I can help you get started.

As part of our ballot access drive, we have decided to revive MFBAC—Maryland Fair Ballot Access Committee—a coalition of ALL, regardless of ideology or party affiliation, who understand the need to change Maryland's electoral laws. Now is the time to start reaching out to any independent voters, members of third parties and/or coalitions who are being effectively shut out of the electoral process by Maryland's Byzantine electoral regulations.

Strategies for reviving MFBAC and winning greater ballot access for all citizens of Maryland will be main theme of the next Executive Committee meeting, scheduled for Friday, January ~~12~~, 1994 at 7:30 at Kevin Schaefer's house. All Executive Committee meetings are open meetings, and you are all welcome to attend. If you have a particular interest in ballot access, I urge you to attend the next meeting. Call Kevin for his address and directions.

We are also planning a meeting for chairs of our county, city and campus organizations sometime in January at a date to be announced.

This year there is plenty for each of us to do, and the old adage holds true—no task is either too small or too insignificant.

In liberty,
Lorenzo Gaztañaga
Chair
Maryland Libertarian Party

Editorial Ramblings

This issue marks the beginning of my third year as editor of the Free State Libertarian Letter.

During that time, I have been most fortunate to have the able assistance of my wife, Amy, in this project. The fact that my name is the only one that had been appearing was not an oversight. We discussed the matter and made the decision not to include her name. The reason should be fairly obvious. A member of the Executive Committee also producing the newsletter could seem like too much power concentrated in one person.

With this issue, credit is being given where it is due. Amy is now being recognized for her contribution to this newsletter — layout. The actual writing is fairly easy. The hard part is actually getting everything to look good. Thank you, Amy.

Also with this issue, I am correcting something that was an oversight. Bill Buzzell has been responsible for the actual duplicating, folding, stapling and mailing of this newsletter. This is a labor intensive, time consuming task that no one notices unless there is a problem. And since there's never been a problem, no one has noticed. Thanks, Bill. And thanks to the volunteers you round up every 2 months.

On a different note— For those of you who couldn't make it to the State convention, you missed a helluva speech.

Tamara Clark represents, in my opinion, one of the greatest assets the Libertarian Party has.

If anyone is interested in contributing to her campaign, she can be contacted at:

Tamara Clark
6897 E. Mesquite
Las Vegas, NV 89110-4112

Convention (cont)

Howard County is again planning a mailing to all party members and (formerly) registered Libertarians for the annual election of officers in January.

Montgomery County reports that the monthly business and social meetings still have a good regular turnout. The success of the LP booth at the Montgomery County Fair was also reported on. (All members from the State LP who participated share in the success of the booth.) Additionally, Scott Becker, running for election to the MD house of Delegates is starting to get coverage. Scott is also on the Legislative Committee for his local Chamber of Commerce.

Prince Georges County is the sight of the first Libertarian Student groups.

The Frederick County group is planning a re-organizational session sometime in December. Joseph Harrington, speaker at the convention, was elected to the Brunswick City Council in a special election. Wayne Dougherty, during the regular election, took 37% of the vote.

After the various County reports, nominations were opened for elections to the Executive Committee. Nominated were: Jesse Markowitz, Lorenzo Gatzanaga, Dean Ahmad, Dan Anderson, Doug McNeil, Bill Buzzell, Terry Atwood, Susan Gatzanaga, Keith Thompson, Kevin Schaefer and Don Monroe. (A note of some historical interest— Don Monroe actually voted "yes" to close nominations!) After the counting of votes, the new members of the Executive Committee are - Jesse Markowitz, Lorenzo Gatzanaga, Dean Ahmad, Doug McNeil, Bill Buzzell, Susan Gatzanaga and Kevin Schaefer.

Following the lunch break, the convention resumed with the Keynote Speaker, Joseph Harrington. Joe talked about his recent successful campaign for the Brunswick City Council.

The first of two afternoon events was then presented by Wayne Dougherty, Lorenzo Gatzanaga and Jesse Markowitz.

The workshop, How to Win Elections Campaigns, was a mixture of information from different sources.

All three of the speakers participated in a similar program at the recent National Convention in Salt Lake City. In addition, Wayne brought his experience as manager of Joseph Harrington's successful bid for the Brunswick City Council.

The second of the afternoon events was a panel on Free Market Education. This panel was hosted by Linda Crandall and Robert S. Marlowe. Linda has been instrumental in getting legislation passed allowing parents to teach their children at home. Robert is the Executive Director of Arlington, VA's Citizens for Educational Freedom.

The evening event, dinner, was accompanied by the presentation of the Samuel P. Chase Freedom Award and our feature speaker, Tamara Clark.

The Samuel P. Chase Freedom Award was presented by former recipient, Dean Ahmad. The award is given to someone who has exhibited outstanding service and support for the cause of freedom. This year's recipient was Amy Rule. Amy has served as County Chair in Montgomery and Howard counties, as well as serving for three years on the Maryland LP Executive Committee.

The feature speaker at this year's convention was Tamara Clark. Tamara's speech was a wonderful blend of humor and serious advice, tragedy and victory. Tamara certainly represents everything that is right with the LP. She also announced that she is running again for the Nevada State Legislature seat she ~~was robbed of~~ recently lost.

Campus Organization

For years, people have attempted to organize Libertarian groups on campus. Nationally, programs such as Operation Politically Homeless have been the core for such student groups. But the success involved has somehow evaded Maryland.

No Longer. The Maryland Libertarian Party, and the Prince Georges County LP in particular boast two different Libertarian Student groups.

The first to be formed is on The University of Maryland Campus. The driving forces behind this Libertarian Club are Allen Kleist and Steve Baum.

Joe Whittington III is also active and has formed a Libertarian Club on the campus of the Prince Georges Community College.

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

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3-4

Libertarian Party Membership Form

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

*I 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

January 12 7:30 PM	Howard County LP	5400 White Mane Columbia MD
January 16	Baltimore City/County LP	Contact Doug McNeil at (410) 685-6979
January 17 7:00 PM	Montgomery County LP Social Meeting	13424 Hathaway Dr. Wheaton, MD
January 21 7:30 PM	MD LP Executive Committee Meeting	9034 Furrow Ave. Columbia, MD
January 24 7:00 PM	Harford County LP	Bel Air Public Library
April 29 - May 1	Liberty Campaign Workshop	See article on p.1

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