



# FREE STATE LIBERTARIAN LETTER

Volume 17 No. 2

March/April 1994

## Hillary Rodham Clinton Comes to Baltimore

by Susan Gaztañaga

On Monday April 18, Congressman Kewisi Mfume of the 7th Congressional District organized a "town meeting" at the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions to discuss the proposed health care reform bill. First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and Secretary of HHS Donna Shalala were the featured speakers. Six Libertarians went down to the auditorium with literature and signs to make sure that our viewpoint was represented. While Earle Pearce, Tona Spezio, and Jim McLaughlin picketed outside, Lorenzo and Susan Gaztañaga and Art Oslund went inside to see if they could ask at least one challenging question during the general question period.

A group of 12 to 15 advocates of the "single payer" plan was already on the sidewalk holding signs and chanting when the Libertarians arrived an hour before the program began. Inside, members of the audience were instructed to write their questions and their names on index cards provided. After all the cards were collected, a certain number were to be selected at random. Only about a third of the cards had been collected, however, when the organizers began calling out the names of the fortunate few who would have an opportunity to speak out.

To say that the audience was friendly would be an understatement. The 800 people who packed the hall gave Mrs. Clinton a standing ovation. With the exceptions of Gov. Schaeffer and Baltimore City Council President Mary Pat Clarke, every Maryland politician of any importance was present to congratulate one another and drink in the supportive atmosphere. Mayor Schmoke set the tone when he said, "It's been a good day for Baltimore in terms of its relationship to the Clinton Administration," and then announced that the Administration would be providing the city with \$750 million for housing.

Mrs. Clinton went out of her way to address the most basic libertarian concerns head-on. She stressed "private" health care, insisting that "this is

not government medicine, not socialized medicine."

Unconsciously playing "bad cop" to Mrs. Clinton's "good cop," Ms. Shalala hinted at the sinister dark side of health care reform. She began by itemizing "what this debate is about." "It's about what kind of country we are. . . It's about whether people will continue to smoke, abuse substances, or engage in high risk sexual behavior, and, if they do, whether we can really afford to provide health care for all." She stressed that the plan would not work well unless all of us became more aware of our own health and modified unhealthy behavior. Later, in answer to a question, she said that she estimated it would take two generations of primary and preventive care and healthy living to bring the cost of health care down substantially.

Questions were then taken from the panelists, a collection of six politicians and health care providers. The questions seem to fall into one of two categories: "How will this plan benefit my constituency" or "Will this plan hurt my constituency." The only remotely hostile questions came from two single payer advocates who wanted to know why the Administration had rejected that approach.

Although the Libertarian contingent was not allowed to participate in the discussion, its presence at the meeting was well covered by the media. Art Oslund was interviewed at length by an AP reporter inside the hall. He also got a sound bite on Channel 2: "As a Libertarian, I believe a free market is the best mechanism for controlling health care costs." The Libertarians picketing outside got more coverage than the larger single payer group. Interviews with Earle and Jim were aired on Channel 11, with clear shots of their signs:

Hillary health care is like

**FRIENDLY FIRE!!**

## NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

### FREE STATE LIBERTARIAN LETTER

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Libertarian BBS (301) 656-4714  
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National LP HQ (202) 543-1988  
New member info only 1-800-682-1776

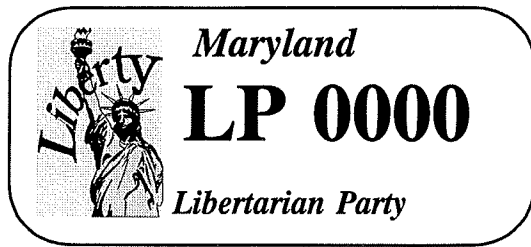
Once again, for the second time in the last few months, Maryland Libertarians have been in the news. Jim McLaughlin, Chair of PG county, Earle Pearce, VP for Media for Baltimore City, and Art Oslund of Baltimore City were interviewed on the 11 O'Clock News (Channels 2 and 11) in connection with Congressman Kweisi Mfume's town meeting on health care reform.

Baltimore County Libertarian Mike O'Mara has spearheaded Citizens for Liberty (CFL), which has met twice already, and succeeded in bringing together Libertarians, gun rights activists, advocates of lower taxes and less government spending, school choice advocates, and members of United We Stand and the Patriot Party. The common ground is the Bill of Rights and the desire to lobby both elected representatives and the public at large to promote the cause of liberty. In this same spirit, Baltimore City Chair Doug McNeil has been working with the Georgist economists at the Center for the Study of Economics for over a year to pass legislation that would reduce the tax burden on property improvements, finally achieving success in this legislative session. In recognition of his efforts, Doug has been invited to witness the ceremonial signing of the bill into law.

Elections will be coming up in 1994 and 1995. As with many local parties nationwide, a consensus seems to be forming within the Maryland LP that we are better off concentrating on a few small local elections where we have a chance of winning or at last receiving a respectable percentage of the vote. We will therefore probably not be running any paper candidates for the big offices such as Governor or U.S. Senate. Although our bylaws prohibit us from officially endorsing any non-Libertarian candidates, individual members who are looking for worthwhile candidates to support might want to take a look at Ellen Sowerbrie, who is seeking the Republican nomination for Governor, at Ron Szczzybor (pronounced "Seebor") who is running as a Republican for Harford County Executive, and at Ron Franks, who is seeking the Republican nomination for U.S. Senate (to run against Sarbanes). All of them support smaller government, and have taken stands against the established politicians. If there is any question that should be asked of them, it would be "Are you willing to use force or fraud to accomplish your political goals?" I expect that the answer in each case would be "No," but before you commit to any of them, ask.

More importantly, let us wholeheartedly support our own Libertarian candidates. Running for State Delegate from the 18th District, Dr. Scott Becker is close to completing the 3,000 signatures he needs to get on the ballot. He will appear on the ballot as "Other" which, given our current status, definitely means "Libertarian." Can he win? Who knows? Can his campaign have an impact? Definitely. Then there is Dr. Steve Ziegler, running for County School Board in St. Mary's County. Based on his community involvement and his regular contributions to the local paper, he has a real chance of winning. Both Scott Becker and Steve Ziegler will be endorsed as Libertarian Party candidates. Let us give them every support.

# Maryland Libertarian License Plate



As we reported last month, the Maryland LP License Plate is in the works. According to Dan Anderson, who is coordinating the project, we only need a few more applications to make the 25 required by the State Department of Motor Vehicles for processing. The tags, pictured here, will include the Party logo and LP followed by a four digit number. The logo which has been approved by the DMV is in four colors: yellow

background, copper green with black shading for the statue, and Liberty in blue.

The tags come with a one-time fee of \$16.00. Renewals will be at your normal rate.

Show your support for the Party. Send your name, address, phone, and current tag number along with a check or money order for \$16.00 to:

Dan Anderson  
1904 Hemlock Road  
Edgewood, MD 21040

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## Citizens For Liberty

A grassroots lobbying group has formed, to lobby all levels of government, calling for individual liberty, low taxes, and limited government. Citizens for Liberty is a multi-party group, which has members from all political parties and Independents. It will also "lobby" the media and the public, to promote public awareness of the need for liberty.

The first meeting was held February 28 at the Randallstown library. Citizens from three counties and Baltimore city were present, and they chose interim chapter representatives:

Baltimore County: Bill Buzzell (410) 477-9173  
Baltimore City: Susan Gaztañaga (410) 325-2813  
Frederick County: Wayne Dougherty (301) 834-6179  
Carroll County: Hermann Myers (410) 875-3346  
added at second meeting:  
PG County Tony Spezio, Jr. (301) 498-3436

At the first meeting, there was a discussion of the group's constitution, which is based on the

U.S. Bill of Rights (with an emphasis on the Ninth and Tenth Amendments which defend individual rights and place limits on the power of government.

The second meeting of the Citizens for Liberty took place on Sunday, March 20. Members and officers from a taxpayers' group, a Republican Club, and a Perot chapter were present, among others, and agreed with the group's goals of lobbying for individual liberty and limited government.

The next joint meeting of the Baltimore City-County chapters of Citizens for Liberty will be Tuesday, May 3, at 7:00 pm at the Randallstown Library in west Baltimore County. The Library is located at the corner of Liberty Rd. (Rt. 26) and Old Court Rd. Citizens from all political parties are invited. For more information, contact your county representative, or if one is not listed, call Mike O'Mara at 410-744-0715.

# Around the State

## **Baltimore City**

The Baltimore City Libertarian Party has a full schedule for the next two months.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is May 15. Please contact Doug McNeil (410-685-6979) or Susan Gatzafaga (410-325-2813) for time and location.

For the "Ides of April", Libertarians and other right thinking people "celebrated" Tax-Protest Day at the main Post ~~Awful~~ Office in Baltimore on April 15th.

In addition to these party organized events, there are several other items of interest coming up in Baltimore.

Citizens for Liberty will be meeting on May 3. This group, which includes Libertarians, cuts across party lines to work for personal liberties. Please see page 3 for information on the meeting.

City Chair Doug McNeil will be addressing the local Kiwanis Club on the subject of Health Care. Contact Doug for time and location.

## **Harford**

The Harford County LP continues its regular monthly meetings at the Belair Public Library on the 4th Monday of the month.

The April 25 meeting featured a speaker from the Yalich Chiropractic Clinic on "The AMA: A Government Authorized Monopoly."

For the May 23 meeting, Republican candidate for the State House of Representatives Bill Frank will address the group.

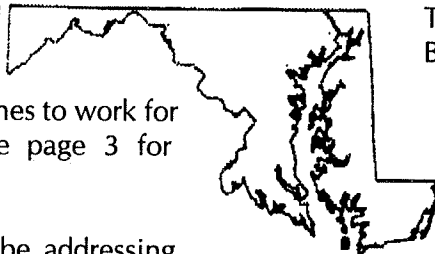
The meetings, as always, are open to the public. Please contact County Chair Dan Anderson for time and directions.

## **Howard**

The Howard County LP is currently planning for their first appearance at the Columbia City Fair, June 17-19. Anyone interested in helping out can attend the May 13 meeting at Amy Rule's house, or call her at (410) 730-7117.

## **Montgomery**

The Montgomery County LP continues to hold its monthly social meetings. The April 18th meeting was held at 7:30 at the home of Lori Bernstein in Bethesda. The May 16th meeting will be held at 7:30 at the home of Glenn Howard in Silver Spring. Contact Glenn at 301-585-1793 for directions.




The petition drive to get Scott Becker on the ballot in November to challenge Leon Billings for the 18th district is going well. Scott needs 2,000 clean signatures to get on the ballot. To accomplish this, Scott plans on collecting 3,000 gross signatures. At this point, his campaign is half way there with 1,500. And with several months to go, it looks good for people in Scott's district to have a real choice in November!

## **Prince Georges**

In what is becoming an annual event, the Prince Georges Libertarian Party is planning another round of Operation Politically Homeless for Earth Day Celebrations at the University of Maryland main campus on April 22. To further bolster Libertarian presence on campuses, Joe Whittington is involved with Young Libertarians of Maryland.

The Prince Georges LP also has weekly meetings on various topics and various locations. Contact County Chair Jim McLaughlin for information.



**MARYLAND LIBERTARIAN PARTY**  
 4323 Rosedale Avenue  
 Bethesda, MD 20814

**Lorenzo Gaztañaga**  
*Chairman*  
 (410) 325-2813

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 \$5.00 layout fee for custom cards  
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- ( ) \$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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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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

May 3 7:00 PM	Citizens for Liberty	Randallstown Library see article p.3
May 7 2:00 - 6:00 PM	Maryland LP Central Committee Meeting	Charles E. Miller Library 9421 Frederick Rd, Ellicott City
May 12 7:30 PM	Howard County LP City Fair Planning	5400 White Mane Columbia, MD
May 15 7:30 PM	Baltimore City LP	contact Doug McNeil (410) 685-6979
May 16 7:30 PM	Montgomery County LP Social Meeting	contact Glenn Howard (301) 585-1793
May 23 7:00 PM	Harford County LP Republican candidate Bill Frank	Belair Library
June 7 7:00 PM	Citizens for Liberty	contact Mike O'Mara (410) 744-0715

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