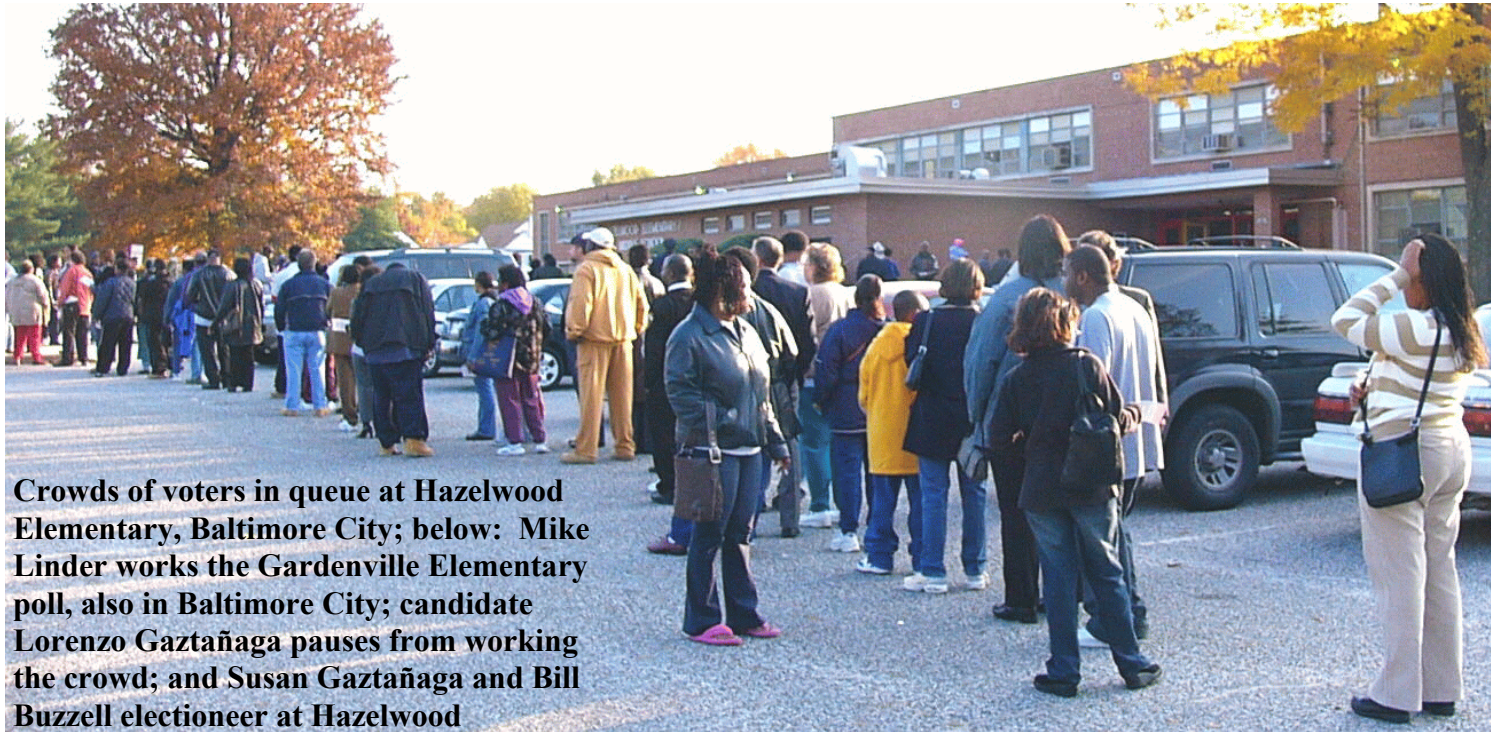


# Free? State LIBERTARIAN

December 2004

Newsletter of the LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF MARYLAND

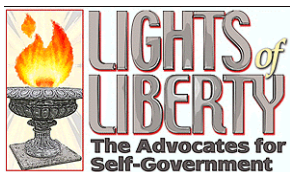
## Election Day – November 2<sup>nd</sup>



Crowds of voters in queue at Hazelwood Elementary, Baltimore City; below: Mike Linder works the Gardenville Elementary poll, also in Baltimore City; candidate Lorenzo Gaztañaga pauses from working the crowd; and Susan Gaztañaga and Bill Buzzell electioneer at Hazelwood



# Deadline looms for 2004 Lights of Liberty awards



The clock is ticking for libertarians in Maryland who want to help promote the libertarian movement – and earn valuable prizes and public recognition for doing so. That’s because

December 31, 2004 is the deadline to

qualify for the annual Lights of Liberty awards, sponsored by the *Advocates for Self-Government*.

“If you help publicize libertarianism in a positive way in 2004, we want to reward you,” said *Advocates* President Sharon Harris. “We know the best way to spread the word about liberty is for libertarians to reach out to people in their community, and the Lights of Liberty program encourages that kind of vital grass-roots activity.”

The Lights of Liberty program honors activists who:

- Get three letters using the words “libertarian” or “libertarianism” printed in a non-libertarian newspaper, magazine, or other publication. Or...
- Work at an Operational Politically Homeless (OPH) booth on three different days, for two hours or more per day. Or...
- Give three speeches to predominantly non-libertarian groups such as service clubs, classrooms, political rallies, or Toastmasters, using the words “libertarian” or “libertarianism.”

In 2003, zero libertarians in Maryland qualified as Lights of Liberty winners – and Harris said she would like to change that this year. “Imagine the effect if every libertarian activist in Maryland set out to accomplish these highly effective goals this year!” she said. “It would generate a significant increase in public awareness of libertarianism in the state.” In addition, outreach opportunities are especially plentiful this year because of the presidential election, Harris noted. “With the spotlight on the

presidential race, people are paying more attention to politics, so the power of our message is amplified,” she said. “Plus, in an election year, your outreach can do double duty. You can not only promote libertarian ideas, but also Libertarian candidates.”

Although the *Advocates* is nonpartisan, Libertarian Party outreach activities and LP campaign activities do qualify for Lights of Liberty recognition. To qualify for the 2004 awards, outreach activities must be completed between January 1 and December 31.

Lights of Liberty winners will receive:

- An award certificate, suitable for framing.
- Their name on the 2004 Lights of Liberty Honor Page at the *Advocates* Web site.
- Their name listed in an *Advocates*’ ad in *LP News*.
- A 20% discount coupon off any order from the *Advocates*’ catalog of libertarian outreach and educational products.
- Their name entered in a drawing for the rare and valuable “Libertarian Library” – autographed copies of every book written by Libertarian Party presidential candidates since John Hospers in 1972.

Since the program started in 1998, there have been Lights of Liberty winners in 46 states (plus Washington, DC) and in five foreign countries (Italy, Australia, Canada, Seychelles, and Great Britain). To qualify for the Lights of Liberty awards, submit your name (or the names of other individuals who engaged in outreach activity) at: [www.TheAdvocates.org/lights.html](http://www.TheAdvocates.org/lights.html). Or e-mail: [Lights\\*TheAdvocates.org](mailto:Lights*TheAdvocates.org). Or call: (800) 932-1776.

*The Advocates for Self-Government is a nonprofit organization that encourages the public to understand and embrace libertarian ideas, and teaches libertarians how to be more compelling communicators.*

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Check [www.MD.LP.org](http://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 [LPM.D.Event\\*ICengineering.com](mailto:LPM.D.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.

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Other List Serves: [www.MD.LP.org/email\\_lists.html](http://www.MD.LP.org/email_lists.html)

## 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 page 12 form: (if you’re a National member, it’s only \$10 more than National-only for both Maryland plus National if you renew through us!); 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).

# MdLP Picnic – July 24



The 2004 summer picnic was held in *Hallowing Point Park* in Calvert County. The rain held out until late in the afternoon. Thanks to Jeannie Rigler for making the arrangements and taking care of all the food!

## State Executive Board Officers

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Secretary	Robert E. Glaser	410-363-8748	N3IC*ICEngineering.com
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Outreach	Chris Panasuk	410-636-6112	ChrisPanasuk*yahoo.com
Fundraising	Robert Johnston III	---	rstanley21018*yahoo.com

**The executive board meets monthly. All meetings are open. Contact an officer for date and location.**

## County Affiliates

Anne Arundel County	Chris Panasuk	410-636-6112	ChrisPanasuk*yahoo.com
Baltimore City/County	Steve Boone	443-386-3977	GoobGrover*netzero.net
Caroline County	Allen Thomas	410-634-1540	gts*crosslink.net
Cecil County	Dave Sten	410-287-2823	Chair*LP-CC.org
Frederick County	Glen Litsinger	301-831-5832	kosmik*adelphia.net
Harford County	Roy J. Meyers III	410-879-5300	Libertarian*rjcc.net
Montgomery County	Nick Sarwark	301-526-7491	Chair*MontgomeryLP.org
Prince George's County	Jim McLaughlin		JimMc1*hotmail.com
Talbot County	Dic Gleason		Talbot*md.lp.org
Wicomico County	Graham Couzens	410-726-1733	Objreason*aol.com

## College Affiliates

Campus Coordinator		Campus*MD.LP.org
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Johns Hopkins University	Ashley Dorn	wakegirl24*jhu.edu
Loyola College	Jude Daniel Blanchette	
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Salisbury State University	Mike Wilson	Wilson2882*yahoo.com
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U. of Md./Balto. County	Rich Goldman	rich1*umbc.edu
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# State of the Party



Our mission, as I see it, is to elect Libertarians to office and influence public policy in a libertarian direction. To accomplish this mission, we need ballot access, the infrastructure to support campaigns and influence public policy, and good candidates.

Let's look at how we rank:

## ① Ballot Access

### The ability to run candidates

We retain recognized party status (ballot access) until December 31, 2006. To maintain ballot access, we either need to get 1% in the highest statewide race every two years (President and Governor), or register 1% of the electorate Libertarian. Additionally, we can submit a petition of 10,000 signatures to re-form the party

should we become decertified.

Before the party was decertified in early 2003, we had approximately 6,500 registered Libertarians – as of October 12 the State Board of Elections reports we have 2,651 registrations in the state. We have regained roughly 40% of our former registrations in the four months it has been possible to register Libertarian.

## ② Infrastructure

### The people, systems, and resources to mount effective campaigns and influence public policy

Summary of the current status of our eight Central Committees:

Anne Arundel County: Has no treasurer – cannot receive or expend funds. Intends to run candidate for state delegate in 2006. Holds monthly Libertarian Night Out.

Baltimore City/County: Now merged to a combined Central Committee. Does several outreach events each year. Looking for candidates for 2006. Holds meetings as needed.

Carroll/Howard Region: Chair resigned – did not notify state? Did not file required campaign finance report – fined \$180. Phone number disconnected.

Cecil County: Does four to five outreach events every year. Developing strategy for 2006 election to target local offices where a victory is possible and run against unopposed when able. Likely candidates are involved in community. Holds monthly meeting.

Frederick County: Chair resigned – campaign finance reports are current. One or two outreach events each year.

Harford County: Does three outreach events every year. No willing candidates for 2006, possibility for straw-man for unopposed local races. Focus on electing candidate to state legislature in 2010, city or town races as opportunities arise. Holds monthly Libertarian Night Out.

Montgomery County: Does three to six outreach events each year. Intends to run local races in 2006. Holds monthly Libertarian Night Out.

Prince George's County: Does two to three outreach events each year. Holds meetings as needed. Developing strategy, working

on a video outreach project.

Separately, we have individual activists all across the state. Volunteers from almost every county sent signatures in for the 2002-2003 petition drive. Talbot County has started to become organized under the leadership of Dic Gleason. We have members in 16 counties. Total membership is 170.

## Campus Organizations

Some of our campus organizations are active and prosperous; however, many have dropped off the map. The campus coordinator does not respond to emails.

## Systems

Weeks before the election, at the height of incoming calls and requests for information, our database wedged up. We can view but not add or change contacts. We were able to switch to other means to get the work done temporarily, but lost the ability to have current data available to many people.

## Other

Prior to the elections we received many calls for speakers or for literature (sometimes singly and sometimes for large quantities). We have a Speakers Bureau with nine available speakers. The geography of where we need a speaker and where we have one nearby doesn't always match up. Our literature supply is depleted.

## Activist/Affinity Group Opportunities

Activists Steve Sass and Spear Lancaster continue lobbying legislators for the Fair Tax proposal ([www.FairTax.org](http://www.FairTax.org)). Spear also devotes much of his time each week to an impressive number of organizations. Tony Spezio continues his outreach in the gun and motorcycle enthusiast communities, and he also does a weekly internet radio show ([www.LibertyFeed.com](http://www.LibertyFeed.com)). Nick Sarwark continues his monthly participation on MetroTalk [see the back page for schedules]. Doug McNeil continues the broader fight for third party ballot access. Many Libertarians are involved in various civic, church, community, and other activist organizations.

## ③ Candidates

See *Maryland Vote Totals* on the next page. I'd like to thank our candidates for running: Michael, Lorenzo, Steve, and Dan. They did a lot of hard work, and are to be commended. The activists who helped them in their campaigns are also deserving of our thanks.

Michael Badnarik for President: Needed 1,328,321 more votes to win. The presidential race continues to yield a fraction of a percentage point in the vote. However, the campaign and the election have brought in new activists.

Lorenzo Gaztañaga for City Council 2<sup>nd</sup> District: Got 4.27% (525 votes) with an active campaign. Needed 9,958 more votes to win.

Steve Beatty for Anne Arundel County Circuit Court Judge: got 10.81% (53,121 votes in a six candidate, three place race). Needed 35,139 more votes to win. Steve did a good job getting his message out by participating in debates and through interviews. The vote total is impressive.

Dan Connell for Montgomery County Circuit Court Judge: got 10.69% (119,932 votes in a six candidate, four place race). Needed 101,488 more votes to win. Dan is pleased with his numbers, and feels he has made some good relationships that will benefit us later. With a campaign of thirty volunteers (mostly friends and family), he was able to get an extraordinary number of votes.

I believe that if we were organized down to the precinct level, the candidates for circuit court could have *won* their elections.

That is where we were. Here's where we're going... how we get there and how you can help.

## ① Ballot Access

Even with the Green Party lawsuit that made a double signature requirement (10,000 for the party plus 1% for the candidate) unconstitutional, we expend great amounts of time and money executing a petition drive. Volunteers – instead of talking to people about the issues at outreach events, or enjoying the early evening with family and friends before fireworks on the Fourth of July – are out *petitioning*. County organizations, instead of making calls to registered Libertarians asking them to join or get involved in campaigns, are *petitioning*.

Some of our best people, who might otherwise be making a name for themselves in their communities to become an electable candidate or being involved in influencing public policy, are not doing *these* things with their full attention – they are *petitioning*.

Maryland is one of the few states in the country where achieving permanent or self sufficient ballot access is possible through registrations. The bar is only 1% of registrations. Other states with varying but achievable requirements are Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Delaware, Massachusetts, and maybe now Louisiana. Massachusetts hasn't tried and we don't know about Louisiana yet. California achieved ballot access via registration in 1979, and since then they have never needed to rely on their registrations – they always achieve recertification with vote totals. Delaware has it (only 200+ registrations). Colorado achieved it in the 1990's. Arizona in 1995, and Alaska in 1999. *We* can do it in 2006.

While there may be legislative avenues (and less likely, judicial avenues) to achieve “easier” ballot access (e.g. fewer signatures or fewer registrations) – and all options will be investigated and pursued thoroughly – the *one sure path* to maintaining party continuity and removing the signature tax from our labors and money is: **getting the registrations**.

If you think about the party in terms of 30-100 years, in the last 30 years we have spent great amounts of time and effort getting certified as a party, being decertified, and consequently losing people and failing to elect candidates to office. If we continue doing the same things, we likely will continue to get the same results, or worse.

We can take another 30 years to get our 1% of registrations. We can do another seven petition drives to re-create the party seven more times in the next 30 years.

*Or we can check this off the list.*

If your vision for the Libertarian Party in Maryland includes a Libertarian elected to the state legislature in 2010, or if your vision includes candidates who might be able to take a U.S. House or Senate seat in your lifetime... then we must free up our resources so that we can focus on these endeavors.

For the 1980 Presidential campaign \$80,000 was spent to get a candidate on the ballot in Maryland.

We will raise \$185,000 over the next two years and ensure that going forward, only minimal time and effort will be required to maintain ballot access. If we are an *inactive party* we will have to get approximately 2,000 registrations per year to keep up with

## Maryland Vote Totals

### President

Kerry	Democratic	1,334,414	55.97%
Bush	Republican	1,024,565	42.98%
Nader	Populist	11,853	0.50%
<b>Badnarik</b>	<b>Libertarian</b>	<b>6,094</b>	<b>0.26%</b>
Cobb	Green	3,629	0.15%
Peroutka	Constitution	3,421	0.14%

### Baltimore City Council, District 2

D'Adamo	Democratic	10,482	85.33%
Bauer	Republican	1,277	10.40%
<b>Gaztañaga</b>	<b>Libertarian</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>4.27%</b>

### Judge of the Circuit Court, District 5 (vote for three)

Goetzke	Judicial	93,307	18.99%
Jaklitsch	Judicial	90,400	18.40%
Harris	Judicial	88,259	17.96%
Bruce	Judicial	85,507	17.40%
Warren	Judicial	80,719	16.43%
<b>Beatty</b>	<b>Judicial</b>	<b>53,121</b>	<b>10.81%</b>

### Judge of the Circuit Court, District 6 (vote for four)

Savage	Judicial	242,631	21.64%
Bernard	Judicial	236,364	21.08%
Boynton	Judicial	222,047	19.80%
McHugh	Judicial	221,419	19.74%
<b>Connell</b>	<b>Judicial</b>	<b>119,932</b>	<b>10.69%</b>
Adams	Judicial	79,071	7.05%

electorate growth and attrition. If we run and elect good candidates, if we are an energized and *active party*, registrations will grow without maintenance.

We can spend the next 30 years doing what we have done: no candidates elected, and a continual fight for survival. Or we can spend the next 30 years electing candidates to office and influencing public policy – in effect, moving our local, state, and federal governments in a libertarian direction.

We have a dedicated volunteer who will be going out a couple days a week and setting up a registration/outreach table. As funds are raised professional petitioners will be deployed. By spring, we should have a team of people working the state. We get a few people a year at most outreach events – sometimes they become activists, members, and volunteers. With daily outreach efforts as part of the registration drive generating a pipeline of referrals, we will *increase* our numbers of activists, members, and volunteers.

If you can contribute to this effort financially or by volunteering, please contact us. If you can be getting registrations, you should be getting registrations. (See *Becoming a Voter Registration Volunteer* on page 9.) Even if you can only get a few friends, family members and co-workers registered – please do so.

If you haven't yet re-registered Libertarian, do it now! A Voter Registration Application form is on page 10.

## ② Infrastructure – People

Based on the inquiries and responses to calls for action from

people across the state, there are folks out there who are interested in being involved in their county or region. In addition to bringing the few wayward counties back online, Western Maryland, Southern Maryland, and one or more Eastern Shore regions will eventually be formed.

Communication and coordination with campus organizations will be improved.

We will “light-up” the map – every county will have an affiliate, or be part of an affiliated region. At the least, by next fall every four-year college and university in Maryland will have a continuing campus organization.

If you are interested in starting, revitalizing, or joining a county, regional, or campus affiliate, please contact us now. We especially need a campus coordinator – preferably a responsible young person with a great deal of free time able to visit various campuses, foster intercollegiate communication, find out what campus organizations are doing and what they need help with, and report back to the executive board. If you are willing to be a patron to a campus organization and fund their needs for literature, giveaways and the like, please contact us now.

### Systems

We have started building a statewide database that when completed will replace and supersede the functionality of the existing system. Hopefully, well before the end of the next state legislative session, we will have the ability to mobilize activists based on issues they are interested in.

If you are a developer with some time, preferably with experience in PHP/MySQL or web design, please contact us now to join the development team. Other database or PC application developers, preferably with Microsoft Office integration experience, are encouraged to join as well.

### Other

Anyone who is willing and able to give a cogent presentation on Libertarian ideas should contact us immediately to be put on the Speakers list. We also need funds to maintain stores of literature for fulfilling requests, state party sponsored outreach, and starting up affiliate organizations.

### Activism/Affinity Group Opportunities

Several organizations and people, such as the Maryland Taxpayers Association ([www.MDtaxes.org](http://www.MDtaxes.org)) and Jim Purtilo’s *Tripwire* (see his ad on page 19) come to mind. While not Libertarian, these groups are fighting for things Libertarians like. Maybe we should be *leading* the way in these areas, but until we are we can build relationships with and help these folks in their good work. Building relationships with affinity groups – organizations which share a common goal or value with Libertarians – is important to our future success in influencing public policy and electing Libertarians.

If you want to start getting involved in something *today*, contact Steve Sass ([crestln@erols.com](mailto:crestln@erols.com)) and ask about how you can help support the Taxpayer Bill of Rights.

## ③ Candidates

Some potential candidates have already inquired recently about running. This is good – because realistically, candidates who are not identified and actively pursuing their campaign by the end of this year will not have adequate time to get the job done properly.

Who is a good candidate?

A good candidate is someone who is involved, or willing to become involved, in their community. Embarking on any activity that gets 1,000 people saying “Bob is a great guy, you can always count on him. Don’t know about Libertarian, but he has my vote, and you should vote for him, too.”

Alternatively, good candidates are people who make a name for themselves influencing public policy. They take on an issue, however small, testify at the state or local level, and rally people to write letters to and call their elected officials – they make a change in government. Going to the meetings, knowing the issues, knowing the people behind the issues... being able to first understand their situation and then communicate a workable solution that moves policy in the libertarian direction.

It is extremely helpful, if not critical, to have something you can point to when you run as a candidate and say: “I did X.”

I didn’t just make this up – if you look at the people who *win* elections, you will find that they all meet the basic requirement of being involved. You must first be a leader *in* your community before you can be a leader *of* your community.

While it may make sense to run paper or inactive candidates for unopposed races – if we are to fulfill our mission, we must have quality candidates.

If you see yourself as a good candidate – please contact us immediately. Even if you think 2007, 2010 or beyond is more likely for your campaign – talk to us NOW.

It is my mission to build a professional political organization in Maryland, capable of electing Libertarians to office and influencing public policy in a libertarian direction. I hope you will join me. The membership/interest form in this issue [page 12] has check boxes for you to indicate how you want to help. There is a place to fill in which political issues interest you – please complete it and send it in, and we will contact you accordingly.

— Roy J. Meyers III  
Chairman, Libertarian Party of Maryland

### Harry Browne on the Vote Total ([www.HarryBrowne.org](http://www.HarryBrowne.org))

At this point, the Libertarian vote total is relatively meaningless. The LP simply isn’t big enough today to overcome the hurdles that the old parties, using the force of government, have placed in our way.

So before you criticize the Badnarik campaign for not getting a million or more votes, realize what they were up against and what they were able to achieve. Michael and his staff worked very hard and accomplished a lot...

The vote total should be the least of our concerns at this stage of the Libertarian Party’s development. We need to be taking advantage of the enormous opportunities that can be exploited by any Libertarian campaign – presidential or local – and not pinning our hopes on a sudden, miraculous breakthrough in the vote total...

The Libertarian presidential campaign can be the most valuable form of outreach available to the libertarian movement. We should make the most of it by focusing on what’s possible – and not wringing our hands over what today is still impossible.

If we concentrate on the opportunities – especially by building the LP as rapidly as possible and running persuasive presidential campaigns – we make it more likely that someday we will be able to run competitive races all up and down the Libertarian ticket.

# Maryland Presidential Votes by County

President	John F. Kerry		George W. Bush		Ralph Nader	Michael Badnarik		David Cobb	Michael Peroutka			
Vice-President	John Edwards		Dick Cheney		Peter Camejo	Richard V. Campagna		Patricia LaMarche	Chuck Baldwin			
Party	Democratic		Republican		Populist	Libertarian		Green	Constitution			
Allegany County	10,576	35.44%	18,980	63.59%	167	0.56%	<b>43</b>	<b>0.14%</b>	25	0.08%	55	0.18%
Anne Arundel County	103,253	43.17%	133,093	55.65%	1,260	0.53%	<b>718</b>	<b>0.30%</b>	340	0.14%	510	0.21%
Baltimore City	175,022	82.02%	36,230	16.98%	973	0.46%	<b>432</b>	<b>0.20%</b>	462	0.22%	262	0.12%
Baltimore County	182,474	51.67%	166,051	47.02%	2,070	0.59%	<b>1,219</b>	<b>0.35%</b>	664	0.19%	667	0.19%
Calvert County	15,967	40.61%	23,017	58.54%	170	0.43%	<b>70</b>	<b>0.18%</b>	49	0.12%	44	0.11%
Caroline County	3,810	33.57%	7,396	65.17%	66	0.58%	<b>33</b>	<b>0.29%</b>	19	0.17%	24	0.21%
Carroll County	22,974	28.98%	55,275	69.73%	435	0.55%	<b>307</b>	<b>0.39%</b>	112	0.14%	164	0.21%
Cecil County	14,680	38.99%	22,556	59.90%	179	0.48%	<b>118</b>	<b>0.31%</b>	43	0.11%	79	0.21%
Charles County	29,354	50.43%	28,442	48.87%	212	0.36%	<b>78</b>	<b>0.13%</b>	55	0.09%	63	0.11%
Dorchester County	5,411	40.59%	7,801	58.52%	52	0.39%	<b>24</b>	<b>0.18%</b>	22	0.17%	21	0.16%
Frederick County	39,503	39.32%	59,934	59.65%	499	0.50%	<b>272</b>	<b>0.27%</b>	137	0.14%	124	0.12%
Garrett County	3,291	26.38%	9,085	72.81%	44	0.35%	<b>23</b>	<b>0.18%</b>	15	0.12%	19	0.15%
Harford County	39,685	35.23%	71,565	63.54%	598	0.53%	<b>403</b>	<b>0.36%</b>	171	0.15%	213	0.19%
Howard County	72,257	54.07%	59,724	44.69%	795	0.59%	<b>456</b>	<b>0.34%</b>	240	0.18%	175	0.13%
Kent County	4,278	46.12%	4,900	52.83%	50	0.54%	<b>19</b>	<b>0.20%</b>	16	0.17%	12	0.13%
Montgomery County	273,936	66.08%	136,334	32.89%	2,271	0.55%	<b>1,041</b>	<b>0.25%</b>	608	0.15%	374	0.09%
Prince George's County	260,524	81.88%	55,532	17.45%	1,052	0.33%	<b>390</b>	<b>0.12%</b>	373	0.12%	322	0.10%
Queen Anne's County	7,070	32.46%	14,489	66.52%	107	0.49%	<b>47</b>	<b>0.22%</b>	23	0.11%	45	0.21%
St. Mary's County	13,776	36.36%	23,725	62.63%	166	0.44%	<b>94</b>	<b>0.25%</b>	65	0.17%	57	0.15%
Somerset County	4,034	44.87%	4,884	54.32%	31	0.34%	<b>13</b>	<b>0.14%</b>	14	0.16%	15	0.17%
Talbot County	7,367	39.08%	11,288	59.88%	100	0.53%	<b>46</b>	<b>0.24%</b>	30	0.16%	21	0.11%
Washington County	20,387	35.24%	36,917	63.80%	267	0.46%	<b>126</b>	<b>0.22%</b>	75	0.13%	88	0.15%
Wicomico County	15,137	40.40%	21,998	58.71%	176	0.47%	<b>71</b>	<b>0.19%</b>	49	0.13%	35	0.09%
Worcester County	9,648	38.26%	15,349	60.87%	113	0.45%	<b>51</b>	<b>0.20%</b>	22	0.09%	32	0.13%
Total	1,334,414	55.97%	1,024,565	42.98%	11,853	0.50%	<b>6,094</b>	<b>0.26%</b>	3,629	0.15%	3,421	0.14%

## Election Review from Montgomery County



My fellow Libertarians,

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks for all of the time, money, and energy that you have put forward over the last six months in supporting your party and your candidates. Do not underestimate the value of your efforts. It is tempting in the weeks after an election to give up on the Libertarian Party or, even worse, to give up on yourself. If anyone feels that way, please call or email me.

I would like to applaud the amazing efforts of Dan Connell, our nominee for the Circuit Court. In the face of overwhelming opposition from the Democratic and Republican parties, the *Washington Post*, and the *Montgomery County Gazette*, Dan still garnered 11.5% of the vote. His work in reaching out to the community, putting yard signs up all over the county, and reaching across boundaries to get votes, has been an inspiration to me.

I would also like to applaud the grassroots efforts on the Badnarik campaign. Ralph Nader outspent us by a 4 to 1 margin, but has so far only eked out 17,495 more votes nationwide. Badnarik raised less than half the money that Harry Browne raised in 2000 and has already exceeded Browne's vote totals, in spite of this being an even more hotly contested election.

Our major party opponents have become very good at the politics of fear. They will do whatever it takes to prevent people from leaving the two-party tent. I applaud every last one of you who were not scared into wasting your vote. Your steadfast refusal to vote for someone you don't want will bear fruit. Keep

the faith and keep fighting for what is right.

To those who are surrounded with gloating Republicans, do not be dismayed. Ask yourself, "What have they won?" Four more years of small-government talk combined with big-government spending? Four more years of nation-building? Four more years of culture wars? If that's what they really wanted, then they deserve your congratulations on their success. If it's not, then they deserve your pity.

In summary, we're not giving up on the cause of Liberty, we're not giving up on the fight for our neighbors' freedoms, and we're not giving up on each other. Thank you again for all that you've done.

...never give up, never surrender...

— *Nicholas J. Sarwark*

Chair, Libertarian Party of Montgomery County

**"The public apparently responds more readily to uncivil, sometimes brutal, often hyperbolic and occasionally downright false accusations. Thus, the presidential debates eventually degrade to the prime time verbal equivalent of a World Wrestling Entertainment Smack Down."**

— *William R. Brody*

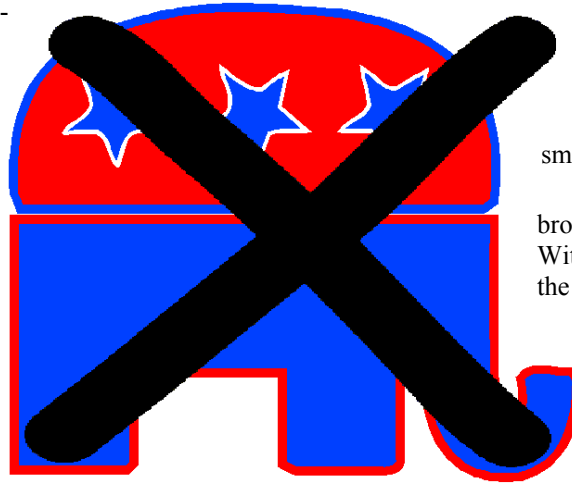
President, Johns Hopkins

# Republicans in Libertarian clothing?



Well, it's settled. The election is over and the Republicans have managed to win yet another decisive victory, gaining seats in both houses of Congress and holding onto the White House with unquestionable results. I know many libertarians – of both the small “I” and large “L” varieties – are thrilled to death.

I, for one, am not. Even though I was pretty young at the time, I remember the “Republican Revolution” from the 90’s and those promises to America, most of which were not followed up on. I also remember how they blamed this on not having support in the White House, which they got in 2000. By 2002, they had majorities in both houses of Congress, a sitting president in the White House, and a fairly friendly Supreme Court. And what, pray tell, did their loyal conservative followers get in return? An increase in spending larger in the last four years than in the previous eight under Clinton. A massive expansion of the Department of Education (which the Republicans claimed they wanted to disband). A whole slew of new nation-building experiments (and no, I don’t just mean Afghanistan and Iraq, but all of the new countries we are in and the expanded presence in old countries). The creation of the Office of Faith, err, I mean Office of Faith Based Initiatives (I always get those two confused...) which funnels taxpayer money directly into the pockets of religious (read fundamentalist Christian) organizations that preach to the people they help. An expansion of the War on Drugs, which funnels billions of taxpayer dollars every year towards imprisoning non-violent offenders at taxpayer expense and destroying the lives and livelihoods of poor peasants throughout Latin America. Under the guise of the War on Terror, we got the Patriot Act which expanded the right of the government to spy secretly on Americans; the creation of secret tracking programs that try to compile the financial transactions, health records, travel records, jobs, etc. of every American in huge databases to see how many might be terrorists; and even the creation of a no-fly list to which elected officials aren’t even immune, as was seen when Senator Kennedy was banned from flying for a short time earlier this year (of course, like most politically well connected people, he managed to get around this inconvenient legislation). The National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities, supposedly long time scourges of the Republicans, even got healthy budget increases during the Bush years. Add to that record deficit spending, increased corporate welfare, an additional 1,000+ pages in IRS regulations, and having the President of the United States, flanked by priests, call an emergency press conference in the middle of two wars to, of all things, give a speech about the need to pass the Federal Marriage Amendment to protect against the “threat” of gay marriage. The list goes on and on.



These are hardly changes Libertarians should be excited about.

Now don’t get me wrong, I’m not a party purist by any stretch of the imagination. Compared with most people in the party that I’ve met, I consider myself a fairly moderate, left leaning Libertarian. But I am a Libertarian, not a Republican or Democrat, for a reason. I believe in the general thrust of the Libertarian platform towards smaller government, and I’m a little fed up with Libertarians constantly cheering Republican victories without really looking into what those victories bring about. Like it or not, the old small government Republicans of yesteryear are gone, and the party has been taken over by this new movement that seems to embody the worst of both major parties: fiscal irresponsibility combined with social conservatism.

I’ve heard many argue this is only due to the fact that they *still* don’t have enough control and can’t run things the way they really would if they could. Time and again I keep hearing the same lines: “the Republicans *really do care* about small government. The past four years were just a fluke, because Bush didn’t feel he had a mandate from the last election so he had to compromise to stay in power.” No matter how much power they had, the litany of woes and excuses went on and on to show why they didn’t have enough support to bring about smaller government.

For better or for worse, this election has brought an end to that debate, once and for all. With the Democrats now firmly ensconced in the minority, and with several Supreme Court Justices very near retirement, we are about to see a one party consolidation of power in all three branches of the federal government that we haven’t experienced in this country since FDR. The Republicans have **no** excuses this time around. Their program has clearly

won out over the Democrats, and they are the ones setting the agenda now. So here is their choice: they can either continue along this new trend of new government intrusion in every aspect of our lives, or they can become the party of small government again. Which direction they take can only be told with time. I, for one, am not going to hold my breath for the latter.

— Adam Schadt

**“If you want government to intervene domestically, you’re a liberal. If you want government to intervene overseas, you’re a conservative. If you want government to intervene everywhere, you’re a moderate. If you don’t want government to intervene anywhere, you’re an extremist.”**

— Joseph Sobran



# Become a Voter Registration Volunteer!

If you can be getting registrations, you should be getting registrations. And you should get trained in the **Voter Registration Volunteer** program.

A Voter Registration Volunteer (or VRV) is 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 a booklet with the regulations that pertain to registrations, and an orientation on the layout and guidelines for all the BOE's on the voter registration application. After completion of the training, you will receive a certificate in the mail that is good for two years.

Depending on the county, your local Board of Elections may have a scheduled training time, or be willing to take walk-ins. If you have a sufficiently large group, the Elections Director (or whoever is in charge of training at your BOE) might be willing to come to your county's regular business meeting to do the training.

The VRV program is an easy way to stay current on all the regulations for voter registrations. This training will ensure that every registration you get is a "good one", and that the person you

register will have the best possible experience (e.g. not having to engage in correspondence with the BOE because of missing information).

Everyone who can get a registration should get trained (and go back every two years for a refresher). Please call your county chair and ask about having a group VRV training session, or contact your local Board of Elections directly and get yourself trained.



In the Baltimore Bird Club's newsletter *Chip Notes*, Keith Eric Costley reported on his experiences on the Baltimore subway system in his article "The Terrorist Who Never Was." An avid birdwatcher, Mr. Costley routinely carries a backpack containing binoculars and a field guide so that he can go birding in nearby parks on a good day during his lunch break.

One day he arrived at the Old Court metro stop and discovered that he had inadvertently left his green knapsack at the Shot Tower station. He asked the attendant if anyone had turned it in, and was told no. So he attempted to take the train back to the Shot Tower to look for it, except that the subway had been shut down below the Charles St. station. It turns out that because a "suspicious package" had been found on the platform, the station was evacuated and locked down, stranding rush hour commuters at the Johns Hopkins Hospital station. Escorted by a police officer, Mr. Costley eventually managed to retrieve his bag. This was complicated by the fact that they could not call ahead, as radio silence is part of the drill in dealing with explosives. Upon arrival, the police were still swarming around, while a helicopter circled overhead. The Bomb Squad had already left.

He claimed his backpack and caught the first train out of town.

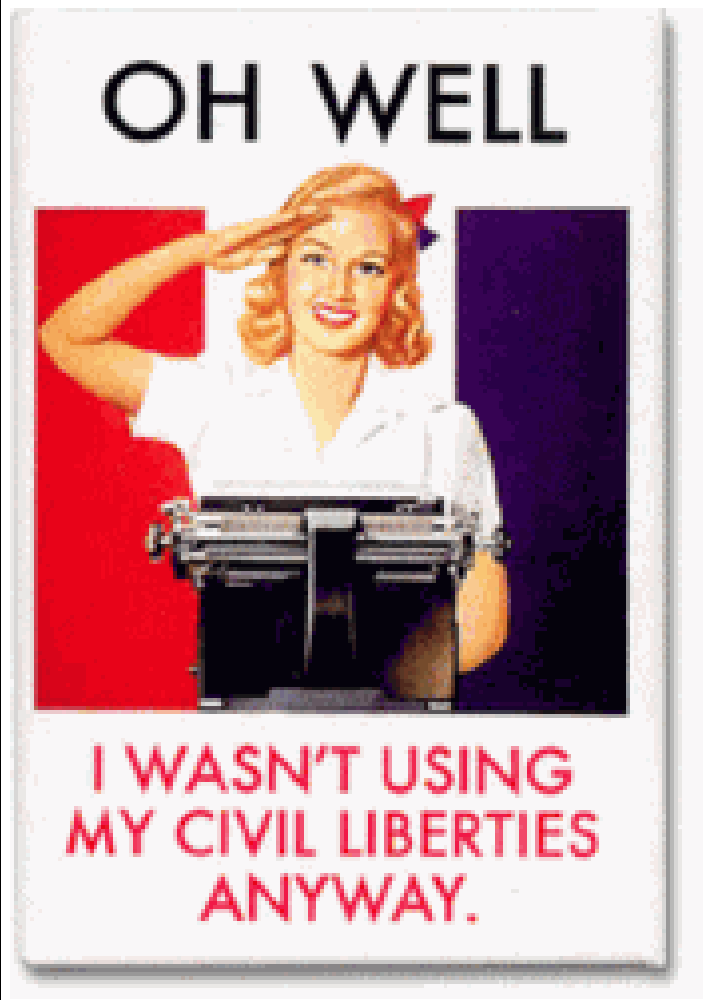
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Also reported in *Chip Notes*: for many years, the Baltimore Bird Club has maintained a Museum of Birds on the second and third floors of the Cylburn Mansion. It is now closed due to lack of handicap access. It is unclear if adding a chair lift would meet legal requirements to reopen the exhibit, as that would permit only one disabled person at a time to access the upper floor. The Baltimore Bird Club and the Cylburn Arboretum Association are working on relocation possibilities.

Refrigerator magnet available from:

[store.yahoo.com/fridgedoor/wausmycili.html](http://store.yahoo.com/fridgedoor/wausmycili.html)

2 x 3 inches, \$3.99



AFTER THIS FORM IS FILLED OUT, YOU MUST SIGN AND MAIL IT TO YOUR COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS. IT CANNOT BE PROCESSED IF IT IS FAXED OR E-MAILED, BECAUSE IT REQUIRES AN ORIGINAL SIGNATURE.

# MARYLAND VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION

## TO REGISTER YOU MUST

- Be a U.S. citizen;
- Be a Maryland resident;
- Be at least 18 years old by the next General Election;
- Not be under guardianship for mental disability;
- Not have been convicted of buying or selling votes;
- Not have been convicted more than once of a crime of violence (Criminal Law Article, §14-101);
- Not have been convicted of an infamous crime (any felony or other crime involving deceit, fraud, or corruption), unless: you have been pardoned, OR you have completed the court-ordered sentence imposed (first conviction), OR at least 3 years have passed since you completed the court-ordered sentence imposed (second or later conviction).

## PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (ITEMS 9, 10)

If you have a current, valid Maryland driver's license or MVA ID card, you must enter the identification number. If you do not have a current, valid Maryland driver's license or MVA ID card, you must enter at least the last 4 digits of your social security number. If you have neither a current, valid Maryland driver's license/MVA ID card nor a social security number, check the box in Item 10. However, please note, the disclosure of your full social security number is voluntary. The statutory authority allowing officials to request your social security number is Election Law Article, §3-202. The number will only be used for registration and other administrative purposes. It will be kept confidential.

## PARTY AFFILIATION (ITEM 11)

You must register with a party if you want to take part in that party's primary election.

## YOU CAN USE THIS FORM TO

- Register to vote in federal, state, county, and municipal elections in Maryland.
- Change your name, address, or party affiliation.

## NOTICE TO MAIL-IN REGISTRANTS

If you have never before voted in Maryland and submit this application by mail, and if you want to ensure that you are not required to provide identification when you vote in Maryland for the first time, you should submit with this application:

- a copy of a current, valid photo identification, OR
- a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document showing your name and address.

## DEADLINE INFORMATION

- This application must be received by a Maryland election office no later than 9 p.m., 21 days before an election.
- If your application is complete and you are found to be qualified, a Voter Notification Card will be mailed to you.
- You are not registered until you receive your Voter Notification Card.
- The submission of this form to an individual other than an official, employee, or agent of a County Board of Elections does not assure that the form will be submitted or filed in a timely manner.

## TO RETURN THIS FORM

- Complete Items 1-13 in Voter Registration. Sign and date Item 14. If you are registered to vote in another Maryland county or another state, you must complete Items A-B in Last Voter Registration.
- Address the application to your County Board of Elections, using the list on the Instruction page. Return to PO BOX 1128, Bel Air, MD 21014-7128
- Affix first-class postage. To be entered in Libertarian Party database also.

## VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION

<b>1</b>	Will you be 18 years old on or before the next General Election? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				<b>2</b>	Check boxes that apply and complete Items 3-14:			
	Are you a U.S. citizen? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No					<input type="checkbox"/> New Registration <input type="checkbox"/> Party Affiliation Change <input type="checkbox"/> Name Change <input type="checkbox"/> Address Change			
<b>3</b>	Last Name		Title (Jr., Sr., etc.)		First Name		Middle Initial		
<b>4</b>	Maryland Residence Address:	Street Number	Street Name	Apt. No.	City or Town	Zip Code	County	<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if you reside in Baltimore City.	
<b>5</b>	Mailing Address (if different from Item 4):								
<b>6</b>	Birth Date:	Month	Day	Year	<b>7</b>	Sex: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	<b>8</b>	Daytime Phone:	
<b>9</b>	Personal Identification Number (see Instructions above):				<b>10</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if you have neither a current, valid Maryland driver's license/MVA ID card nor a social security number.			
<b>11</b>	Party (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Democrat <input type="checkbox"/> Republican <input type="checkbox"/> Green <input type="checkbox"/> Constitution <input type="checkbox"/> Libertarian <input type="checkbox"/> Unaffiliated (decline to join a party) <input type="checkbox"/> Other – Specify: _____								
<b>12</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if you would like information on polling place assistance for elderly, disabled, or voters unable to write or to read the ballot.				<b>13</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if you would like information on working as an election judge for your County Board of Elections.			
<b>14</b>	Under penalty of perjury, I hereby swear or affirm: I am a U.S. citizen • I am a Maryland resident • I will be at least 18 years old by the next General Election • I am not under guardianship for mental disability • I have not been convicted of buying or selling votes • I have not been convicted more than once of a crime of violence • I have not been convicted of an infamous crime (unless I have been pardoned or, for a first conviction, I have completed my sentence, or, for a second or later conviction, 3 years have passed since I completed my sentence). The information in this application is true to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.								
	Signature (required)				Date		DO NOT WRITE IN SPACE BELOW REG. CODE _____ CLERK'S INITIALS _____ CONTROL NUMBER _____ MC _____ VOTER ID _____ DISTRICT _____ PRECINCT _____ WARD _____ MONTH _____ DAY _____ YEAR _____		

Maryland State Board of Elections SBE 03-2024 Rev 6/04 Internet VRA

## LAST VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION (IF APPLICABLE)

<b>A</b>	Name on Last Registration:	Last Name	Title (Jr., Sr., etc.)	First Name	Middle Initial			
<b>B</b>	Address on Last Registration:	Street Number	Street Name	Apt. No.	City or Town	State	Zip Code	County

# MARYLAND ELECTRONIC VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

## VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION INSTRUCTIONS

- 1 U.S. Citizenship**  
You must be a U.S. citizen to register in Maryland.
- 2 Application Use**  
Check all boxes that apply to you.
- 3 Name**  
Print your full name: last name, title (if applicable), first name, and middle initial.
- 4 Maryland Residence Address**  
Print your house number, street name, and apartment number (if applicable), city or town, zip code, and county of residence; if you live in Baltimore City, please check the box.
- 5 Mailing Address**  
If your mailing address is different from your residence address, please print your mailing address in Item 5.
- 6 Birth Date**  
Print the month, day, and year (4 digits) you were born.
- 7 Sex**  
Check "M" for male or "F" for female.
- 8 Daytime Telephone**  
Print your daytime telephone number. The election office may need to call you to clarify the information that you have printed on your application.
- 9 Personal Identification Number**  
If you have a current, valid Maryland driver's license or MVA ID card, you must enter the identification number in Item 9. If you do not have a current, valid Maryland driver's license or MVA ID card, you must enter at least the last 4 digits of your social security number. The disclosure of your full social security number is voluntary. The statutory authority allowing officials to request your social security number is Election Law Art., §3-202. The number will only be used for registration and other administrative purposes. It will be kept confidential.
- 10 Personal Identification Number**  
If you have neither a current, valid Maryland driver's license/MVA ID card nor a social security number, check the box in Item 10.
- 11 Party**  
You must register with a party if you want to take part in that party's primary election. Check one box only.
- 12 Polling Place Assistance**  
If you would like to receive information about assistance available at your polling place for elderly, disabled, or voters unable to write or to read the ballot, please check the box.
- 13 Election Judges**  
If you would like to receive information about working as an election judge in a polling place on election day, please check the box.
- 14 Read the information in Item 14 and sign and date Voter Registration Application.**

## LAST VOTER REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

- A Name on Last Registration**  
Print your full name: last name, title (if applicable), first name, and middle initial.
  - B Birth Date**  
Print the month, day, and year (4 digits) you were born.
  - C Address on Last Registration**  
Print your old address: street, city or town, zip code, county, and state.
- Boxes A-C will be used to cancel your last registration (if applicable), even if you were registered in another state.

### WARNING

Giving false information to obtain voter registration is perjury and punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000, or by imprisonment for up to 5 years, or both.

### PERSONAL RECORDS NOTICE / CONFIDENTIALITY

This form collects personal information for voter registration purposes. If you are not now registered to vote and you refuse to provide this information, you will not be able to vote in Maryland. You may update your voter registration at any time at your County Board of Elections. Except for items specified as confidential, voter registration records are generally available for public inspection; they may also be shared with jury commissioners/clerks or other government agencies as provided by law. The law prohibits use of voter registration records for commercial solicitation purposes.

If you decline to register to vote, that fact will remain confidential and will be used only for voter registration purposes. If you register to vote, the identity of the office at which the application is submitted will remain confidential and will be used only for voter registration purposes.

### REMINDER

You are not a registered voter until you receive your Voter Notification Card. If you do not receive your Voter Notification Card in three weeks, you should contact your County Board of Elections.

### QUESTIONS

If you have questions, call your County Board of Elections or the State Board of Elections at the numbers listed below.

**Large type Voter Registration Applications available upon request to your County Board of Elections or the State Board of Elections.**

## COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

**Allegany Co.**  
701 Kelly Road, Suite 213  
Cumberland, MD 21502-3401  
301-777-5931

**Anne Arundel Co.**  
P.O. Box 490  
Glen Burnie, MD 21060-0490  
410-222-6600

**Baltimore City**  
Benton Office Building, Room 129  
417 E. Fayette Street  
Baltimore, MD 21202-3432  
410-396-5550

**Baltimore Co.**  
106 Bloomsbury Avenue  
Catonsville, MD 21228  
410-887-5700

**Calvert Co.**  
P.O. Box 798  
Prince Frederick, MD 20678-0798  
410-535-2214  
DC Line 301-855-1376

**Caroline Co.**  
Health & Public Services Building  
403 S. Seventh Street, Suite 247  
Denton, MD 21629-1335  
410-479-8145

**Carroll Co.**  
225 N. Center Street  
Westminster, MD 21157-5194  
410-386-2080

**Cecil Co.**  
Court House, Room 332  
129 E. Main Street  
Elkton, MD 21921-5940  
410-996-5311

**Charles Co.**  
P.O. Box 908  
La Plata, MD 20646-0908  
301-934-8972  
301-870-3167

**Dorchester Co.**  
501 Court Lane, Room 105  
P.O. Box 414  
Cambridge, MD 21613-0414  
410-228-2560

**Frederick Co.**  
Winchester Hall  
12 E. Church Street  
Frederick, MD 21701-5447  
301-694-1005

**Garrett Co.**  
2008 Maryland Highway, Suite #1  
Mountain Lake Park, MD 21550-1584  
301-334-1962

**Harford Co.**  
18 Office Street  
Bel Air, MD 21014-3778  
410-638-3565

**Howard Co.**  
Executive Park Building  
8900 Columbia 100 Parkway  
Columbia, MD 21045-2336  
410-313-2727

**Kent Co.**  
135 Dixon Drive  
Chestertown, MD 21620-1312  
410-778-0038

**Montgomery Co.**  
P.O. Box 4333  
Rockville, MD 20849-4333  
240-777-8500  
TDD 800-735-2258

**Prince George's Co.**  
14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Drive  
Suite 205  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-3070  
301-952-3270  
TDD 301-627-3352

**Queen Anne's Co.**  
County Annex Building,  
P.O. Box 274  
Centreville, MD 21617-0274  
410-758-0832

**St. Mary's Co.**  
P.O. Box 197  
Leonardtown, MD 20650-0197  
410-475-4651

**Somerset Co.**  
P.O. Box 96  
Princess Anne, MD 21853-0096  
410-651-0767

**Talbot Co.**  
P.O. Box 353  
Easton, MD 21601-0353  
410-770-8099

**Washington Co.**  
35 W. Washington Street  
Room 101  
Hagerstown, MD 21740-4833  
240-313-2050

**Wicomico Co.**  
P.O. Box 4091  
Salisbury, MD 21803-4091  
410-548-4830

**Worcester Co.**  
100 Belt Street  
Snow Hill, MD 21863-1310  
410-632-1320

# Libertarian Party Membership/Interest Form

Title: Mr. Mrs. Ms. Dr.

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

*Voter registration address*

*Mailing address (if different)*

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Other Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

On which phone do you prefer to be contacted (day/eve./home/work/other): \_\_\_\_\_

(Please indicate times that are good to reach you at each number, and how late is too late to call.)

I would like an information packet about the Libertarian Party mailed to my address.

Please inform me of upcoming events and activities by the following method(s):

e-mail                      postal mail                      phone                      Instructions: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to display these for the party or Libertarian candidates: bumper sticker(s)                      yard sign(s)

I would like to volunteer for the Libertarian Party. I can help with:

- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Outreach events (fairs, shows)        | Envelope stuffing/mailer preparation                      |
| Computer design (e.g. web/database)   | Desktop publishing/graphic design                         |
| Campaigns                             | Media relations   |
| Telephoning                           | Legislative research/monitoring (federal, state or local) |
| Petition/registration drive           | Policy development  |
| Public speaking                       | Political event planning                                  |
| Write and call legislators when asked | Door-to-door outreach                                     |

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in becoming a candidate for public office.

I have an issue(s) that concerns me: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about the Libertarian Party? \_\_\_\_\_

Become a member of the Libertarian Party! You will be supporting your county organization, as well as the state party (and national, if chosen). If you make a credit card pledge of at least \$10 per month, not only will your memberships be covered, but you won't have to renew! Please check all that apply:

Yes, I will join the Libertarian Party!                      Maryland and National LP Membership                      \$ 35

I will make a contribution!                      Maryland only Membership                      \$ 25

I will make a monthly credit card pledge of \$\_\_\_ \*                      Additional contribution (thank you!!)                      \$\_\_\_

(\* Minimum of \$10/month. Gives you auto-renewal for MD and National dues).                      Total Payment: \$\_\_\_

Payment method: Check (payable to Libertarian Party of Maryland)                      Credit (circle one): Visa                      MasterCard                      Amex                      Discover

**New National Members:** 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

This form can be mailed to: **Libertarian Party of Maryland • PO Box 1128 • Bel Air, MD • 21014-7128**

## Minutes of the Initial Governing Body of the Libertarian Party of Maryland – Saturday, 24 July 2004

**Opening:** The Initial Governing Body of the Libertarian Party of Maryland met in *Hallowing Point Park* in Calvert County, Maryland. The meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm by chairman Roy J. Meyers III. Prior to the meeting, the proposed Constitution dated July 2004 was distributed. (It was the existing MdLP Constitution of 3 April 2004 as revised by attorney Scott Haiber to conform to SBE requirements.)

**Attendance:** 13 members of the Initial Governing Body were in attendance for the meeting. Additionally, ten proxies were represented. The Initial Governing Body consists of 25 people.

**Constitution:** There was discussion over reading the proposed Constitutional changes. It was agreed that the meeting be briefly

recessed to provide time for all present to review printed copies. After the recess, the proposed Constitution was adopted by a vote of 23/0/0 (Yes/No/Abstain).

**Officers:** There was discussion over whether to vote on the election of officers as a slate, or for election with officer positions attached to each person. It was voted to proceed with an election of officers as a slate. The slate of: Roy J. Meyers III; Charles P. Spangler; Robert E. Glaser; Joseph J. Miller, Jr.; Steven M. Sass; Robert S. Johnston III; and Christopher Panasuk was elected by a vote of 22/0/1.

**Adjournment:** The meeting of the Initial Governing Body adjourned at 3:58 pm.

## Minutes of the Central Committee of the Libertarian Party of Maryland – Saturday, 24 July 2004

**Opening:** The Libertarian State Central Committee of Maryland met in *Hallowing Point Park* in Calvert County, Maryland. The meeting was called to order at 4:11 pm by chairman Roy J. Meyers III. Prior to the meeting, the following were distributed: the Treasurer's report and the minutes of the 3 April 2004 Central Committee meeting.

**Attendance:** the Credentials Committee consisted of: Robert Glaser; Robert Johnston III; and Ron Kean. It validated that 15 Central Committee members were in attendance for the meeting. Additionally, 9 proxies were represented. The Central Committee rolls consist of 57 members.

**Officer Positions:** Roy J. Meyers III reported that the officer assignments are as follows: Roy J. Meyers III – chairman; Charles P. Spangler – vice chairman; Robert E. Glaser – secretary; Joseph J. Miller, Jr. – treasurer; and Steven M. Sass, Robert S. Johnston III, and Christopher Panasuk as at-large members.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the 3 April 2004 Central Committee meeting were accepted as submitted.

**Treasurer's report:** There was a question as to why the balance appeared to be higher than in the past. Joe Miller responded that the liability insurance policy is being paid on a monthly basis where in the past it had been paid with one lump sum, and that the last newsletter had been printed and mailed to members only, significantly reducing costs. The Treasurer's report was accepted.

**Presidential Electors:** The following were voted as Presidential Electors committed to Michael Badnarik: Roy J. Meyers III; C. David Eagle; Susan Gaztañaga; Steven Boone; Jack Mitcham, Jr.; Michael Linder; Charles Spangler; Tim Boots; Dean Ahmad; and Christopher Panasuk. Ron Kean and Russell Kominski were voted as alternates.

**FairTax Resolution:** Steven Sass proposed the following resolution:

WHEREAS taxing wages, earnings, investment, savings, and death destroys individual freedom and initiative; and

WHEREAS eliminating the Internal Revenue Service is a positive step in the right direction to restoring individual liberty; and

WHEREAS the 16th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States should be repealed; and

WHEREAS passage of H.R. 25 would change the direction of government confiscation of private property in the favor of

the citizenry; and

WHEREAS the complexity of the current tax system causes arbitrary government enforcement and denies equal protection under the law; therefore be it:

RESOLVED that the Libertarian Party of Maryland (MDLP) endorses the passage of H.R. 25 as a step, and only a step, in the right direction; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the MDLP encourages all members to contact congressional representatives for their support.

The resolution passed by a vote of 19/3/3 (Yes/No/Abstain).

**Paid Contract with a Board member:** after lengthy informal discussion, Russell Kominski presented the following resolution:

The Executive Board shall have the authority to enter into a contract with a Board member for not longer than a term to extend up to the Spring Central Committee meeting at which time the said member shall either resign from the Board or the contract be terminated.

The proposed resolution passed. A second resolution was proposed by Troy Zinderman:

The Executive Board shall contact the Central Committee by any means necessary with notification of the date the contract will go into effect and provide a means of obtaining the terms of that contract.

The resolution passed.

**Adjournment:** the Central Committee meeting adjourned at 5:42 pm.

— *Robert E. Glaser*

*These minutes are not yet approved by the Central Committee. Approved minutes can be found at [www.MD.LP.org/docs/cc/](http://www.MD.LP.org/docs/cc/)*

According to the resolutions regarding a paid contract with a Board member made at the 24 July 2004 Central Committee meeting, the Executive Board agreed to a contract on October 12, 2004 effective that date. Any Central Committee member may obtain that contract by contacting the Secretary with a request.

This message was sent on 13 October 2004 to the email address of each Central Committee member that the MdLP had on file.

# Michael Badnarik Spends Defenders' Day in Maryland



We were very fortunate to get our Presidential candidate Michael Badnarik to visit on Defenders' Day, September 13. His plane was late, but we still managed to get to Ft. McHenry on time. Then there was a lot of commotion distributing t-shirts and yard signs before we were ready to begin our tour. By then we had a whole group of us in libertarian garb, ready for our photo-op. We toured the grounds and then saw the short movie, which was very inspiring. It reminded me how I yearn to be proud to be an American and free, and how shameful it is that it is no longer true.

From the Fort I had to run Michael and Jon back to the airport to get a suitcase the airline had misplaced. Then we proceeded to the Columbia Hilton for our evening event. By the time we had the tables set up and the flags hung and duties assigned to the inner circle, it was time to start the festivities. I acted as host, Glen Litsinger told the history of the various flags on display, Toni Litsinger introduced local candidate Lorenzo Gaztañaga, Chris Claypoole introduced Michael Badnarik, and Colleen Eagle gave out the Door Prize. The winner of our Trivia Contest was Michael Linder.

— *David Eagle*

The indelible impression of the evening event was Michael's campaign speech. I was surprised and pleased by the power and eloquence of his oratory. He was "preaching to the choir," of course, but it would be fascinating to gauge the reaction of the average voter if we can somehow get him the media exposure he deserves.

— *Glen Litsinger*

At Ft. McHenry, despite the overall accommodating attitude of the Park Rangers, they were adamant about us not exercising our freedom of speech except where they approved of it [photo above right]. In other words, even Ft. McHenry, the site of the battle that inspired the national anthem, has "free speech zones."

— *Chris Claypoole*

More photographs at [www.MD.LP.org/album/](http://www.MD.LP.org/album/)



# Guarded Endorsement

We are living in tough times. America is facing a populous division not seen since the days of bell-bottom pants and charred draft cards. War carves deep rifts between coworkers and associates, families, and friends. It leaves only hurt feelings and bitter resentment, and neutral ground can be hard to find.

I am a reluctant member of "Generation X." My peers and I were not alive to witness the turmoil of the Vietnam war, but we read about it in our history books, watched documentaries about it on the TV, and heard our parents evoke memories, some pleasant and some bitter, at the dinner table.

I guess every generation gets their own war to rebuke or support, and it seems that with the current Iraqi war we've got our chance – this generation's Vietnam as it were. So now that it's our turn, how do we respond?

Should we follow our parents' example and file into streets with our protest signs held high? Should we spit on the soldiers returning from the battlefield, or plant bombs in the ROTC buildings on college campuses? Sometimes I feel like it, like when I see a grainy video of a kid, only a couple of years younger than me, getting his head sawed off with a butcher knife, or a deranged woman smiling and pointing at the genitals of a man she has just finished torturing. Yeah, sometimes I feel like rioting, or at least screaming at the politicians responsible for this mess...

Maybe we should follow a different path. Perhaps we should adopt a policy of unmitigated support for the war and the troops charged with fighting it. We could collectively accuse those who oppose the war of being un-patriotic or un-American and spit on them when they speak out.

Both paths offer their own benefits and drawbacks, but a third path, one that has become dangerously close to being overgrown, winds its way through the American public. I believe this path is the prudent direction for our nation during these trying times. It runs between the other two, the road sign reads... *guarded endorsement*.

Up to now, I've been a zealous anti-war advocate. I've been quick to argue with anyone trying to assert that our efforts in Iraq had anything to do with terrorism. I have, on a daily basis, argued with my co-workers and friends about bringing our troops home and ending the foolish military muscle flexing overseas. In other words, I was running full-speed down the protester path.

The war being fought now is not the same war that was proposed in the spring of 2003. The facts have now changed in Iraq, because Al-Qaeda is now in Iraq. Remember them, from New York? Yeah, those guys. Any fight against them is the only right thing we can do. Our lives should be spent searching out every last one of them, and their supporters, and punishing them to the fullest extent of international law. There's really no argument there. And because the cockroaches of the globe have infested a middle-eastern country no bigger than the state of California, we need to go spray the Iraqi homes and destroy the swarm.

So now I'm going to be like Michael Jackson, and make a change – not for boys; I'm going pro-war. From this day forward

– much to the surprise of my coworkers and friends – I have decided to pledge my support to the United States military efforts in the country of Iraq.

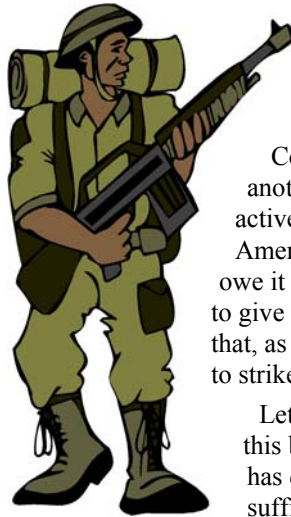
Relax. There's no Secret Service agent behind me as I write this, (writer pauses to look over his shoulder) no, there's not. I think it's time for those of us who have been avidly decrying this war to rethink our opposition. Let me be clear, I'm not advocating a blanket support of President Bush, his administration, or its policies. I still believe that the United States needs a regime change – I think it's nice that we can do our own changing and no one in a suit and tie fires missiles at us – but the war is (now) justified.

This war isn't about Saddam Hussein or weapons of mass destruction, chemical weapons or Security Council resolutions. The war in Iraq has morphed into another front in the global war on terror. Al-Qaeda is very active in Iraq and they are killing American soldiers and American civilians by the hundreds. We made this mess; we owe it to the innocent Iraqis to fix it. We owe it to the troops to give them the support they deserve. We should remember that, as long as the terrorists are busy there, they are less likely to strike here.

Let me reiterate, I think we need a change in leadership for this battle to be successful. I do not think President Bush has done an adequate job of supplying the troops with sufficient numbers of fighters, or the supplies they need to fight effectively. Someone who will take the insurgents seriously, and deal with them properly should replace him and his cabinet. But, until November, I think we should swallow really hard and agree with the Republicans on the war effort. Gulp.

— *Joshua Burgess*

*This was submitted prior to the election, and of course expresses the author's views.*



**Bill Buzzell chats with a visitor at the LP booth at the Essex Day Festival on September 19**

# Alternative Voting Methods: Breaking Up the Two-Party Monopoly



Every election cycle, third parties fight the same uphill struggle: trying to convince sympathetic voters to vote for them instead of a Republican or Democrat. Among third parties it's called the "wasted vote syndrome" (WVS). In this year's presidential race, if you don't vote for Bush or Kerry, you are "wasting your vote" since no third party candidate has a chance of winning. In tight races, it's an even worse problem, since everyone considers their one vote more important.

But what seems to go largely unaddressed every election season are alternative voting methods. There are about a half dozen candidates running for president, depending on the state you're in, but the conventional rules are that you can only vote for one of the six candidates. Why isn't there any room to express a preference on the remaining five?

Our 2-party monopoly is no coincidence. When all voters can only vote for one of a half dozen candidates, the person elected need not be favored by the majority, only the largest minority. The twisted effect can be demonstrated in a society where 60% of the population takes one view, and 40% an opposing view. If there were five candidates from the majority and one from the minority, the minority candidate would win the election with 40% of the vote, since the other five candidates would split the 60% majority with an average of 12% each. In this way, the minority candidate wins in spite of being the least preferred by an overall landslide majority. (Something that happens now in primary elections within single parties.) In more complex and realistic scenarios, this "largest minority" election winning criterion leads third party voters to contract WVS by withdrawing support for personally preferred, but less popular minor party candidates, and instead vote for the perceived lesser of two evils. Mainstream voters, in the meantime, have little reason to even learn about the third parties.

One alternative voting method is a "run-off" vote. This is done in some countries whereby a subsequent election is held in the event no candidate receives a majority vote. The run-off is usually open only to the top two candidates, thereby effectively guaranteeing one will take a majority. This helps ensure that on the first election run, people will be more likely to vote their conscience. Disadvantages are the expense of a followup election, and the mathematical possibility of the most overall favored candidate being eliminated in the first round by ranking 3<sup>rd</sup> or even 5<sup>th</sup> in a six way race.

A refinement to the run-off system is the "instant run-off voting" method, or IRV. This allows the voter to rank the candidates from most to least favored. The votes are first counted by looking only at everyone's first choice. If no candidate holds a majority, then the least favored candidate is removed, and all voters voting for him have their votes reassigned to their next favored choices. The votes are re-tallied, and if no candidate again takes a majority vote, the next least favored candidate is removed, and the vote reassignment process repeated. This continues until one candidate takes a majority. The disadvantage is a slightly more complicated ballot, and though it is promoted by many, to some authorities it is still not a suitable cure for WVS. This has to do with a situation where one candidate would be everyone's second choice, but no one's first. He'd be eliminated in the first round only to obtain votes "posthumously," and after

several elimination rounds, would have been found to be more preferred by a majority than the actually winning candidate. Australia has had an IRV system in place since the 1920's, and unfortunately they are still dominated by two parties, which may prove it is not a proper cure to the two-party monopoly.

Another voting method is similar to the IRV method, except that second and subsequent choices are all computed simultaneously. Known as the Condorcet method, it has some advantages, but still suffers from potential improper manipulation. A 2004 election using this method, for example, might lead Republicans to insincerely rate Kerry last when they might really rate him above third party candidates, simply to weigh down the likely high ranking their rivaling Democrats give Kerry. While it would not change the weight of Bush, it might drag Kerry low enough so Bush wins anyway.

Perhaps the best voting method of all is the "Approval" method of voting, which allows voters to vote for as many or as few candidates as they wish. The voter either "approves" or disapproves of each candidate by voting/not voting for him/her. The winner is determined by that candidate receiving the approval of the most number of voters. Some say it is the superior voting method over all others. The web site [www.ApprovalVoting.org](http://www.ApprovalVoting.org) is dedicated to promoting it. It's certainly far superior to the current one-vote system.

There are a few other methods, such as a voter assigning five votes for his first place choice in a six way race, four for his second, and so on. The number of votes assigned the first place candidate would be one less than the number of candidates. But that suffers from mathematical irregularities stemming simply from the existence of extra candidates even if they were least preferred by all voters.

The "Approval" method of voting is likely the best voting method so far developed. It's simple to understand, easy to tally and verify, least subject to manipulation, and most importantly, reflects the will of the people better than any other method across any number of political parties. But just about any voting system is superior to the current method in use today, which is among the worst there is.

Minor parties would do well to direct their efforts to revamping the election system that would unlock the ballot box. Until the present voting system is revised, third parties are virtually guaranteed to remain "third parties" no matter what. Unlike other initiatives which are commonly shunned by R's and D's that see third parties as unwelcome competition, alternative voting methods might actually be well received. In 2000, Nader was blamed for costing Democrat Al Gore the state of Florida. If Democrats viewed election revisions as a way to capture Green party votes, they might be inclined to endorse it. Likewise, fiscally sensitive Republicans might feel equally inclined to try to capture the Libertarian vote, and conservative Republicans the Constitution party vote by instituting such a change.

In the mean time, third party voters should stand their ground and not award either Bush or Kerry their vote, no matter how close the election may seem to be. A vote for a third party candidate is some thirty times stronger than is one for a Republican or Democrat, given the need to be recognized by election commissions, and should be used to bait the R & D parties into a very badly needed revamping of America's election system.

— Neil McIver  
*Written prior to the election.*

[www.cjMcIver.org](http://www.cjMcIver.org)



## Editor's Corner



The next issue will be for March or April. Thanks to all of this issue's contributors.

I always succumb, at least temporarily, to post election blues. Viewpoints like those heard from Nick and Harry Browne (pages 7, 6) help. It's always a pick-me-up just to be around other libertarians, and know that the people around you "get it."

### JAMAL LEWIS

Certainly the weakest members of our society are the easiest targets for the untenable War on Drugs. They can ill afford costly defense attorneys

and don't get the benefit of the doubt from police, prosecutors, and juries. It should make us all pause when even persons in a position to defend themselves are forced to submit to the War. The Ravens running back was charged with "conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine and attempted cocaine possession." Lewis was also charged with "using a cell phone to facilitate a drug transaction." Threatened with ten years in prison, even he opted to give in to the overwhelming hammer of the government, and took a plea agreement which gave him several months in prison, halfway house time, and community service.

Lewis maintains that "at no time during these events did he possess cocaine, intend to possess cocaine, provide any money for the purchase of cocaine, or expect to receive any money from the sale of cocaine" (from the agreement).

There you go: no drugs; no money; no evidence; just the word of a stoolie. It should be no surprise when Martha Stewart was convicted of lying to a federal agent when she was not under oath. I guess prosecutors forgot to add in the cell phone crime!

### TECHNOLOGY vs. Liberty

*EE Times* reports that 160 Mexican government officials have been implanted with RFID chips. The maker of the VeriChips is also working with banks, credit card companies, hospitals, medical clinics, and security agencies to spread the concept further.

The Department of Homeland Security's first tests of electronic-passport interoperability exposed technology flaws, according to *EE Times*. Using a reader equipped with an antenna, NIST testers were able to lift "an exact copy of digitally signed private data" from a contactless e-passport chip 30 feet away.

Erie Insurance Company's *In Sync* magazine reports that the NTSB is urging the government to require that all new vehicles be equipped with "event data recorders." Currently, about 15 percent of the nation's passenger vehicles are equipped with the recorders (75 percent of 2004 models).

The European Union has decreed that all electronics products sold in the EU must be lead-free starting July 1, 2006 (*EE Times*). Reliability is a concern because lead-free solder is more brittle and connections break. Electronics accounts for 0.5% of the lead used in the world. This is not just a European problem – manufacturers build for global markets.

— Robert E. Glaser



## In the News

**Gerry Schneider's** letter to the (Montgomery County) *Gazette* was published on May 19 about Gov. Ehrlich's comments on multiculturalism. He points out that "multiethnic" is the correct term, and that recent immigrants adopt the *American* culture, evidenced by blue jeans, Disney, and McDonald's.

The (Montgomery County) *Gazette* published **Gerry Schneider's** letter on July 9, "Take off the rose colored-glasses." He took Montgomery Council President Steven Silverman to task for his rosy view of the county to rationalize tax increases. Gerry cites the school system, county parks, and county businesses dependent on government as opposing evidence.

**Gerry Schneider's** letter to the (Montgomery County) *Gazette* was published on August 4 about a district-elected County Council. The *Gazette* had printed an editorial against the idea; Gerry calls such a plan "better representation of citizens."

**Robert Glaser** submitted a letter to the *Owings Mills Times* on August 6 responding to an editorial about the 911 system, cautioning against over dependence upon it.

The *Baltimore Sun* published **Doug McNeil's** letter on August 19 regarding the Democrats' opposition to ballot access for Ralph Nader. He spoke on behalf of *Marylanders for Democracy*, a nonpartisan ballot-access organization.

**Robert Glaser** submitted a letter to the *Baltimore Sun* on September 8 as MdLP Secretary referring to an article mentioning low Libertarian registration numbers in the state. He pointed out the ballot access restrictions and lack of coverage by the *Sun* in the 2002 Gubernatorial campaign.

**Doug McNeil's** letter "Unite for Ballot Access" was printed on September 10 in the *Washington Post*. He refutes an earlier letter from a Virginia LP official which supported letter-of-the-law enforcement of ballot access signature rejection for Nader.

The (Montgomery County) *Gazette* published **Gerry Schneider's** letter on September 29, self-descriptably entitled "Why not put government offices in malls?"

The October issue of *Washington Senior Beacon* reports on monthly meetings of "Jefferson Cafés" and included an interview with **Gerry Schneider**. Gerry is a participant and session facilitator for these meetings, which bring together small groups of people to identify key issues in public life and address them through a thoughtful exchange of ideas.

**Tony Spezio** broadcasts a weekly internet "radio" show with his *Maryland Libertarian Forum* 2:00-4:00 pm Saturdays at the [www.LibertyFeed.com/libertarian.html](http://www.LibertyFeed.com/libertarian.html) URL.

**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). Go to the URL [www.MD.LP.org/audio/](http://www.MD.LP.org/audio/) to listen to archived show recordings.

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

By Baloo



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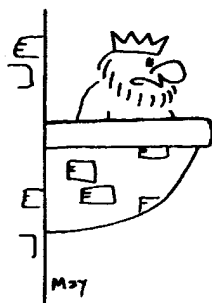
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- Vin Suprynovicz – The Ballad of Carl Drega: Essays on the Freedom Movement 1994- 2001
- Send in the Waco Killers: Essays on the Freedom Movement 1993-1998
- Thomas Szasz - Our Right To Drugs
- Walter E. Williams - More Liberty Means Less Government: Our Founders Knew This Well
- Do The Right Thing
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- Aaron Zelman & L. Neil Smith - Hope & The Mitzvah

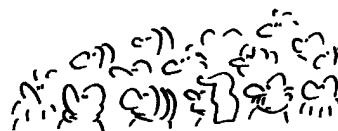
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By Baloo



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# COMING EVENTS

Note: consult [www.MD.LP.org/events/](http://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!*



December 7 (Tuesday): 7:30 pm. MdLP Executive Board meeting via teleconference. Robert Glaser

First half of December: Montgomery County LP Holiday Party, date to be determined. Nick Sarwark, [www.MontgomeryLP.org](http://www.MontgomeryLP.org)

January 12 (Wednesday): Maryland General Assembly opens

February 14 (Monday): Frederick Douglass and Terry Atwood memorial day (MdLP Central Committee resolution 2/20/99)

April 11 (Monday): Maryland General Assembly closes

April 15 (Friday): Tax Day protests

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— *Steven Sass*



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## Regularly Scheduled Libertarian Gatherings

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

Gallery Gang (Annapolis): 7:45 pm Mondays Jan. 24 - April 11 to lobby legislators. Spear Lancaster (SpearLib\*ao1.com).

Libertarian Night Out (Rockville): 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, 7:00 pm at *Bennigan's*, Rockville Pike in Federal Plaza near Twinbrook Pkwy. (behind Texaco gas station). Nick Sarwark

LNO (College Park): 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, 7:00 pm at the *94<sup>th</sup> Aero Squadron*, 5240 Paint Branch Parkway. Jim McLaughlin

LNO (Harford Co.): 7:30 pm. The date and location rotates. Roy J. Meyers III

LNO (Riva): 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, 7:00 pm at *Mike's Crab House* on 3030 Old Riva Road, Riva. Chris Panasuk

Cecil County Libertarians: 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday, 7:00 pm at the *Rising Sun Public Library*. Dave Sten

Liberty Lightning Bowling League: Alternate Sundays, 6:30 pm at *AMF Ritchie Lanes*, 6608 Ritchie Highway, Glen Burnie. Steve Boone


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

*Maryland Libertarian Forum*, Tony Spezio host: 2:00-4:00 pm Saturdays at [www.LibertyFeed.com/libertarian.html](http://www.LibertyFeed.com/libertarian.html)

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