



Free? LIBERTARIAN

State April 2017

Newsletter of the LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF MARYLAND

Join us at the Libertarian Party of Maryland 2017 Convention!

When: Saturday, April 29th, 2017

Where: All American Steak House
At DoubleTree by Hilton
15107 Sweitzer Lane
Laurel, MD 20707

DoubletreeLaurel.com/dining/all-american-steakhouse-laurel

Schedule:

1:30 pm Registration
1:45 pm Local Groups, "What We're Doing and Why You Should Join Us"
2:00 pm State Central Committee Meeting – including regular business plus the following:

- Nominations and Elections for public office, including Governor.
- Nominations and Elections for the Chairman and Executive Board. All positions are open.
- Voting on motions to amend the State Party Program, if any (only motions presented and discussed in the Program Committee meeting on April 3rd will be considered for an up/down vote)
- Constitutional Amendment(s)
- Check your mailing label to verify that your MdLP dues are paid up and are therefore eligible to vote
- Minutes of the previous Central Committee meetings are in previous newsletters and on the website
- Central Committee members may delegate a proxy: Sign and date a statement designating another member of the Central Committee as agent, granting that agent the power to vote in the Central Committee. Either mail the proxy statement to the Secretary (Robert E. Glaser, PO Box 321, Owings Mills, MD 21117), or the agent should present the proxy to the Credentials Committee upon arrival. A *scanned* copy (smartphones take quality photos, too) of the proxy can also be emailed to Secretary*LPmaryland.org.

4:15 pm Dinner is served
5:00 pm Guest Speaker Neill Franklin of *Law Enforcement Action Partnership* (LEAP)
6:00 pm Adjournment

Directions:

- From Baltimore: Take I-95 South to 198 West at Exit 33B; at first light turn left onto Sweitzer Lane; Hotel is on the left.
- From Washington: Take I-95 North to 198 West at Exit 33B; at first light turn left onto Sweitzer Lane; Hotel is on the left.

Alcohol: Cash bar

Dinner menu: Chicken wings; Cucumber/Caesar salad; BBQ Ribs; Grilled Chicken Breast; Pulled Pork; coleslaw, potato salad, baked beans, mac 'n' cheese; Sweet Potato Pie; Bread Pudding; Apple Pie/Cobbler

Questions or more information: Stuart Simms, StuSimms*LPmaryland.org

Cost: \$40 by April 24 (click *Donate Now* at right side of webpage or mail check to Box 176 address); \$45 after or at the door. There is limited space so advance payment is recommended to guarantee admittance. Please notify Stuart if you expect to pay at the door so that he can provide the restaurant a head count, plus you will receive a pre-printed namebadge. The Central Committee *only* meeting has no charge.

IMPORTANT: SPECIAL EDITOR'S NOTE FOR NATIONAL LP MEMBERS ON PAGE 3

Chair's Report



First impressions matter.

My introduction to the Libertarian Party came in 1992 when I heard the LP presidential nominee Andre Marrou interviewed on the *G. Gordon Liddy* show. I had only recently become interested in politics and libertarianism, and I liked what I heard from Mr. Marrou.

His answers were logical and concise, and I was intrigued.

However, after the 1992 election, the Republicans were talking a libertarian game, and I believed them. After garnering 52 new seats in the U.S. House of Representatives in the 1994 elections and taking control of the House for the first time in over 40 years, I was excited and looking forward to big changes in government.

In 1996, I met my first Maryland Libertarian, Lorenzo Gaztañaga. I was parking on a street just behind the Candler building in downtown Baltimore, and Mr. Gaztañaga, who was there to pick up his wife Susan – also a Maryland Libertarian – asked me for a quarter for the parking meter. I don't remember how the conversation got started, but we did start talking about politics. We discussed where we agreed politically and he politely showed me where Republicans aren't like Libertarians, and he gave me some literature on Libertarian issues.

By 2000, I realized that all the talk about the Republicans slashing the size of government was just that – talk – and I was ready to get involved with the Libertarian Party. Just after the 2000 election, I attended a meeting of the Harford County Libertarians, and met the state chair Steve Boone. Mr. Boone was kind enough to chat with me for at least 45 minutes. I came away from that meeting realizing that this is where I belonged, and I promptly joined the state and national parties, and purchased my MdLP license plates from the Motor Vehicle Administration. I have been

actively involved with the Maryland LP since then, having been elected to the Executive Board in 2003, and state party chair in 2007. I have also been working as a contractor to the Libertarian National Committee since 2010.

So why am I going through my history with the party? Because first impressions matter, whether it was my first encounter in hearing a Libertarian Party candidate being interviewed on the radio, meeting a Maryland Libertarian in person, or meeting the state chair at my first meeting.

Has there ever been a business or a group that you were interested in, and after encountering someone in that business or group that was so unpleasant or even downright rude that you never wanted to associate with that business or group again? First impressions can make or break you. And the Libertarian Party doesn't have the resources and numbers to overcome bad first impressions that the establishment parties have. Every interaction with a potential Libertarian counts. Sure, there have been times that my discussions or phone calls with non-libertarians have ended poorly, but by that point it was clear the person had no interest in getting involved – they were just trying to win an argument or play gotcha. But with every interaction with a non-Libertarian I have where politics are brought up, my goal for the first meeting is for the person to have a pleasant encounter and leave being interested in finding out more about the cause.

Keep this in mind whenever you get in a conversation with someone. That person may be a future party candidate, donor, activist, or even a state chair.

— *Bob Johnston*
Chair*LPMaryland.org

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Mail: LPMD Newsletter, PO Box 321, Owings Mills, MD 21117
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Editor: Robert E. Glaser, PhD

Check LPMaryland.org regularly for the current event calendar, news, blog posts, and more! Be certain to submit all of your current event information to Webmaster*LPMaryland.org to get the information online.

Content Policy

The views expressed by contributors to this publication are not necessarily the views of the Libertarian Party of Maryland, its Executive Board, or the Central Committee. The *Free? State Libertarian* is a first amendment publication, and welcomes diverse participation from many sources.

The Libertarian Party of Maryland

P.O. Box 176, Abingdon, MD 21009-0176 1-800-MLP-1776

Website: LPMaryland.org

Official List Serve: MdLP-A-subscribe*YahooGroups.com

Other List Serves: LPMaryland.org/get-involved/connect

Facebook: www.Facebook.com/LPMaryland

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

If You Are Not a Subscriber

The *Free? State Libertarian* is mailed to all Libertarian Party of Maryland members and paid subscribers. You may have received a gratis copy (mailing label says “Join the MD Libertarian Party”) because you are registered Libertarian, are a member of the National Libertarian Party, or requested information. We appreciate you acting to: join the MdLP with the webpage form; join the Central Committee; become a newsletter subscriber only (send \$20 to above address); and/or register Libertarian (when we get 1% of the state registered, we can end collecting petition signatures should we garner less than 1% in the most recent top race).

Editor's Note

For this issue, we are also printing and mailing newsletter copies to non-MdLP, but National LP members in the state. The various memberships are often confusing –

National LP: being a sustaining National LP member is great, but is separate from the *Maryland* party. Campaign reform legislation (McCain/Feingold) made it impossible for us to continue combined memberships.

Maryland LP (MdLP): We are the *local state group* which publishes this newsletter, has meetings, events, provides outreach booths, etc. We are in your community. Annual dues is \$20.

Maryland State Central Committee (CC): the CC is the legal entity approved by the Board of Elections. We provide the “Libertarian” party status for candidates on the ballot; our existence permits the LP Presidential nominee to run in Md. CC members must be MdLP members; must be registered Libertarian in Md.; and state their agreement with the non-aggression principle. They are the *voting* members of the state party and put candidates on the ballot

at meetings (we don't have primary elections). There is no additional cost.

Registered Libertarians: any state resident who registers to vote may choose to be registered as a Libertarian. There is no requirement to belong to any of the above organizations, and there are no dues. As of February 28, 2017 the state count is 20,232.

We are talking to you! We really, really want you to *join the MdLP* (send in the webpage form, or click the credit cards on the webpage to join). Become a CC member if so inclined. It would be great if you also join the National LP (www.LP.org). We really, really want you to encourage others to *register Libertarian* (get a form at the Post Office or use the website). Those currently registered as *unaffiliated* are prime targets. When we get 1% of the state registered, we can stop worrying about collecting petition signatures every four years should our top candidate fall below a 1% threshold every two years. Come to our upcoming convention and meet like-minded neighbors.

— *Robert E. Glaser* (Secretary*LPmaryland.org)

This is the reason we need your support for the *Maryland LP*:

It is the MdLP, and *only the MdLP*, that puts Libertarians on the state ballot. Including all that entails gaining and retaining ballot access.

November 8, 2016 General Election:

President/Vice-President

Gary Johnson/Bill Weld

Maryland: 74,809 (2.8%, third)

USA: 4,225,894 (3.3%, third)

Judge of the Circuit Court

3: Leo Dymowski 90,579 (18.9%, third/select two)

7: April Ademiluyi 125,586 (13.4%, fifth/select four)

U.S. Congress

1st: Matt Beers 14,730 (4.2%, third)

2nd: Kristin Kasprzak 13,180 (4.6%, third)

4th: Benjamin Krause 5,440 (1.8%, fourth)

5th: Jason Summers 10,517 (3.0%, third)

6th: David Howser 6,488 (2.0%, third)

8th: Jasen Wunder 6,806 (2.0%, fourth)

Baltimore City

President of the City Council: Susan Gaztañaga 6,118 (2.8%, fifth)

Comptroller: Jon Bombach 26,282 (12.5%, second)

November 4, 2014 General Election:

Governor/Lt. Governor

Shawn Quinn/Lorenzo Gaztañaga 25,382 (1.5%)

Attorney General

Leo Wayne Dymowski 57,069 (3.4%)

U.S. Congress

4th: Arvin Vohra 2,795 (1.5%)

7th: Scott Soffen 6,103 (3.0%)

Md. House of Delegates

45th: Ronald M. Owens-Bey 2,734 (4.4%)

Anne Arundel County Council

2nd: David Sgambellone 900 (4.4%)

Calvert County Commissioner

2nd: Peggy J. O'Donnell 2,156 (6.7%)

Garrett County Commissioner

1st: Leo Martin 2,505 (28.6%)

3rd: Bill Welch 920 (10.1%)

November 6, 2012 General Election:

President/Vice-President

Johnson/Gray 1,241,705 (0.99%, USA)

30,195 (1.1%, Md.)

U.S. Senator

Dean Ahmad 32,252 (1.2%)

U.S. Congress

1st: Muir Wayne Boda 12,857 (3.8%)

2nd: Leo Wayne Dymowski 9,344 (3.2%)

3rd: Paul W. Drgos, Jr. 11,028 (3.4%)

4th: Scott Soffen 6,204 (2.0%)

5th: Arvin Vohra 4,503 (1.3%)

6th: Nickolaus Mueller 9,916 (3.2%)

7th: Ronald M. Owens-Bey 8,211 (2.5%)

8th: Mark Grannis 7,235 (2.1%)

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Featured Convention Speaker: Major Neill Franklin (Ret.)



While serving as a Narcotics Agent with the Maryland State Police, Major Franklin was persuaded by then-mayor of Baltimore Kurt Schmoke, who declared that the War on Drugs was counterproductive and created excessive violence. This, followed by the tragic assassination of Major Franklin's close friend Corporal Ed Toatley while making a drug buy as an undercover agent, cemented his resolve to reform the policies referred to as the "War on Drugs." He would go on to join *Law Enforcement Action Partnership* (LEAP) as its Executive Director in 2010.

COMING EVENTS

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

April 3 (Monday): Central Committee and Program Committee meetings. [Page 1](#)

April 18 (Tuesday): Tax Day protests

April 29 (Saturday): MdLP Annual Convention. [Page 1](#)

Gallery Gang: Mondays while the Maryland General Assembly is in session through April 11 to lobby legislators.

Eric Blitz Vice-Chair*LPmaryland.org

1-800-MLP-1776

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