



# Free? State LIBERTARIAN

## March 2018

Newsletter of the LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF MARYLAND

### Join us at the Libertarian Party of Maryland 2018 Convention!

**When:** Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**Where:** Crowne Plaza Annapolis  
173 Jennifer Road  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
410-266-3131

IHG.com/crowneplaza/hotels/us/en/annapolis/anpam/hoteldetail

**Schedule:**

4:00 pm Registration

4:15 pm State Central Committee Meeting – including regular business plus the following:

- Nominations and Elections for public office.
- Selection of state delegates to the National Libertarian Party Convention.
- 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 February 27<sup>th</sup> will be considered for an up/down vote).
- 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.

6:00 pm Dinner is served

6:40 pm Shawn Quinn, gubernatorial candidate

7:15 pm Guest Speaker Nick Sarwark, Libertarian National Committee Chair and former MdLP Chairman

8:30 pm Room must be cleared

**Directions:**

- From Baltimore: Take I-695 to I-97 S to MD-450 W/West St in Parole. Take exit 23 from US-301 N/US-50 E (30 miles). Drive to Jennifer Rd (0.3 mile).
- From Washington: Follow US-50 E to MD-450 W/West St in Parole. Take exit 23 from US-301 N/US-50 E (23 miles). Drive to Jennifer Rd (0.3 mile).

**Alcohol:** Cash bar

**Dinner menu (Life's a Breeze buffet):** Caesar Salad, Fruit Salad, Wild Rice Pilaf, and Garlic Mashed Potatoes; with entrées Beef Tenderloin Tips, Chicken Piccata, and Mahi-Mahi

**Cost:** \$60 if paid by midnight February 28 (click *Donate Now* at right side of webpage or mail check to Box 176 address); \$70 after February 28<sup>th</sup>; online registration closes at midnight March 6<sup>th</sup>. **Prior registration is required.** After March 6<sup>th</sup> contact Stuart Simms (StuSimms\*LPmaryland.org) for availability. The Central Committee *only* meeting has no charge, must depart by 6pm.

**Program Committee Meeting – February 27 (Tuesday)**

8:00 pm or after the conclusion of the Executive Board meeting

Location: 9755 Knowledge Dr., Laurel MD 20723

(Stuart Simms' new home, check website for any change)

Check the website for updates!

# Don't Miss this Annual Affair!

# Chair's Report



I will be turning 55 later this month. Chances are I am probably entering the final third of my life.

In addition, March 2 will mark one year of the passing of my mother, with whom I was very close.

These upcoming dates have caused me to reflect on my time with the Libertarian

Party and the Maryland LP over the last 17 years.

Has the effort been worth it? I have spent thousands of hours and dollars on LP candidates and activity. Has my time and money been well spent?

The national party has not had anyone elected to state or federal office since I joined the party in 2000, although we have had several candidates switch to the LP recently.

And in a presidential election year with two of the most polarizing, disliked establishment party candidates in Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump, they still managed to get 95% of the vote.

Despite the lack of electoral success, I say yes: the effort has been worth it, and will continue to be worth it – because the establishment parties are quickly losing their legitimacy.

Democrat and Republican candidates and activists rarely refer to themselves by their party labels. They call themselves progressives, conservatives, liberals – even libertarians – but not Democrats or Republicans.

In several states at least a third of the voters choose not to register with Democrats or Republicans, which means in many of those states they would rather forfeit their ability to vote in the primaries than identify with those parties.

I see the cynicism of young people towards those political parties, their candidates, and politics in general. There is tremendous anger and frustration in this country, which will continue to fester and grow.

The Democrats and Republicans have tremendous resources at their disposal, far more supporters, activists, and much more money than we do. But the only way they win elections now is by encouraging voters to vote against the other party and their candidates, that you are wasting your vote supporting a Libertarian Party candidate. When was the last time you heard a candidate clearly articulate what they are for, not what they are against?

To get a libertarian country, we need to change peoples' thinking first before they will vote for us in large numbers. Most voters are not libertarian... yet. But many are learning about libertarianism more and more.

And we need for the establishment and the state to lose their credibility and legitimacy. That process is taking place now.

It can take a long time for the state and establishment to lose their power. It took over 40 years for activists in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union to see their efforts succeed when those Communist dictatorships fell in 1989 and 1990. But when it finally happens, it happens quickly. The question is, will libertarians be ready when that moment happens here?

What would I say has been my biggest disappointment as chair of the Maryland LP over the last 11 years? Not getting someone elected to local office.

There are not many municipal offices in Maryland, only 156, and most of them are located in sparsely populated towns in Western Maryland and on the Eastern Shore. In fact, Maryland has the fewest amount of municipal offices per capita of any state in the country. In Baltimore County, where I lived for 11 years, there are no municipal offices.

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Fax: 214-889-3668. Newsletter submissions are solicited.

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.

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## The Libertarian Party of Maryland

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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 back page 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).

Muir Boda twice ran for the Salisbury City Council, in 2011 and 2013. The second time he ran, he outworked and outfund-raised all of his competitors, knocked on each door in his district twice, and received the recommendation of the *Salisbury Daily Times*. Yet he finished fourth of six candidates in an election where the top three were elected.

The Maryland LP did have an elected official, Leo Britten, who had been Mayor of Mountain Park in Garrett County since 2001, and was reelected every two years as nobody ran against him. Mr. Britten died last summer. He also ran for the Garrett County Council in 2014, finishing second with 32% of the vote, even though he did not raise or spend any money.

As for the best achievement of the state party over the last 11 years? The quantity and quality of our candidates.

We have run a majority of candidates for federal races in every election since 2008, except for 2014. The MdLP has run more federal candidates during that stretch than all other LP state affiliates, with the exception of Michigan and Missouri. Further, we don't keep running the same candidates. Of the 11 candidates the state party has nominated for the 2018 election, nine are running for the first time.

And our candidates are intelligent and professional, the kind of people the Democrats and Republicans would love to have in their ranks. I love seeing the attention our candidates receive after a candidate debate or forum from the attendees, and hearing those sitting around me asking why our candidates are running as Libertarians instead of the establishment parties.

We must be doing something right!

— *Bob Johnston*

*Happy Birthday, Chairman Bob!*

## Letter to the Editor

It alarms me that popular media and most people I meet think of libertarians as conservatives. What happened to libertarian's classical-liberal heritage? My "bumper sticker" description of what true libertarians are about is "Liberal Values, Libertarian Solutions."



The problem, in part, is that too many conservatives (mostly former Republicans) have invaded the Libertarian Party. They share libertarian's strong free-market beliefs, but are conflicted on the party's social and foreign policies. Their attitudes towards welfare, immigration, foreign policy, and such are not "mainstream" libertarian.

I would like to see libertarians integrate what is *true* with what is *best* (not necessarily the same). Science and philosophy. For example, people have no inherent right to health care at public expense. That is true, but is it best? People and the world would be better off with guaranteed health care. The question for me is how to achieve it in a libertarian way, not to be against it.

Another example: Freedom to travel is a natural human right according to natural rights philosophy. But American immigration laws (which I argue are unconstitutional) do not reflect this. Are members of the Libertarian Party that want "closed" borders giving the state sovereignty over individual human rights?

I can be wrong in some of my applications of basic libertarian principles. But I think thoughts about what is true and what is best are worth talking about at LP meetings.

Sincerely,

— *Gerry Schneider* PhD

## Invited Convention Speaker Nicholas Sarwark

Nicholas Sarwark was first elected as chair of the Libertarian National Committee in June 2014, and is serving his second term as chair after being re-elected in 2016. Born in 1979, Sarwark is an unabashed, second generation Libertarian with a strong commitment to fighting on the party's behalf against unfair ballot access obstacles and exclusion of qualified candidates from public debates. In his role as chair, Sarwark has played a prominent role in media relations, with appearances in *Reason*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *New York Times*, *Stossel*, *MSNBC*, *Slate*, *Salon*, the *Blaze*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and many more.



Sarwark has been an active member of the Libertarian Party since 1999 and has served on the judicial and bylaws committees of the national party. He also served as chair of the Libertarian Party of Maryland and as vice chair of the Libertarian Party of Colorado, where he played a key role in recruiting the state's 42 Lib-

ertarian candidates in 2014 and supported the passage of Colorado's historic marijuana legalization initiative in 2012.

Professionally, Sarwark has been a criminal defense attorney and has worked for more than 10 years in the private sector. He served as a deputy public defender in Colorado, trying more than 30 cases before a jury and arguing in front of the Colorado Supreme Court. He also has more than a decade of experience in computer consulting and sales. In 2014, he moved to Arizona to join in the operations of a family business, the oldest independent auto dealership in Phoenix, founded in 1942.

Throughout his career, he developed a commitment to high-quality service which he now applies to raising the national Libertarian Party's standards for support of state affiliates, members and candidates. He lives in Arizona with his wife and three children.

*Welcome back to Maryland, Nick!*

## Minutes of the Central Committee of the Libertarian Party of Maryland — Saturday, 2 December 2017

**Opening:** The Libertarian State Central Committee of Maryland met at Robert Glaser's home in Owings Mills, Maryland. The meeting was called to order at 7:22 pm by chairman Bob Johnston.

**Attendance:** the Credentials Committee consisted of: Robert Glaser; Stuart Simms; and Tony Spezio. It validated that 12 Central Committee members were in attendance for the meeting. No proxies were represented. The Central Committee rolls consist of 48 members.

**Nominations for Public Office:** Jasen Wunder for U.S. Congress, District 8: nominated unanimously on a voice vote. Jenica Martin for U.S. Congress, District 1: nominated unanimously on a voice vote. Thomas Ashwell for Harford County Circuit Court Judge: nominated unanimously on a voice vote. David Bishop for U.S. Congress, District 4: nominated unanimously on a voice vote. Jacob Pulcher for U.S. Congress, District 5: nominated unanimously on a voice vote.

**Adjournment:** the meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

— *Robert Glaser*

### *Five candidates were nominated for the 2018 election at the state holiday party on December 2:*

U.S. Congress, District 8:  
Jasen Wunder (third from left below)

U.S. Congress, District 1:  
Jenica Martin (second from right below)

Harford County Circuit Court Judge:  
Thomas Ashwell (far right below)

U.S. Congress, District 4:  
David Bishop (far left below)

U.S. Congress, District 5:  
Jacob Pulcher (second from left below)

## Holiday Party, December 2



### State Executive Board Officers

Chairman	Bob Johnston	443-310-5373	Chair*LPmaryland.org
Vice Chairman	Chelsey Snyder		Vice-Chair*LPmaryland.org
Secretary	Robert E. Glaser	410-363-6626	Secretary*LPmaryland.org
Treasurer	Michael Linder	410-569-2186	Treasurer*LPmaryland.org
Membership	Stuart Simms		StuSimms*LPmaryland.org
Outreach	Shawn Quinn		Citizens4Quinn*outlook.com
At-Large	Scott Spencer		ScottSpencer*LPmaryland.org

The executive board meets monthly. All meetings are open to Central Committee members. Contact the Chairman for date, time, and location.

### Local Groups

Anne Arundel County: Chris Wallace ChrisWallaceSr\*LPmaryland.org  
 Baltimore City: Erin Carrington-Smith ECarringtonSmith\*LPmaryland.org  
 Baltimore County: Kyle Wagner Kyle.Wagner\*LPmaryland.org  
 Carroll County: Matthew Geiger MattGeiger\*LPmaryland.org  
 Frederick County: Zach Robinson ZachRobinson\*LPmaryland.org  
 Harford County: Martin Cohen Martin.Cohen\*LPmaryland.org  
 Howard County: Christopher Stanton LibertarianHoCo\*gmail.com  
 Montgomery County: Leigh Tauber LaTauber\*gmail.com  
 Southern Maryland: Michael White Michael.White\*LPmaryland.org  
 Upper Eastern Shore: Matt Beers Matt.Beers\*LPmaryland.org

Maryland voters registered Libertarian:  
**20,894 (0.54%)**



Copy or Clip Form ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒

## Libertarian Party of Maryland

## Membership Form

Name: .....  
 Address: .....  
 City, State, Zip: .....  
 County: .....  
 Email: .....  
 Phone (day): .....  
 Phone (evening): .....  
 Phone (other): .....

**Payment Information**

**Maryland/county-only dues \$ 20.00**

**Additional donation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Payment:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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**Monthly Credit Card Donation: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Check  Mastercard  VISA  Discover

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

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Anyone may become a member of the MdLP. To become a voting member of the Central Committee, your voter registration must be Libertarian (or request it if the state does not permit Libertarian registration, and not be registered with any other party): verbally certify your registration status and your agreement with the non-aggression principle with your affiliate officers or the state Secretary. For more information, contact Stuart Simms at StuSimms\*LPmaryland.org.

- I'd like to volunteer for:**
- Envelope stuffing
  - Outreach programs
  - Computer work
  - County organization
  - Campaign help
  - Public Relations
  - Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Libertarian Party  
 of Maryland  
 P.O. Box 176  
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 21009-0176**

# LPmaryland.org

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## COMING EVENTS

Stay up-to-date on MdLP activities with our online calendar-of-events: visit [LPmaryland.org/events/](http://LPmaryland.org/events/) (often!). Check page 5 for contact numbers not listed here.

February 27 (Tuesday): 8:00 pm. Program Committee. Page 1

March 10 (Saturday): 4:00 pm. Annual MdLP Convention. Page 1

April 17 (Tuesday): Tax Day protests


June 30 - July 3 (Saturday-Tuesday): LNC convention, New Orleans. *"I'm That Libertarian!"*

**"The whole aim of practical politics is to keep the populace alarmed – and thus clamorous to be led to safety – by menacing it with an endless series of hobgoblins, all of them imaginary."**

*— H.L. Mencken*

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# 1-800-MLP-1776

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