



# Free? State LIBERTARIAN

December 2018

Newsletter of the LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF MARYLAND



**Not Our Year!!!**



Our gubernatorial candidate Shawn Quinn received less than 1% of the vote this time, so the MdLP's ballot access was not extended two years. A big thank-you to the very hard-working Shawn and his staff, who are surely disappointed. In the 2014 election Shawn garnered 1.5%, but there was no Green Party candidate that year.

Larry Hogan/Boyd K. Rutherford (Republican)	1,208,238 (56.2%)
Ben Jealous/Susan Turnbull (Democrat)	917,837 (42.7%)
<b>Shawn Quinn/Christina Smith (Libertarian)</b>	<b>12,193 (0.6%)</b>
Ian Schlakman/Annie Chambers (Green)	10,168 (0.5%)

*Full election results on page 3*

**It's PARTY Time!**

We will be having our annual holiday party at the *Walden Woods Clubhouse* of Stuart Simms' neighborhood on Saturday, December 1 from 7-11 pm. The address is 9815 Wilderness Lane, Laurel, MD 20723. The event is pot luck, please bring a food item. Juice, soda, and water will be provided. BYOB.

# Chair's Report



Let me be blunt: the Libertarian Party, both here in Maryland and nationwide, got its butt kicked on Election Day.

Sure, there were some bright spots across the country – candidate for Governor Larry Sharpe getting ballot access for the first time in the New York LP's history.

We now have ballot access in Oklahoma through 2022, in what was once the toughest state for getting on the ballot. A state candidate in Wyoming losing by just 53 votes, in what would have been the first LP candidate getting elected solely as a Libertarian in 34 years.

But for the most part, it was a tough night. Election results were generally half of what our candidates normally receive. Our three partisan elected officials (Laura Ebke – NE, Caleb Dyer – NH, Brandon Phinney – NH) all were defeated. And the party lost ballot access in more states than it gained.

Maryland was even worse. For the first time in our history, none of our federal candidates got at least 3%. And that is with two of them who were campaigning full time. In 2016, half of our federal candidates got at least 3%, with two of them receiving over 4%.

The lone bright spot was Chris Randers-Pehrson getting 11% in a 3-way race with a Republican and Independent for the 35<sup>th</sup> state Senate district in Harford and Cecil counties.

What hurts the most was what happened to our gubernatorial candidate, Shawn Quinn. In his second run for Governor, he and his wife Colleen traveled almost every weekend for 18 months and spent \$18,000 – most of it their own money – on gas and hotel rooms campaigning around the state. Shawn was relentless,

hitting every area of the state, from Somerset to Garrett county, from St. Mary's to Cecil county, including some of the most dangerous parts of Baltimore City. Appearing at any and every public fair, speaking to any civic group that would have him. He was the only gubernatorial candidate who was solidly for gun rights and ending marijuana prohibition.

The reward for his efforts? 12,193 votes, less than half of what he received four years ago. 0.6% of the vote. And the Maryland Libertarian Party has lost its ballot access.

I make no bones how pissed off I am about this. We had our hardest-working group of candidates, people who busted their tails with little support or help, all while having to work day jobs. And they got the back of the hand from the voters of Maryland. Not to mention our candidates received little attention from the media, and the fewest invites to debates and forums in my twelve years as chair of the state party.

If each of our 22,190 registered Maryland Libertarians voted for Shawn, we would have kept our ballot access.

As those of you who have read my columns before know, I am a realist about our chances of getting elected. I always push the strategy of building our numbers to the point where politicians have to carry out our issues, whether they like it or not, in order to survive politically. But even I didn't foresee what would happen on election night.

So what to do? Part of me, like I am sure many of you, wants to pack it in and say the heck with it. The voters of Maryland continue to vote for politicians who support high taxes and spending, gun control, significant restrictions on private schools and homeschooling, crowded and dangerous highways, and are hostile to civil liberties. Let them reap what they have sown. We can find other things to do with our time.

On the other hand, it's hard to walk away from the fight. We all want to leave this world a better place than where it is for

*Continued next page*

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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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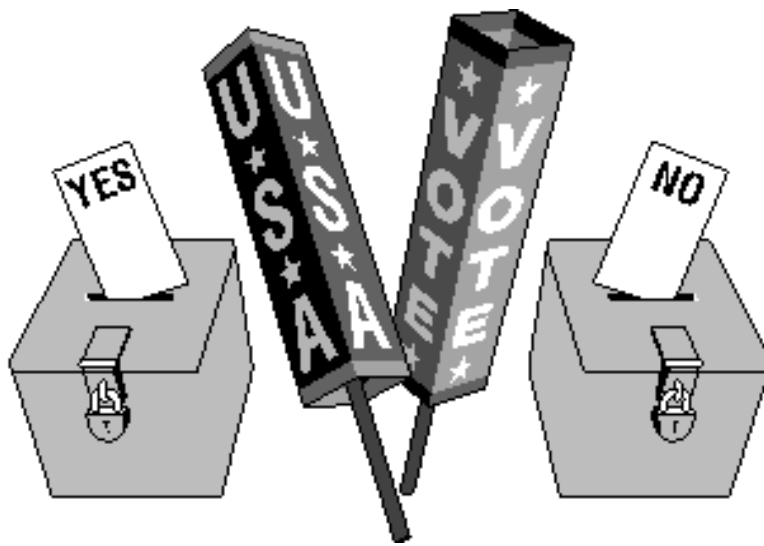
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## November 6, 2018 General Election

### --- Results for our Libertarian Candidates ---

#### Governor/Lieutenant Governor

Shawn Quinn/Christina Smith 12,193 (0.6%, third)

#### U.S. Senate

Arvin Vohra 21,389 (1.0%, fourth)

#### U.S. Congress

- 1: Jenica Martin 5,522 (1.9%, third)
- 2: Michael Carney 4,977 (2.1%, third)
- 3: David Lashar 6,957 (2.6%, third)
- 4: David Bishop 4,954 (2.0%, third)
- 5: Jacob Pulcher 3,388 (1.2%, fourth)
- 6: Kevin Caldwell 4,553 (1.8%, third)
- 7: David Griggs 5,455 (2.2%, third)
- 8: Jasen Wunder 4,501 (1.6%, third)

#### State Senate

- 22: Lauren Drew 2,413 (7.0%, second)
- 30: Chris Wallace 769 (1.5%, third)
- 35: Chris Randers-Pehrson 5,431 (11%, third)

#### House of Delegates

- 3A: Jeremy Harbaugh 1,393 (2.5%, fifth/select two)
- 6: Michael Lyden 1,400 (1.6%, seventh/select three)

#### Baltimore County Circuit Court Judge

Leo Dymowski 83,927 (12.1%, fifth/select four)

#### Baltimore County Council

7: Doug Stanley 892 (2.8%, third)

#### Harford County Circuit Court Judge

Tom Ashwell 22,907 (14.7%, fourth/select two)

*The Board of Elections has not yet counted the absentee and provisional ballots, so these numbers will change slightly*

#### *From page 2, Chair's Report*

future generations. And there is still tremendous suffering and a lack of justice in a country that spends \$4.2 trillion per year on government.

Working with the Democrat or Republican parties isn't the answer. Since 2000, the annual budget has doubled and the deficit has quadrupled. With Republicans controlling Congress, and writing and passing those budgets a majority of the last 18 years. And they have no intention of ending our involvement in foreign countries. Democrats no longer care about civil liberties, peace, and privacy – only hateful identity politics. We will never get a free society, or even close to one, voting for the establishment party candidates.

Staying home and not voting works only when a significant majority refuses to participate, and the government loses its legitimacy. We are nowhere near that stage.

The LP is still the most direct way towards obtaining freedom in our lifetimes. The majority of people pay attention to politics

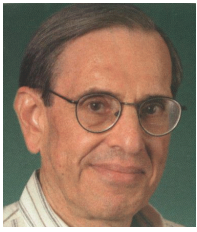
during the month or two prior to elections, and become exposed to libertarian solutions from Libertarian Party candidates as I did back in 1992, when I heard LP Presidential candidate Andre Marrou on a talk show. While organizations such as CATO produce great information, and bring in a lot more money than the LP, they usually try to work through the establishment parties and have not much to show for their efforts.

The gay community makes up 2-3% of the population, yet holds much more political power than their numbers in large measure because they supported and financed candidates who backed their concerns, even if those candidates were third-party candidates or those who weren't hand-picked by the establishment parties. The results over the last 20 years speak for themselves. Freedom lovers can do the same if they will support, finance, and get active with Libertarian Party candidates.

Now if you'll excuse me, I'm going to have another beer and try to calm down.

— Bob Johnston

# Letter to the Editor



Individual freedom to travel is a basic natural right! It's been recognized as such by notable persons ranging from St. Thomas Aquinas to Justice Clarence Thomas. You can include Thomas Paine, John Locke, Martin Luther King, Jr., Pope Paul II, and many others. Creation of nation-states has stifled it, however, through immigration laws that make

the state sovereign over individuals. I'm alarmed when self-described libertarians embrace those immigration rules without proposing alternatives that protect natural rights. Much better would be a world organized exclusively on securing natural human rights.

But, as a practical matter, the nation-state exists, and a case could be made for some immigration mandates for self-defense of natives. Here follows my concise concept of a positive immigration policy although it's less than ideal:

"Your entry as an adult into the United States at official entry points is welcome as long as you have no criminal record, active communicable disease (you will be directed to a treatment clinic in that case and can apply for entry again when cured), have independent financial support, and agree to obey U.S. laws. Children and young adults under 18 years of age must be under the guardianship of current citizens or adults that have met entry requirements. Refugees will be given special consideration on a case-by-case basis."

Please share your views on this subject from a libertarian perspective to improve on my concept if possible. Thanks in advance!  
— *Gerald Schneider* PhD

Democrat, Republican, and Unaffiliated Maryland petitioners filed a suit in Prince George's County to remove April Ademiluyi, whom the MdLP had nominated, from the ballot for Circuit Court Judge. The basis was that she is a registered Democrat, not Libertarian. Even though this is a non-partisan race, the court ruled to remove her. The Appeals Court agreed.

# NEWS FLASH!

On August 14, **David Griggs'** letter was printed in the *Baltimore Sun*: "Sun ignores the Libertarian candidates."

The *Baltimore Sun* published **David Griggs'** letter on August 28: "Taxing pot and using tax dollars for pre-K are both bad ideas." He points out the incongruity of the *Sun* promoting expansion of a program while simultaneously acknowledging that the state has "screwed up" other programs.

On September 14, **David Griggs'** letter was printed in the *Baltimore Sun*: "The Sun wants more gubernatorial debates so how about open ones?" He asks why the editors do not demand that all candidates appear in debates.

**Gerald Schneider** had his letter to the editor published in the *Beacon* in the September 2018 issue. In regard to Canadian government newsprint subsidies, he suggests that American newsprint producers buy and resell the underpriced Canadian newsprint, which will send a message that subsidies do not pay in the long run.

On October 15, **Robert Glaser** submitted this to the *Baltimore Sun*: The October 15 article "Parties losing Md. voters" would more accurately be titled "Parties losing Md. voters – except the Libertarian Party." Over the stated period the Democrats increased 6.6%; Republicans 6.4%; the Green Party 8.7%; and the Libertarian Party 50.4%. Overall registration has increased 6.9%. The numbers tell the story if you simply look at them! In the upcoming General Election, every Marylander will have the opportunity to at least vote for Libertarian candidates for Governor and every federal office – we have a full slate of Congressional candidates. Voting for a Democrat or a Republican tells those parties that you like what they are doing and they should continue to do the same. [neither placed in print nor online]

The *Baltimore Sun* published **David Griggs'** letter on October 23: "Sun should cover all four candidates for governor."

*Congratulations to our public advocates (David Griggs has the magic touch). Please send in reports of your success, too!*

## Homeschooling In Maryland

Public schools, private schools and homeschool?

If you live in the state of Maryland and your children are between the ages of 5 years old and 18 years old, then your child must be enrolled in a Public school, a Private school, or have regular age appropriate school instruction.



The state of Maryland and many other states have truancy laws that you must abide by: if you don't, then "off to jail you go." What happens when the public school systems are failing your child and you can't afford private school? Your last resort is Homeschooling.

The National Center For Education statistics show a

slight increase from 2.2% to 3% from 2003 to 2012; 2016 shows 3.3%. About 90% of parents homeschool because they are concerned about the public school environment. Statistics show a high percentage, about 83%, are White and much lower amongst other races; 5% Black, 7% Hispanic, to 2% Asian and Pacific Islander. Homeschool laws differ state by state. Maryland isn't as strict as other states like Ohio and Vermont which have some of the hardest laws in the country. In Maryland, you simply need to give notice, fill out a "Statement of intent" stating that you have the intent to homeschool your children. You should do this about 15 days before you withdraw your children from public schools (this form must be submitted annually). Your child is not required to take any state tests.

The parent must give a minimum





of 5 hours regular instruction, which must include: English, Mathematics, Science, Social studies, Art, Music, and Health/Physical education. There are a few options for compliance with homeschooling in Maryland law.

Option 1: You, the parent, keep a portfolio with everything you've done for your child; two times per year the public school superintendent may review the portfolio. Option 2: You can have an accredited church review your teaching materials and lessons.

I myself have homeschooled my 8-year-old twins since Head Start, and really enjoy the precious moments that money can't buy: being the first one to teach my little ones everything they know. Recently I allowed my twins to go back to school in Montgomery

County, and once again was disappointed by the environment, as well as the stagnant style of teaching. My children are now above grade level in math and reading.

Each pupil costs the state about \$7,000-\$16,000 tax dollars. Private schools are making the big bucks as well. Which leaves homeschool parents broke. I strongly believe homeschool parents should receive funds from the state for materials and books, or perhaps some sort of tax break or tax relief of some kind; private school tuition is a tax write-off. Although being a homeschool Parent can be quite challenging and financially draining, Homeschool parents do all the work with no pay. However, the experience you get from being your child's teacher is priceless.

— Holly Harris

## The Next Libertarian

To start, I want to stipulate that Nick Sarwark is a very smart man, as everyone reading this newsletter knows. His speech at the 2018 spring LP meeting was insightful, humorous, and inspiring. So Nick, and those who support him, don't take this the wrong way, but I disagree with you.

The theme of your talk was "Who is the most important libertarian?" You told us the answer to the question is You, meaning us. However, we're a fairly small group. I sometimes think we get caught in our own little liberty-minded echo chamber. I'd like to take your premise and extend it a little bit. The most important libertarian is the *next* libertarian.

Though I don't always succeed, I am always thinking of subtle ways to spread the ideas of liberty, personal choice and personal responsibility, and self-determination in my "civilian" life. My latest opportunity came on August 24. I was shopping in one of my favorite stores, *Ulta Beauty*. Those of you who saw me wear the "Lover of Liberty and Lipstick" shirt at our annual picnic earlier that month know I am serious about both things. So when a store sends coupons or codes for free makeup, you know I'm all over it. Both Ulta and its main competitor, Sephora, give codes for free makeup on your birthday. I had already gotten my free lipsticks at Sephora and was cashing in my free mascara at Ulta when I struck up a conversation with one of the managers, Pam. I commented on her lovely nails and asked if she did her own. She told me she did, and had kept up her beautician's license even though she worked in Ulta fulltime. She had even had a great idea for an entrepreneurial opportunity: a mobile nail salon! "Just like a food truck," she said, "except for nails." And then she went on to say, "They told me I couldn't."

Faithful readers of this publication know where this story is going.

"Who's they?" I asked. "The government? State government, I mean."

"Yes," Pam replied. If I recall correctly, "they" told her that her license wasn't valid for a mobile salon. Well, where the heck does it say that on the license? Hint: nowhere. Probably some-

one in Annapolis just made that requirement up. "I can do it in my home; I can do it in a salon; I just can't do it in a truck," she explained. That is pretty arbitrary. After all, what's to stop her from doing this service in a home on wheels? That's not that far removed from a truck.

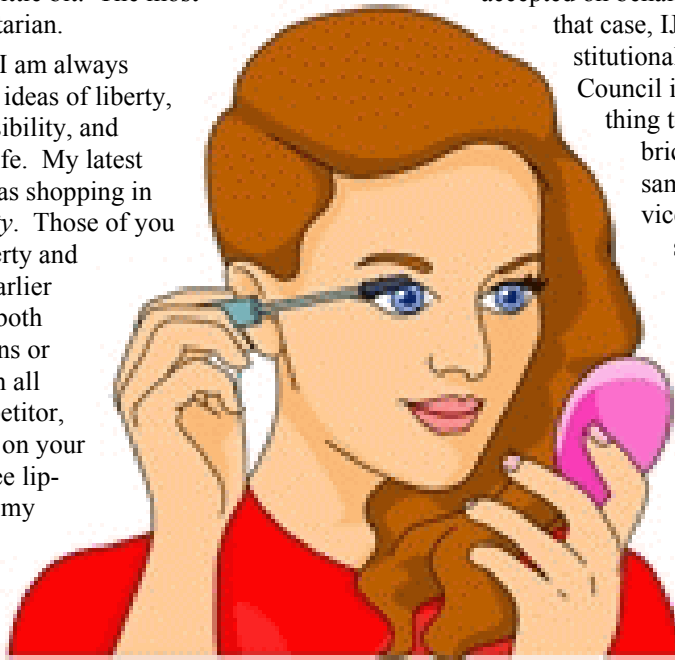
"Do you know about the *Institute for Justice*?" I said. "They are a public interest law firm that specializes in cases like this. They have successfully challenged unfair licensure laws in several states." I then told her about the case right here in Baltimore IJ accepted on behalf of two food trucks – and won! (In that case, IJ challenged the arbitrary and unconstitutional law enacted by the Baltimore City Council in 2014 requiring a truck selling anything to be at least 300 feet away from a brick and mortar establishment selling the same type of product, including a service.) I gave her the URL of the IJ, and suggested she even get some of her fellow beauticians together and consider a class action suit. She thanked me, I thanked her, and I left.

Now, I don't expect Pam or anyone like her to suddenly drop everything and become a hardcore libertarian activist. But if Pam visits the site and reads the inspirational stories of folks like her around the country who are willing to fight for their right to make the living they want to make without arbitrary government interference, she just might be motivated to do the same,

and set an example for others who want to do so as well. That's a great first step to enable others to see the world through a libertarian lens.

Without dedicated libertarian activists like Nick, there might not be any Beths. Without Beth, there might not be any Pams. And without Pam, the word of liberty might stop at Ulta's door. I'm hoping Pam will tell two friends, and they'll tell two friends, and so on, and so on. That's why the most important libertarian is... the *next* libertarian.

— Beth Woodell



## Minutes of the Central Committee of the Libertarian Party of Maryland — Saturday, 18 August 2018

**Opening:** The Libertarian State Central Committee of Maryland met at the home of David Sten, in North East, Maryland. The meeting was called to order at 4:24 pm by chairman Bob Johnston.

**Attendance:** the Credentials Committee consisted of: Scott Spencer, Stuart Simms, and I. Dean Ahmad. It validated that 22 Central Committee members were in attendance for the meeting. No proxies were represented. The Central Committee rolls consist of 49 members.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the 3/10/2018 and 6/7/2018 Central Committee meetings were accepted as submitted, without objection.

**Treasurer's Report:** Michael Linder delivered the Treasurer's Report, which was accepted as corrected. The correction was the deletion of a duplicate "8" to the left of the decimal in the total balance. The corrected total balance was \$8,268.88.

Eric Blitz asked the Treasurer whether we had a deficit or surplus from the convention. The Treasurer confirms that we lost money on the event.

Chairman reminded candidates that they could receive matching funds from the state party for campaign expenses.

**Chair's Report:** Bob Johnston reports that we have 111 members. We have 21,404 registered voters as of July, which is a little over 1,000 more than this point last year. We now have 0.54% of registered voters. Since we're still short of 1% of registered voters, we need Shawn Quinn to get at least 1% of the votes in the general election to maintain ballot access.

In Pennsylvania, Steve Scheetz and another candidate had their ballot access signatures challenged by the Republican Party, and were forced to drop out of the race, due to insufficient time and funds to fight the challenge.

In Virginia, it was estimated by LNC Representative Dr. James Lark that candidates faced \$15,000 to \$20,000 each for ballot access.

We have 20 candidates, including a full slate of candidates for federal office again. The chairman stated that the candidate for Prince Georges County Circuit Court Judge was nominated incorrectly, because the candidate is a registered Democrat. However, this is for a non-partisan race.

The chairman reported that former Libertarian candidate for President, Gary Johnson, is running for US Senate in New Mexico.

**LNC Representative:** Dr. Jim Lark spoke about his recent trip to Krakow, Poland. He spoke about the successful national convention the previous month.

Chairman Johnston asked about the LNC finances. Dr. Lark replied that, because of the "tremendous year" in 2016, we had built some ambitious programs, but we're not where we'd like to be. We have an "okay" reserve, but are "not in great shape, by any means". He finds nothing on the horizon that could put us in a bad situation, and is optimistic about Gary Johnson's race in Arizona.

The Chairman talked about regular meetings of several county groups.

David Dull asked about Larry Sharpe's campaign for Governor of New York. Dr. Lark replied that Mr. Sharpe is doing better than candidates in New York have in the past. He believes that Mr.

Sharpe is likely to retain ballot access for New York, with upwards of 50,000 votes.

**New Business:** Chairman Johnston asked Dean Ahmad to chair the meeting temporarily.

Bob Johnston moved that the Maryland Libertarian Party endorse the organization "We Do Better". The founder also was involved in starting PANDA (People Against the NDAA). The organization identifies nonprofits that provide social services better than does the government. They lobby state governments to create tax credits for funds donated to these non-profit organizations. The Georgia LP has already endorsed the organization.

Mr. Linder asked if there was any bill that was already being proposed in Maryland, but it appears that there is not.

Ms. Woodell asked if this would create any further obligation to support them or a future proposed bill. There would not. It would simply allow them to put on their website that they have been endorsed by the Maryland Libertarian Party.

Motion passed by voice vote, and Mr. Ahmad handed the gavel back to Chairman Johnston.

Mr. Linder asked if there was a planned election night party. Shawn Quinn said that he's working on one.

**Announcements:** Mr. Lashar is streaming live at 8 pm tonight. Baltimore Libertarian Group will have a table at the Essex Day Festival.

Doug Stanley is having a Water's Edge event in the future, date TBA.

Mr. Pepino reported an attempt to get into the Severn Multicultural Festival next weekend.

Mr. Randers-Pearson has Jenica Martin signs in his trunk if anyone wants one. He will be at a Maryland Cannabis event on August 30.

Shawn Quinn reported that we are 80 days from the election, and encouraged everyone to continue fighting. He talked about his work on the election, and about successes he's had.

Mr. Lashar said that he's finding it when individuals "Like" a campaign page on Facebook, because it helps with optics and metrics. He'll be on WYPR Mid-day on September 23.

Krystal Woodworth said that there'd be a town hall on September 15 for Jenica Martin and Shawn Quinn at the Kent Island Public Library in Queen Anne's County.

David Dull spoke about social media, suggesting that it helps when there are likes on "boosted" posts. He's trying to compile a list of group and candidate pages, to coordinate people "Liking" these pages' posts.

Stu Simms said that we're looking at April 6, in Frederick, for the next State Convention.

Krystal Woodworth talked about having a booth at the Renaissance Faire next year, as a group of Libertarians, and the theme would be Robin Hood and his Merry Men. She encouraged people to wear Libertarian shirts, if they're not cosplaying.

Chairman Johnston recognized Life Members present: Dean Ahmad, Stu Simms, and David Sten.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 5:14 pm.

— *Scott Spencer*

### 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
At-Large	Krystal Woodworth		KrystalWoodworth@gmail.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  
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 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:  
**22,190 (0.55%)**



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## 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  
Abingdon, MD  
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 7 for contact numbers not listed here.

December 1 (Saturday): 7-11pm. Holiday Party. Page 1

January 9 through April 9, 2019: Maryland General Assembly in session. Contact Eric Blitz about helping with legislation.

April 6, 2019 (Saturday), *Tentative*. Annual MdLP Convention in Frederick. Stuart Simms



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# 1-800-MLP-1776

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