



LIBERTY **VA**

Libertarian Party of Virginia

MAY 1981

VOLUME 2 NO. 5

LPVA STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETS

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MAY 9 IN LYNCHBURG

The Libertarian Party of Virginia State Central Committee will meet in Lynchburg on Saturday, May 9. The meeting will start at 1 pm at the Virginia Baptist Hospital.

This will probably be the last meeting before the State Convention, which is sure to be a main topic of discussion. Other items on the agenda will be the establishment of a Platform Committee, a Planning and Research Committee and an Auditing Committee. Replacing the Newsletter Editor will also be recommended.

The meeting is open to all LPVA members, so plan to attend. You can get directions from your District Chair, or call your local contact.

1981 STATE CONVENTION

JUNE 26 - 28 IN RICHMOND

Plans for our State Convention are being finalized and detail scheduling is now underway by the Convention Committee, chaired by Michel La Vean.

The Convention will be held in the John Marshall Hotel in Richmond. Advance registration forms are enclosed. A statewide mailing will be sent out soon. It will contain complete details and prices.

Speakers at the Convention will include our last two Presidential Candidates, Ed Clark and Roger MacBride. Also speaking will be Walter Williams, Peter Breggin, Roy Childs, Jim Clarkson, Micheal Emerling, Chris Hocker, David Nolan, Eric O'Keefe, Sheldon Richman and others. All of the candidates for the National LP Chair will present their positions.

There will also be workshops by anti-tax groups as well as on political subjects like campaign law, fundraising, media and computers.

Libertarians from many states are expected to attend what looks like the biggest state convention this year - mark your calendar and keep the weekend of June 26-28 clear - it's sure to be a great renewal of spirit for all libertarians and freedom-lovers!

Dear Freedom Lover:

You have devoted a significant part of your life to the cause of human liberty. You have made important contributions to the long term growth of the libertarian movement. Thanks to individuals like you, we've come a long way in the past ten years. But we still have a long way to go in the next ten.

For the past ten years, we have poured our time, money and energy into the Libertarian Party, state and national. We have worked hard on Libertarian campaigns, local and Presidential. And we have learned that our victory will not be soon, or cheap, or easy. But victory will come. Grudgingly.

We've had a tremendous roller-coaster ride in 1980. Now it's time to ask: Where are we? And what do we do now? We need to rethink our methods, consolidate our gains and build for the future. But how?

How do you think we can best spread the idea of Liberty?

There must be a better way to combine time, energy, and money to spread our ideas while also producing more time, energy and money. We need to grow from thousands to millions - and we have no time to waste. Or energy. Or money.

How can we achieve maximum growth with minimum waste? What can do it? Do we know an efficient system for allocating resources? Have you considered the free market?

How would you like to have a libertarian organization that runs at a profit instead of a deficit? That earns its money instead of begging for it? That produces valuable libertarian goods and services that Americans want and will pay for? That follows H. L. Hunt's dictum: "If America is worth saving, it's worth saving at a profit!"

We'd like it too. But there was no such organization until we founded BOLD - to Build Our Libertarian Dream.

You are an individual who gets things done. We'd like you to join our Advisory Board. You probably have some good ideas. We'd like to hear them. We have some good ideas too. We'd like to share them. And between us, we can make them happen - at a profit.

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FROM THE EDITOR:

A special thanks to Jim Turney for the use of his new "super-super" typewriter which was used for this issue. Please let us know if the print is too small, or any other suggestions. While the response to last month's appeal was deeply appreciated, it was disappointing. There are many old libertarians and many National members who did not respond. We must continue to grow dramatically if we are going to establish real freedom. Not only do we need to increase our membership, but we also need to increase the number of people who are activists, who are doing more than just reading!

Last year, we (Jim Crowe) scurried around almost at the last minute to determine what was required for ballot status. The year before, establishing a State Fair Booth was explored too late to participate and we had to wait until last year. No one is working on a Booth for this year.

This year, we have already lost the opportunity to campaign for single member House of Delegate Districts. We should have started months ago, and now we will have to wait ten years for another opportunity. Now we need information for the coming elections: How did each state legislator vote? What are the state and federal laws restricting individual free enterprise. Where does our tax money go? How much is paid in subsidies to various groups? Does the public really want tax cuts, and spending cuts,

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Libertarianism

LIBERTARIANISM IS NOTHING MORE NOR LESS THAN THE POLITICS OF LIBERTY. WHILE OTHER PARTIES AND GROUPS SEEK TO USE THE TOOLS OF POLITICS TO GIVE SOME GROUPS POWER OVER OTHERS, TO ENRICH SOME AT THE EXPENSE OF OTHERS, OR TO IMPOSE SOME SET OF VALUES ON THOSE WHO DISAGREE WITH THOSE VALUES, LIBERTARIANS SEEK NOTHING MORE THAN LIBERTY.

LIBERTARIANS PROPOSE TO END THE CORRUPTION AND BRIBERY OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS BY ABOLISHING THEIR POWER TO DISPENSE SPECIAL PRIVILEGES.

LIBERTARIANS SEEK THE END OF CONFISCATORY TAXES - AND ALL TAXES ARE CONFISCATORY - AND REGULATIONS ON PRODUCTION AND EXCHANGES OF ALL TYPES. WE SEEK THE ELIMINATION OF ALL RESTRICTIONS ON FREEDOM OF EMPLOYMENT.

IN ECONOMICS, LIBERTARIANS ADVOCATE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PURELY FREE MARKET, THAT IS, A MARKET UNHAMPERED BY GOVERNMENT INTERUSIONS. WE ADVOCATE THE FREE, VOLUNTARY EXCHANGE OF GOODS AND SERVICES.

IN CIVIL LIBERTIES, LIBERTARIANS BELIEVE INDIVIDUALS MUST RESPECT THE RIGHT OF OTHERS TO LIVE DIFFERENT LIVES, TO READ AND ENJOY DIFFERENT COMMODITIES, TO SHAPE THEIR RELATIONSHIPS, SEXUAL AND OTHER, TO LIVE THEIR LIVES IN THEIR OWN WAY, AT THEIR OWN EXPENSE AND RISK, NEVER FORCING OTHERS TO PAY FOR THEIR MISTAKES.

IN FOREIGN POLICY, WE ARE NON-INTERVENTIONISTS. WE ADVOCATE THE WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICAN TROOPS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD, BELIEVING THAT AMERICAN MILITARY FORCES HAVE NO BUSINESS OUTSIDE OF AMERICAN BORDERS. WE ABSOLUTELY OPPOSE CONSCRIPTION AS BEING A FORM OF SLAVERY - IN PEACE OR WAR.

WHEN THE AMERICAN COLONISTS HEROICALLY RISKED THEIR LIVES, THEIR PROPERTY AND THEIR SACRED HONOR TO REBEL AGAINST THE TYRANNY OF BRITAIN, THEY SET AN EXAMPLE FOR US ALL. AMERICANS TWO HUNDRED YEARS AGO KNEW THAT ETERNAL VIGILANCE WAS THE PRICE OF LIBERTY, AND WERE PREPARED TO PAY THAT PRICE. WHETHER WE ARE WILLING TO PAY THAT PRICE TODAY IS A QUESTION WHICH MUST BE ANSWERED INDIVIDUALLY, BY EACH OF US. BUT WE OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY HAVE MADE OUR CHOICE. MOVED BY A PASSION FOR JUSTICE, BY COMPASSION FOR THOSE OPPRESSED BY STATE POWER AND PRIVILEGE, WE HAVE RAISED THE BANNER OF LIBERTY.

ADAPTED FROM LIBERTARIANISM, LIBERTARIAN PARTY POSITION PAPER #1, AVAILABLE AT \$3.50/100 FROM THE LIBERTARIAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE, 2300 WISCONSIN AVE., NW, SUITE 201, WASHINGTON, DC 20007.

BOLD

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A NEW IDEA

Want to join the BOLD Advisory Board? The price of admission is an idea. We want ideas that need no more than \$5000 seed money (or raise the excess as part of the idea), that spread libertarianism, and that make a profit, to repay the investment and provide future growth.

Send us your good ideas, and we'll send you ours. As a member of our Advisory Board, you'll receive our newsletter, BOLD IDEAS. If we use one of your ideas, you will receive full credit and 10% of the net profit. Come join the free market - it works!

Send us your idea today. For a better tomorrow.

Craig Franklin
919/544-3427

Box 12728

Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27709

CONTACTS VA

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National Libertarian Party.....202/333-8209



SOAPBOX VA

LP FOR COLEMAN ???

ANOTHER VIEW

Since the LPVA has apparently abandoned the idea of running a statewide ticket this year, the attitudes and qualifications of the likely "major" party candidates deserve airing in this publication. Thanks to an article which ran early this year in the WASHINGTON POST, many Libertarians in the Old Dominion may have concluded, inaccurately, that Democrat Charles Robb is a closet fellow traveller. Nothing could be further from the truth.

The article in question quoted Robb as saying: "The pure libertarian would suggest that government ought not to be involved in anything -- just let me alone, absolute laissez faire and stay out of my life. Well, there is a little of that in me..."

However, the article omitted the following comments by Robb (highlights from the interview appeared in the 2/19 POST): "I don't want you to quote me and say I even have some libertarian leanings, because clearly they don't go to that extent in the whole field of national defense or police protection or whatever." This is the real Chuck Robb, son-in-law of Mr. "Great Society", typical big government liberal, and the man who gave a rousing pro-draft speech at last year's Shad Planking.

In assessing the views attributed to Robb and GOP contender Marshall Coleman in the POST piece, one must consider the bias of the author, Garrett Epps. A longtime Democratic liberal, Epps is very close to the Henry Howell faction of the Virginia DP. Howell and company are currently feuding with Robb; and the Epps piece was designed, I suspect, to widen the gap in DP ranks while making Coleman seem a bit more attractive to Howellites.

I am thoroughly familiar with the records of both Coleman and Robb. I had a small role in nominating the former for Attorney General four years ago. His generally conservative economic outlook and relatively civil libertarian (compared to most Virginia politicians) views make him a far better choice for governor this year than Robb.

E. Scott Royce
Arlington

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ADVERTISING RATES

FULL PAGE.....\$40
HALF PAGE.....\$25
QUARTER PAGE.....\$15
EIGHTH PAGE.....\$ 9
CLASSIFIED ADS.....15¢/WORD

I am appalled that Mr. Royce, in his capacity as a Libertarian Party of Arlington official and newsletter editor should publicly endorse the Republican gubernatorial candidate. It is not just that Marshall Coleman is not a libertarian (or "neo-libertarian", whatever that may be). A more important concern is that if we are to succeed as a pro-liberty party and movement, people must learn that we offer a radical alternative to Republicans and Democrats, liberals and conservatives. They will not learn this if party officials lead them to think the LP is just an "extreme" branch of one of the politics-as-usual parties. Endorsing another party's candidates in an LP newsletter does grave harm to our effort.

Mr. Royce is, of course, free to vote for whomever he chooses. But it is difficult to fathom his believing that the "benefits" of a Coleman victory outweigh the harm of the public confusion his endorsement creates.

Sheldon Richman
Arlington

PERSONAL REPORT ON SAUDI ARABIA

Since I do not believe that I am yet knowledgeable enough to comment extensively on Mid-East politics or economics, I will offer my impressions of life in an Islamic monarchy. A land of contrasts, Saudi Arabia is far from a libertarian paradise. Although the government policy overtly is to encourage private enterprise, the Saudi economy is dominated by oil revenues which are strictly controlled by the government. In addition to supporting the lavish life style of the royal family, these funds are allocated to a wide variety of agricultural, industrial, educational and social projects.

Thus in Riyadh, as in Washington, DC, we find contractors and consultants competing for government contracts and handouts. One finds many Americans and other expatriates who were contractors, consultants or employees of their governments. The game here is played in the same way; it is who you know that counts. Perhaps the major difference is that it is really important to be sponsored by a member of the royal family. However, since the late King Abdul Aziz ibn Saud had in excess of 100 sons, there is no shortage of Princes to act as sponsors.

On the other hand, something close to a true free-market prevails for most commodities at the retail level. In the Souq (market) there are no fixed prices. One must bargain aggressively as well as compare prices in order to get the best price.

Because almost all food and other consumer goods are imported, most prices are fairly high. There are some bargains to be had, particularly in Japanese goods, because there are no import taxes (i.e. no

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continues to pay Vepco's state controlled price, but he has a real chance to pay less. Again, to encourage new electric producers, why not exempt them from all state taxes for the first ten years of operation.

Arguments against this program will be that Vepco would go out of business or that we will be "wasting" resources by duplication. However, if Vepco goes out of business because other companies can provide electricity at lower prices, Vepco really was charging too much and ought to go out of business. If Vepco's prices are the lowest possible, no other companies will be able to compete with them. If other companies can provide electricity at lower cost, we are wasting resources now, and will be conserving them by free enterprise.

Another argument will be that competitors will establish businesses in large population areas where they can be more efficient, drive Vepco out of business and then there will be no one to supply electricity to people who live out in the country, in sparsely populated, isolated areas. In other words, they want the people who live in cities to subsidize the electricity for the people who live in the country. What do the people who live in the city think? Would they voluntarily donate money to help people living in the country have electricity? How many of them know that they are already subsidizing the really big users of electricity, the big companies, which get lower rates because they use large amounts. Many big companies also donate large amounts of money to politicians. Could this be why they get lower rates from the SCC? Is this what the taxpayer wants from our state controlled monopolies? Not very likely!

The answer is to get the government out of rate setting and let people pay for what they want; if someone wants to live in the country and wants electricity, why should someone living in the city have to pay for installing their wires? If large companies did not have subsidized, artificially low rates, they would be working even harder to become more efficient in their use of electricity, further conserving that resource, another answer to the charge that additional electric suppliers will result in wasting resources. Some people will say that it will never work. If it will never work, they have nothing to fear, so they should not oppose this program.

Urban renewal is another area where politicians are very active, spending tax money for the "public good", with lots of resentment by the people who are being forced to be "renewed". Instead of spending

tax money, why not encourage self-improvement by eliminating all taxes in "disadvantaged areas", to encourage new businesses, new people and new life. Who could object to that, since all politicians say that poor people don't pay very much tax anyway. The people who will be "renewed" certainly won't

object, and anyone who does will be accused of wanting to tax poor people, which is supposed to be political suicide.

The loss of taxes from these "poor" people, living in a "poor" neighborhood would have to be much less than the large amounts of taxes spent on "urban renewal", so there will be more money available for other government programs, or we could have a tax cut. These "poor" areas would really boom if other taxes and restrictions would also be eliminated for a period of ten to twenty years (less time would not encourage new construction and new investment). No sales tax, no licensing fees and no minimum wage would all be strong incentives for starting new businesses, relocating old businesses and generating lots of new customers, who will come from all over to maximize their own well being, which is really the "public good"!

People living in the suburbs need to understand that improving the "disadvantaged" in the city will mean less taxes from the suburbanites, reduce the opposition to eliminating the sales tax on food and perhaps reducing the "need" for so much state income tax as well. In addition, as the poor people become more affluent, there will be less crime, since they will be able to raise and maintain their standard of living without the risk of going to jail.

Everyone who drives on any interstate knows that the 55 MPH limit is a farce. Despite all of the propaganda about energy saving and accident prevention, most people break the law and drive faster. Let's go back to the 70 MPH limit and eliminate lots of "lawbreakers", freeing up the police to catch more real criminals.

While we are on roads, why not consider eliminating the state tax on gasoline and instead charge tolls to provide maintenance on our existing roads. The cost of maintenance could probably be reduced if private contractors were allowed to bid on maintaining sections of road. If they didn't have to pay taxes on their profit or pay minimum wages, they probably could do it much cheaper than the state or county highway departments, without a whole bunch of people in red vests standing around watching the cars go by while earning credit toward a state pension. Low bidders on just a few stretches of highway would result in more efficient government maintenance in the rest of the Commonwealth.

The public school system is currently under attack with many parents responding by opposing increased taxes for schools, further antagonizing teachers, which can only result in even poorer education for our children. The real solution is to stop forcing people to send their children to a particular state subsidized school. Right now, there are few alternatives, and most people cannot afford to pay double for a private school as well as paying school taxes. However, if they were allowed

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a tax credit of up to \$1,500 per child to reimburse actual tuition to a private school, they could afford it and private schools would spring up all over Virginia. Many good teachers who had quit because they were frustrated by the bureaucracy and restrictions of public schools would return to teaching. Parents would have a choice and public schools would improve because of the competition. Again, private schools could be encouraged by tax exemption.

People who fear that this would mean the end of public schools need to explain why our children have to be forced to attend public schools if they are so good. The other objection would be that poor people would still be forced to send their children to public schools. Ignoring the implied admission that public schools really are not good, at least two possibilities exist: Let people who sponsor scholarships be eligible for the same tax credit, up to the limit of their state tax liability, even if it is not for their children. Let the tax exempt status of private schools be dependent upon some percentage of their enrollment at reduced rates for lower income families, with these families still eligible for tax credits, or possibly exempt from paying local school taxes. If they rent, exempt the landlord, who must reduce their rent by the amount of the tax credit.

Other libertarian political programs could be based on elimination of licenses for various professions like barbers, beauticians, electricians, plumbers, dental hygienists, nurses and even doctors and lawyers, but some research into current laws and practices is required before this could be proposed.

Research is also required before programs could be proposed on eliminating state subsidies to many groups, such as milk producers, coal miners, tobacco farmers, unions, big businesses, small businesses, liquor manufactures (with ABC stores), city and county governments, etc., all of which mean higher prices for the individual (taxpayer) consumer. Would people voluntarily donate their money to help these groups? Should they be forced to donate?

Would you vote for a politician who proposed realistic programs for reducing taxes, helping the poor, decreasing costs and raising the standard of living for everyone living in the Commonwealth? Would you be turned off if this politician said s/he was a Libertarian? A politician who continually says s/he wants to reduce the power and control of government while s/he is doing all of this? Or, would you be turned off by a Democrat or Republican who wants to give you more of the same restrictions and taxes that you thought you voted against last November?

If we get this message out to lots of people, won't they see that it makes sense? Won't they recognize that a political party with principles has their interests in mind? Won't they vote Libertarian? WE CAN WIN!!!

domestic industry which requires protection). In fact, there are no taxes at all, except Zakat (a 2½% religious tax on real property) and fees paid by the Hajji (pilgrims to Mecca). For other commodities, such as gasoline and meat, the price is controlled by the government, which also provides subsidies: Gasoline is 21.5 Halala/liter (\$0.24/gal) and there is no speed limit. Incidentally, that means that drinking water is almost half the price of gasoline.

Most western women would find Saudi Arabia very restrictive. Saudi women do not appear in public without veils, and among traditional Saudis, men and women do not mix socially. As in many other parts of the world, marriages are arranged by the parents. All women in Saudi Arabia are forbidden by law from driving automobiles and public busses have a separate compartment in the rear for women. Even with all of these restrictions, Saudi women have been permitted to own property separate from their husbands.

Everyday life is dominated by Islamic values and traditions, especially in the capital city, Riyadh, which is geographically in the center of a religiously fundamental area. Muslims stop what they are doing five times a day for prayer (Salat) and during Salat, retail shops are required by law to close. There are religious police to enforce these laws. Public entertainment is almost non-existent in Riyadh; there is no alcohol, no cinema, etc. Although Islam historically has been a tolerant religion, in Saudi Arabia, other religions are not permitted.

Indeed, one suspects that Saudi Arabia's greatest challenge will be to reconcile their traditional, very strict, Islamic values with the twentieth century materialism that has come with the oil wealth. The government is certainly aware of the problem and is trying to minimize the impact of foreign influences without denying the people the benefits of a higher standard of living. It will be interesting to watch how (or if) this result is achieved.

Jim Crowe

(Editor's note: Jim's address is c/o Saudi Computer and Info Center, P.O. Box 5983, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia)

ATTENTION ARLINGTONIANS!

ROD MCFADDEN FOR HOUSE

I intend to run for the office of Delegate to the Virginia General Assembly in this November's election.

As a first step, it is necessary to collect a minimum of 250 signatures of registered voters. As a practical matter, that figure should be doubled.

I will need help. Any reader who is registered to vote in Arlington County, and who is willing to sign my petition is requested to call me at 703/931-6289, or write to me at 3544 South Wakefield Street, Arlington, Va. 22206

Rod McFadden

SECOND DISTRICT NEWS

Dr. Alan Krasnoff, chiropractor par excellence, was the guest speaker at the March 11, Tidewater Libertarians, dinner meeting. Dr. Krasnoff, who specializes in the muscular and skeletal systems, gave a lively talk on chiropractic medicine including witty discourses on; the "evils" of cola and corn chips, the "virtues" of staying in shape, and the "hassles" of practicing in Virginia. At the business meeting following, David Lee, Chairman of the Tidewater TRIM Committee, presented his group's "report card" on second district Congressman Whitehurst's rather lackluster performance during the winter quarter. According to Mr. Lee, of the top ten spending bills which passed Congress, our "conservative" congressman voted for nine!

The April 8 dinner meeting included an appearance by Kyle Meyers, Executive Director of THE AMERICAN FAMILY, a religious organization advocating family ministries or "missions" as a means of countering the destruction of the family unit. By helping families charter their own family churches, THE AMERICAN FAMILY hopes to help families achieve greater financial independence, which in turn develops stronger family relationships.

While attendance at our monthly meetings have been steadily increasing, we know that there are many others of our persuasion in and around the Tidewater area. Please be reminded that an open invitation exists for any individuals interested in an evening of education, provocative discussion, and lively libation, all in a very friendly, affordable, and strictly non-coercive atmosphere. Interested parties can contact Henery Thrasher for detailed information.

John Alluisi

THIRD DISTRICT NEWS

Third District Libertarians have been busy trying to find means of raising money to cover the cost of mailings and other expenses. On April 19th they sponsored, with the VCU Libertarians, a band concert and draft beer sale. The JUMP STREET, a local blues-rock band volunteered their services. On Saturday, May 16, we will be having a covered dish luncheon with Sheldon Richman, from the Council for a Competitive Economy. He will speak on "What it means to be a Libertarian".

Members in the Third District are still bandying about the possibility of running for the House of Delegates. At present, three members are seriously considering running. Another group, including Will Friesmuth and Dan Niehaus, are working to set up a questionnaire for canvassing neighborhoods to see which issues local residents would like to see addressed by a political candidate.

In April, a number of speakers addressed issues important to Libertarians. Roger Brown, a graduate student at VCU, whose speciality has been the activities of the CIA, discussed the tie-in between

TENTH DISTRICT NEWS

On March 28, Arlington became the first county unit of the LPVA. More than 30 Libertarians attended a mass meeting that day and adopted bylaws and elected a Libertarian County Committee.

Scott Royce, who chaired the county Clark campaign and the local LP organizing committee, was unanimously elected Coordinator. Other officers are: Vincent A. Drosdik III, Assistant Coordinator; Cindi Kaiser, Secretary; and Dan Rothenhoefer, Treasurer. Working with them will be an 18 member county committee.

Speakers at the event included Chris Hocker, publisher of LIBERTARIAN REVIEW and its excellent new newsletter, UPDATE; and Rod McFadden, a Merchant

Marine officer who intends to run for House of Delegates. Kent Guida, the National LP Membership Chair, and National Treasurer Dallas Cooley -- both candidates for the National LP Chair -- also spoke.

Tim Flanegin of Falls Church has agreed to help organize that city, and an initial meeting will be held in the near future. Plans are also underway for local meetings in the Reston and McLean areas, and the 10th District Central Committee now has an organizing contact in Loudoun County as well.

Several special committees are now functioning in the District: Victimless Crime Laws, chaired by Rothenhoefer; Candidate Recruitment, headed by Royce; and Speakers, with Drosdik as coordinator. An ad hoc committee was created to handle phoning for the joint National/State fundraising project. Chaired by our District Secretary Kathy Taylor of McLean, it raised roughly \$600.

On the publicity front, The District Central Committee authorized the purchase of classified ads about the Party in several local papers and in a number of alternative publications based in DC. News coverage on the Arlington mass meeting appeared in several newspapers, also. Our District Newsletter, which now has a circulation approaching 400, drew an overwhelmingly favorable response in a poll circulated with the last issue mailed.

Julie Floyd

big business, Tri-lateralists and our government, and explained how various tax exempt foundations, think tanks, Congressional Committees and lobbies all join together to continue to legislate us into socialism. Jerry Sklute, at the April 17 meeting, gave a much-needed talk on how people can better communicate. For the April 30 local meeting, Howard Maxwell will lead a discussion on what the Libertarian approach would be for problems of government.

Third District members are working hard. Jim Turney is planning to put in office space and a phone for the Libertarian Party in his new building downtown. And everyone is working on the State Convention on June 26th.

Carolyn Paulette

or is that wishful thinking? Which issues hold the most promise for winning libertarian seats to the House of Delegates?

Next year we will need the same kind of information for our Senatorial candidate. We also need facts and figures for candidates running for local offices every year.

Research, newspaper clipping, taking polls, analyzing all of the data and translating it into libertarian positions is a lot of work and takes a lot of time. Some individuals have personal interest in various areas and have this information. Lots of areas are currently unexplored, and there is no central collection point. There is no group to give assistance to all of the candidates we hope to run this year.

Will you help? Even two or three hours a week spent collecting data on one subject would be useful. One day a week (8+ hours) for Liberty, by 10-20 people, combined with computer analysis, which we also need, would give us a data base for realistic goals and successful plans.

If you will help, please call your District Chair or any other contact before the May 9th Central Committee meeting and state your interests and an estimate of the time you can spend. Hopefully, a Research and Planning Committee will be established at that meeting.

Jerry Sklute

The purpose of the Libertarian Party of Virginia is to legalize freedom by political action because we believe that no person, group of people or government has the right to initiate force against any other person, group or government; with "force" meaning fraud, extortion, stealing, threats against life or property as well as physical aggression.

Please send information about the Libertarian position on the following (check appropriate boxes):

<input type="checkbox"/> Libertarianism	<input type="checkbox"/> The Draft	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health
<input type="checkbox"/> Gun Control	<input type="checkbox"/> Inflation	<input type="checkbox"/> Nuclear Energy
<input type="checkbox"/> Business and Government		<input type="checkbox"/> Victimless Crime Laws

☐I'm already convinced! Sign me up as a member of LPVA.

"I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals."

SIGNED _____ DATE _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/COUNTY _____

STATE/ZIP _____ PHONE () _____

☐\$6.00 enclosed, please send LIBERTYVA for one year.

☐I would like to donate ☐\$10 ☐\$25 ☐\$50 ☐\$_____ to LPVA

I would like to join the National Libertarian Party (Sign oath):

☐Student (\$5) ☐Basic (\$10) ☐Sustaining (\$20)

I would like to be active in the LPVA:

☐LIBERTYVA ☐Letters to the Editor ☐Speakers Bureau

☐Local Organizing ☐Campaigning

Other (Specify) _____

Please make all checks payable to the Libertarian Party of Virginia and mail to: LPVA, P.O. Box 1449, Hopewell, Virginia 23860



CALENDAR VA

APRIL

- 30 3rd District Meeting at 7:30 pm at 4314 Forest Hill Ave., Richmond "The libertarian approach to government problems" contact Carolyn Paulette at 804/232-6644

MAY

- 2 Jim Hainer speaking at VPI - Blacksburg 316 Squires contact Kathy Rice
4 Manchester League Meeting at 308 Squires, VPI, Blacksburg 7pm call 703/953-1013
6 VCU Libertarians meeting. Contact Michael Large at 804/358-0661
6 Patriotic Network Meeting in Washington contact Edith Bradbury 703/370-1586
9 State Central Committee Meeting 1 pm Virginia Baptist Hospital, Lynchburg call your District Chair or contact
13 2nd District Meeting in Tidewater contact Henry Thrasher 804/424-9857
13 VCU Libertarians Meeting
16 3rd District Meeting at VCU, Richmond covered dish luncheon with Sheldon Richman speaking on "What it means to be a libertarian" Contact Carolyn Paulette at 804/232-6644
18 Manchester League Meeting VPI, Blacksburg
20 VCU Libertarians Meeting VCU, Richmond
28 3rd District Meeting at 7:30 pm at 4314 Forest Hill Ave., Richmond

JUNE

- 3 Patriotic Network Meeting in Washington
3 VCU Libertarians Meeting in Richmond
9 3rd District Meeting - Richmond
10 2nd District Meeting - Tidewater
15 Manchester League Meeting VPI, Blacksburg
26 1981 STATE CONVENTION
27
28 JOHN MARSHALL HOTEL - RICHMOND

NOTE: VCU Libertarians meet every Wednesday

INCREASE ATTENDANCE AT YOUR MEETINGS:

SEND MEETING DATES AND OTHER INFORMATION TO

LIBERTYVA, P. O. BOX 1449, HOPEWELL, VA 23860

Common Sense, II

by Jerry Sklute

Creative Politics

Politics is often defined as the art of the possible. If we are going to win some elections, we need to propose programs which many people will easily see as immediately benefiting them as individuals.

These programs should be based upon, and consistent with, libertarian theory. However, we must not bore or confuse voters with long, complicated explanations or philosophical arguments.

For example, many poor people would like to work part-time but cannot find jobs. There are many occupations which could quickly be entered, such as driving a taxi or operating as a street vendor. Both of these jobs have a second advantage by automatically lowering the cost of taxis and hot dogs, popcorn, t-shirts or anything else that someone might want to sell. The only thing standing in the way are laws prohibiting or restricting access to these occupations. LPVA candidates could advocate elimination and/or prohibition of all laws restricting people from these occupations. Since all politicians say that they want to encourage "poor" people to become self-supporting and to rise above the "poverty level", who could object to eliminating these laws? In fact, who could object to going one step further and exempting all income made in these occupations from all taxes?

Opposition to this program will come from current cab companies, taxi drivers and owners of established stores. How many people will support the government subsidizing these people at taxpayer expense, once they understand the result of the current restrictive laws. In fact, won't the voters get emotionally upset if we can make them understand that they are paying unnecessarily higher prices because the government restricts competition with

these licensing laws? Emotionally involved voters become activists. Understanding the true nature of government will make them become libertarian activists!

Minimum wage laws also restrict many "poor" people from working. They would be glad to work for less but the government forbids employers from hiring them for less than the minimum wage. Employers cannot afford to pay the minimum wage for some jobs, so they automate the job, or combine it with some other job or just stop doing it as frequently. If the employer can't stop doing the job, and cannot do it more efficiently by automation or other techniques, they must pay the minimum wage, which increases their cost, which of course is passed on to the buyer. This increases prices even further, reducing demand (and profits) and sometimes causing the employer to go bankrupt because no one will pay as much as it now costs to make that product.

Populist politicians have gained lots of votes by complaining about Vepco. These same politicians do not complain that it is the state government which controls Vepco's prices and in fact ensures that Vepco and other controlled utilities will not be efficient and cost-effective by granting them monopolies in their areas. Why not advocate elimination of the monopoly that Virginia gives to Vepco?

If other companies were allowed to compete, they would have to offer lower prices, because no one would buy from them if the price was higher. Since the price would be less than Vepco, there will be no need for the SCC to control the price of these new companies. Vepco will have to become more efficient and lower their prices or lose more and more customers. The voter can't lose - at worst, he

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"IN THE FOLLOWING
PAGES I OFFER NOTHING
MORE THAN SIMPLE FACTS,
PLAIN ARGUMENTS, AND
COMMON SENSE..."

TOM PAINE

LIBERTYVA

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