



LIBERTY VA

Libertarian Party of Virginia

April 1982

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1981 ELECTION RE-CAP

Two Libertarian House of Delegates candidates, **Rod McFadden** of Arlington and LP state chair **Jerry Sklute** of Chesterfield, scored surprising successes at the polls despite severe handicaps.

McFadden, a Merchant Marine officer, collected 1571 votes, or about 3% of the total House vote in the 22nd District. He got pretty good press coverage, partly through the tactic of Libertarians calling the paper to find out McFadden's views on campaign issues.

Jerry Sklute ran an even stronger campaign in the 34th House District, which included Chesterfield and Powhatan counties, plus Colonial Heights. He emerged with some 4800 votes, or nearly 9% of the vote! Jerry's thorough research on the issues impressed many voters, and helped attract new activists into the 3rd District organization.

We all thank Rod and Jerry for their efforts last fall. Their campaigns will provide some momentum for a more successful 1982 campaign if we run good candidates and give them more money and more legwork than we have in the past.

CAMPAIGN '82:

Off and Running in Two Races.

Two Virginia Libertarians have tossed their hats into the ring, and more may follow. **Scott Bowden** is organizing his ballot drive for a serious campaign for the House of Representatives from the 10th District. Anybody wishing to help Scott in his ballot drive or in the general campaign should contact 10th District chairman

Paul Hite.

Phillip Friday has announced that he will run in the May election for the Urbanna town council. It is a low-key, non-partisan campaign, so with some hard work and a little luck, Phil may add Virginia to the growing list of states with elected Libertarians!

Hopefully, more LPVA members will run for office this year. 1982 is an ideal year to present the Libertarian alternative in local, state and congressional campaigns. Our candidates need more money, more publicity, and more volunteer help, so it is imperative for Libertarian groups to pursue aggressive, imaginative outreach efforts in order to attract more members, as well as educate the general public. Hard work will bring success, which will breed further successes. Let's get out there and fight for our freedom!

LPVA GETS PHONE LISTING

Thanks to **Jim Turney**, the Libertarian Party of Virginia is now listed in the Richmond Yellow Pages, right along with the Democrats and Republicans under "Political Organizations."

Jim has already received quite a few serious inquiries, many of them long-distance. The number is (804) 788-7044.

LIBERTARIAN SUPPER CLUB — Lynchburg —

The **Libertarian Supper Club** meets on the second Wednesday of each month at six P.M. in a local restaurant. If you enjoy conversation about the issues facing the nation today, join us right away. To find out where we are meeting this month, call **Kathy** at (804) 384-3747.

THE CONTINUING SAGA OF LIBERTY VA.

Many of you are probably wondering where the newsletter has been since last summer! Well several events have taken place in the past 8 months which have kept the newsletter in limbo..

In early Fall, it seemed that our major problem was finances, with barely enough in the treasury to send out one mailing. The problem was compounded by the resignation of editor **Jerry Sklute** who left to become Chair.

It has only been since **Jim Turney** has put his company **Liberty Communications** at our service — offering low cost printing/typesetting services that the newsletter has met with financial stability!

So, we are back! We hope you like the new format — it should be coming to you on a regular basis from now on.

STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETS IN RICHMOND

Mother Nature finally let the LP State Central Committee get together February 6th at the home of **Carolyn Paulette** and **Mary Godsey** in Richmond. The primary business turned out to be the naming of several new officers. First District chair **Stew Engel** of Owens was elected as the new State Chairman. **John Alluisi** was named Vice-Chair, and **Carolyn Paulette** as the new Secretary. Two district chairmen were selected: **Jim Elwood** for the 3rd and **Paul Hite** for the 10th district. In other business, **Henry Thrasher** volunteered to co-ordinate the Research and Planning Committee, and the

*Government is the great fiction through
which everybody endeavors to live at the
expense of everybody else.*

Frederic Bastiat

Fundraising Committee was declared to be standing instead of ad-hoc. This next meeting of the State Central Committee is set for the last Saturday in April at **Stew Engel's** home in Owens.

LIBERTARIAN VIEWS PUBLISHED

*The following appeared in the December 24,
1981 issue of THE NEWS (Lynchburg, Va.)*

WHO ENFORCES GOD'S LAW?

Editor:

The debate on the influence of religion on politics can be summed up by a single question, "Should God's law, as revealed in the Bible, be enforced by governments in the U.S.?" For the ancient Israelites the answer was clear. God gave them a law, and promised them national security and prosperity if they kept it. Unfortunately, they did not. Israel was destroyed, and the ideal of the "godly" nation was proved a failure.

Christ came with a different message, giving salvation to individuals, not countries. He did not tell His disciples to have Rome enforce God's law. He even told them to leave those who rejected his word alone. Later, when Christianity became the official Roman religion, the church became corrupt. Soon, the Roman Empire fell. Such was the result of ignoring the lesson of Israel, and the words of Christ, by seeking a "christian" society.

There is an alternative. The goal of the American Revolution was to create a society based on individual rights to life, liberty, and property. The purpose of law was not to punish sin, but to protect individuals from injury by others. The result was a society where saved and sinner, Hindu, Moslem, and Christian, could all live in peace. The Founding Fathers did not make the mistake of seeking a "christian" society, instead they created a society in which Christianity could flourish. God's law should not be enforced by government; it should be seen by all in the lives of believers.

Kathy Woolsey
6th District Chairman
Libertarian Party of Virginia

TWO BASIC VIEWS ON NEED FOR LAW

Editor:

There are two basic views on the purpose of law. One view is that law exists to protect the rights of individuals to life, liberty and property. It defines a private sphere, within which each person is free to "do his own thing". Murder and theft are prohibited because they interfere with someone's person or property.

Part of "doing their own thing" is regulating their property. People can't go to a store and fix dinner in the kitchen display, but not because it's illegal. The store is in the owner's private sphere, so he makes the rules. Similarly, road owners are responsible for traffic rules. The fact that most roads are government-owned should not confuse the distinction between the regulations and property owners and law.

The second view is that law should tell everyone what to do and what not to do. This means law must embody someone's values. Since people don't agree on values, the result is political conflict. Liberals seek to impose secular humanist values on everyone, while conservatives try to do the same thing with Judeo-Christian values.

America's founding Fathers believed in natural rights to life, liberty and property. This doesn't mean their culture traditionally recognized these rights, or that their government protected these rights. It means they believed that law should protect these rights. American patriots, agreeing with the Founding Fathers, are joining the Libertarian Party to continue the fight for individual rights, and the opposition to government power.

Jim Carson

CONTINUING L.P. VA. TREASURY CRISIS SPARKS DEBATE

The continuously flat state of the L.P. VA's treasury is currently sparking debate statewide.

Many solutions have been proposed, ranging from a raffle (read lottery) to a return to dues for L.P. VA. membership.

A front organization to operate a bingo

parlour has also been put forward. This is an idea with some real promise if the right person to run it could be found and put in the right location. Perhaps management of this could be a paid position.

Whatever the solution, however, some answer beyond occasional donations *must* be found. Too many opportunities are passing us by. Too many regular members, doing more than their share, are "burning out".

A return to dues for L.P. VA. memberships would allow us to achieve a much higher level of efficiency in recruiting and education and would put such functions as the State Fair booth and the newsletter in a much more stable condition.

Meanwhile if you have \$10 or more in your pocket, please consider sending half to the Libertarian Party of VA. and talk this problem over with your fellow libertarians.

Will Friesmith

IF YOU LIKED THE MORAL MAJORITY

The National Coalition on Television Violence (NCTV), was formed early last summer, and it's an organization Libertarians should keep their eye on.

Begun in early June, the NCTV is concerned with violence in the media in much the same way the Moral Majority is concerned with sex on TV. The NCTV favors a movie rating system that takes into account the violence factor. They also favor the fairness doctrine, the equal-time law, and censorship. The NCTV also maintains a rating code for violence, and recommends boycotting all products who sponsor programs with a high violence rating, a means which does not use force, but which nevertheless comes frighteningly close to the "I don't want to watch sex or violence on TV and I don't want anyone else to either" thinking of the Moral Majority.

Ironically, however, the NCTV seems to be competing with the National Federation of Decency and the Moral Majority for attention. The NCTV accuses both of the latter groups of not paying enough attention to media violence, while itself playing down the importance of sex on TV. They attack the NFD for giving the programs lowest in violent content low ratings because of their high sexual content. The NCTV has also set itself up as the liberal counterpart of

the pro-censorship factions, with remarks to the effect that they are "very concerned that the Moral Majority is diverting attention away from the serious violence issue."

Whatever side, it's no kin to liberty, and Libertarians should beware!

Jane Rosecrans

SURPRISING SURVEY RESULTS

Howard Ruff's latest book, *Survive & Win in the Inflationary Eighties*, Times Books, page 41, reports the results of a U.S. Chamber of Commerce survey of high school student's attitudes towards business as follows:

1. 67% see no need for profits.
2. 62% think that the government should provide jobs.
3. 40% could not name one advantage of capitalism over communism!
4. 61% felt that a worker should *not* produce all he can.
5. 50% felt that the *government* contributes most to national prosperity!
6. 66% think that the best way to improve our standard of living is not by producing more, but by paying higher wages.

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