

Virginia Liberty Bulletin

PLEASE SEND all ads (note: please include payment with all ads - fee schedule below), articles, and newsletter mailing fees (\$10 per year) to: LPVA, PO Box 28263, Richmond, VA 23228 *** Please make all checks payable to: Libertarian Party of Virginia. *** For subscriptions, please use the convenient form elsewhere in this issue.

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BUY SOME LIBERTY TODAY! -- From the LPVA General Store

LPVA Baseball Jerseys, front "America Needs Another Tax Revolt", back "Join the Libertarian Party of Virginia"; any size, \$5.00
LPVA T-shirts, blue with "Frankly, I'd rather be a Libertarian", small only, \$5.00
===== LPVA Bookstore ====== LPVA Bookstore
Restoring the American Dream (foreword by Wm Simon) hardback \$ 4.95
Liberty Reclaimed, by Jim Lewis \$ 2.00
Libertarianism In One Lesson, by D. Bergland \$ 2.00
Mainspring of Human Progress, by Henry G. Weaver \$ 2.00
The Law, by Frederic Bastiat \$ 2.00
Declaration of Independence quote superimposed over IRS 1040 -- poster \$ 1.00
"IF YOU HATE TAXES DIAL 1-800-682-1776" -- poster \$ 4.00
Back Issues of **Virginia Liberty**, each \$ 1.00
LPVA Convention Tapes, 85, 82, 81: Call 804-788-7044 for info

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Subtotal					_____
Please mail this form with pmt. to:					Add 15% shipping (\$1 minimum)
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TO:

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY?

by David Horne

Virginia Beach, Va.

RICHMOND -- The Libertarian Party of Virginia henceforth has a new mailing address: PO Box 28263, Richmond, Va. 23228. While our headquarters location remains at 824 West Broad Street in beautiful downtown Richmond, Chairman Marc Montoni decided that it would be better to have a separate mailing address for the Virginia party due to the fact that mail for us often got lost in the shuffle of the West Broad location. This is understandable since Jim Turney, our National LP Chairman, runs three businesses from that address, in addition to accepting mail from LPVA and a couple of other organizations.

An added bonus to our new address is that it is within walking distance of the residence of Chairman Montoni. According to him, the downtown location added up to quite a distance to drive several times every week.

LPVA GETS NEW MAILING ADDRESS

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LPVA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE BEGINS

RICHMOND -- The arrival of Spring marked the beginning of a drive to bring the LPVA current membership total to above 250 for the first time. A concerted effort to improve fundraising and outreach techniques was begun with a statewide mailing sent out during the third week of March. The numbers are not in yet but early returns indicate a success. This will be followed in early April with a special cooperative mailing by LPVA and the national party of the national LP News newspaper, which was designed as a special tax-time outreach issue. The leadership of LPVA detected an excellent opportunity for saving money and volunteer efforts when this outreach issue was announced, and pursued when National agreed to spring for the cost of the newsletters if we would only cover the postage costs.

Other efforts will focus on increasing the number of regular monthly contributors from less than twenty currently to seventy-five by July of this year, and initial fundraising for television commercials and the 1988 ballot drives.

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF VIRGINIA

PO Box 28263

Richmond, VA 23228

TO:

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY?

by David Horne

Virginia Beach, Va.

From time to time, I ask myself a question that I am sure all libertarians have also pondered at some time or another. Just what is the purpose of the Libertarian Party and how are we to achieve it? Are we really serious about being a political force or are we just a bunch of idealists who think that if we wait long enough and do nothing the market of political ideas will take care of itself, the truth will prevail, and our ideas will win on the weights of their merits?

I have some thoughts that I would like to kick around and get feedback on. My first thought is that we really don't know what we are doing. We are a bunch of individualists with no common direction or goals. We talk about the political system and we know everything that's wrong with it - but we don't

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do anything about it because we can't agree on what we want to do. I hear people say that we need to educate the public, get more members, and get people to run for office. Great! How are we ever going to achieve these things without a plan?

My second thought is that we are not effectively organized to participate in the electoral process. We have a national party that keeps trying but is always too short on resources to be taken seriously by anyone but ourselves. At the state level we see the same problem and if we look at the local level, we see more of the same. Why is this? Could it be that we have our priorities confused? A lot of our talent is continually attending numerous meetings of these three levels of organisation and yet we don't seem to be getting our message out where it counts, which is among the voters and potential new members. As I see it, we are victims of our own organization, which in many ways is as much of a bureaucracy as the government organization which it is patterned after. The Libertarian Party has become a statist club! We pick people to be our leaders and then we sit back and wait for them to lead us. The result is that more meetings are scheduled where we meet other libertarians who we already know and that is the entire program. Why is this? Because it is all that we are organized to do.

It stands to reason that if we are really a party with no common direction or goals, we will not be organized to ever do anything different than have meetings.

I propose that we decide what it is that we really want the Libertarian Party to accomplish, set our goals in the form of a prioritized plan of action, and then build an organization that is designed around the party goals.

[My response to Mr. Horne's comments concern the fact that the National Party does, indeed, have a prioritized set of goals that it prints up every year, these include timetables for certain actions, etc. Have you not seen these, Dave, or do you refer to something different?

I will admit that LPVA does not currently have an "official" set of goals; so Dave, I now invite you and two other volunteers to set up a goals committee so we can rectify that problem. Anyone who is interested in helping get this needed project going should let us know immediately.

To your posts! —— ed.]

INTERVIEW WITH THE CHAIRMAN — Part 1

by H. Randall Reynolds

Who is the Chairman of the Libertarian Party of Virginia? People in various stages of contact with the party over the past year may wonder. At the state convention in Charlottesville last year, David Saum narrowly defeated Marc Montoni for the position of Chairman. Saum's initial response to his election was that he "bought that election fair and square." However, the ups and downs of his entrepreneurial lifestyle made it difficult for him to continue in his hard-won position as Chairman and in the Fall of 1985, the reins were handed over to then-Vice-Chairman Marc Montoni, who also was responsible for the state's publication, **Virginia Liberty**.

Montoni stresses the fact that he is "no expert in the political arena." Indeed, he, as an auto mechanic, might not seem fit for the part.

He is doing his utmost, however, to build the organization he heads: "I am doing what I think needs to be done to get this party into whatever shape is necessary to be a winner in elections," he said. "I do not expect anyone to run under our banner until we can support them enough to give them a reasonable chance of winning; although I do encourage those who have the money and time necessary for an effective campaign to wage one; I also encourage every-one to run as loneholders -- people who spend a few hours petitioning to get their names on the ballot for state & local offices but who do not spend money campaigning. What campaigning there is should be limited to telling family, friends and other libertarians in your district that you are running. This will eliminate the lesser of two evils choice that most libertarians face every election day." Are we to do this indefinitely? "This in essence would be a way for us to temporize; to hold the thing together and keep our hat in the ring until 1988. The publicity surrounding the 1988

Libertarian Presidential campaign should be our best opportunity yet to boost membership to around 1,000. After that, we will have the resources necessary to begin supporting hand-picked, high-quality candidates for local offices and even House of Delegates candidates in such a way that they will have good chances of winning. Given effective LPVA media blitzing, solid financial backing, and a suit-and-tie, articulate and handshake candidate, the sky should be the limit." (Part 2 will be in the May Bulletin.)

RENEWAL and ADDRESS CHANGE FORM

YES! Send me **Virginia Liberty & Bulletin** for 1 year (\$10 or more). Enclosed is my contribution: \$10 \$25 \$50 PLDGF: \$ ____ per mo. for ____ mos. (Include 1st pmt.) \$25 for National & State dues

This is an address change (Attach mailing label, write new address below)
 I'm not interested. Please take me off your list! (Affix mailing label)

Name _____ Address _____ State _____ ZIP _____ Phone _____

Mail this form to: LPVA, PO Box 28263, Richmond VA 23228

CALENDAR *** CALENDAR *** CALENDAR *** CALENDAR *** CALENDAR

April 26th — Party for Richmond Area Libertarians! \$2 cover charge. This is a 'fun' gathering for anyone who espouses libertarian ideals -- not a sell session! Come join the fun. Refreshments supplied at reasonable prices. Libertarian songfest and an LPVA shirt sale table are included at no extra charge. Howard Maxwell, 353-4864 for info. Begins at 8pm at Howard's house, 1416 Floyd Ave. About thirty area libertarians came to the last one, so don't be bashful! Sponsored by Libertarian International and the Advocates of Richmond.

May 1st — Deadline for submissions for Spring issue of **Virginia Liberty**. May 18th — State Central Committee meeting, in Falls Church. Call David Saum, 703-820-7696, for directions/info. 1:00 pm.

July 3rd — Disobedience Day, THE Libertarian Holiday. Celebrate this rebellious day by writing a letter to the editor of your local newspapers about some idiotic local law or politician, or exceed speed limits, etc.

July 1st — Deadline for submissions for Summer issue of **Virginia Liberty**. July 20th — proposed date for LPVA SCC meeting — proposed location TBA October 19th — proposed date for LPVA SCC meeting — proposed location: Norfolk, Va. November 1st — Deadline for submissions for Fall issue of **Virginia Liberty**. December 7th — proposed date for SCC meeting — proposed location: Richmond. April 11 & 12, 1987 — proposed date for LPVA State Convention — proposed location: Northern Va. Please send us your input on site, subjects and location

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