

# VIRGINIA LIBERTY



Volume 2 Issue 6

DEC 1997

## BIG GAINS IN VOTE PERCENTAGES FOR LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF VIRGINIA

The Libertarian Party of Virginia posted its biggest gains in votes in this years election. Shelby McCurnin garnered 7,772 votes or 28% of the votes in the 72nd district against John Reid (R). Kip Karl captured 3,879 votes or 25% of the votes in the 44th district against Toddy Puller (D). Jim Vencil earned 2,447 votes or 15% of the votes in the 13th district against Robert Marshall (R). Robert Buchanan gained 1,024 votes or 6% of the votes in 31st district against Jay Katzen (R) and Paul Ascioffa (D). Gary Alexander won 981 votes or 5% of the votes in the 36th district against Ken Plum (D) and Dan McGuire (R). Marta Howard gained 406 votes or 2% of the vote in the 35th district against Jeanemarie Devolites (R) and George Lovelace (D).

### FROM THE HORSES MOUTH

by Gary Alexander

To all prospective candidates: It's worth it! Do it! The three major benefits I experienced from running for the House of Delegates are: (1) They have to listen to you. It's the LAW! The newspapers and public TV outlets are required to give candidates a forum for their views. Often, this is the only way to reach voters with new ideas. How frustrating it is to write 20 or more letters to the editor, and see none of them in print. This is my own personal experience with the Washington Post. But, as a candidate, they print what you write. The same is true for League of Women Voters surveys, and private special interest group surveys. (2) High school students listen, and learn. Likewise, I have always wanted to teach

freedom ideas in schools, but nobody cared to invite a man without the requisite qualifications. As a candidate,



you are given a forum. There is no other way that the Libertarian message will reach pliable young minds other than through the Political Science or American History classes. As a result, a handful of young people volunteered to help in my campaign. As we stamped letters or pounded in signs, my wife and I (and John Buckley and others) were able to talk about the ideas of freedom. As a result, I was just invited back to class for a 70-minute give-and-take classroom session on Libertarian ideas. (3) If you and I don't stand up to The State, it will only accelerate its intrusions into our lives. By taking a stand, we slow down the growth of the Leviathan state. This may be difficult to prove, empirically, but I am certain from my varied experiences as a tax protester and public speaker that when we stand up to the state, in sufficient numbers, they back off--ever so slightly. The surest way to slavery is to lie down and say "there's nothing we can do."

Now, for the negatives (and they're not so bad): (1) Don't let money rule your life. Professionals tell us that raising money is our main goal. I disagree. Al-

(Continued on page 2)

## EVENT CALENDAR



**The State Central Committee.** Contact State Chair Dana Johansen. Jan. 3, 1998, 11 a.m. at the Hyatt in Richmond.

**The LP of Fairfax County** will hold a social dinner, Monday, Jan. 19, 1998 at the Mustache Cafe, 6723 Richmond Hwy. Alexandria, VA Buffet Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Cash bar from 4-7 p.m. Informal dress. A speaker TBA. RSVP 703-329-6857. All are welcome.

**Patrick Henry Supper Club** The schedule now will be Tuesdays. The next meeting is Jan. 6, 1998. The emcee is Shelby McCurnin. At Morrisons Cafeteria, 8220 Midlothian turnpike, Richmond. Dinner begins at 6 p.m. and program begins at 7.

**Liberty Toastmasters.** Little Cafe at Arlington courthouse, on the 2nd and last Mondays of the month, 6:45 p.m., contact Bryant Cochran at 703-780-7587.

**On campus activism.** At the University of VA contact Jim Lark at 804-973-5958. At Washington and Lee, contact Wayne Dymacek at 703-463-6981.

**Libertarian Party of Prince William Co.** For more information, contact Phil Hodson 703-257-1712. Second Saturday of each month at 11AM at Bertucci's Pizza in Manassas.

**Tidewater Supper Club,** contact Sanford Pankin at 757-244-0516. Tidewater LP meets 2nd Saturday of every month at the Oasis Restaurant on Kikkopan Rd 7:00 pm.

**The Ballot Access Committee**, for details on next meeting, contact: Shelley Tamres, 703-450-0218

**Libertarians of Loudoun Co.** will be having their monthly get-together beginning at 6:30 pm at 108 Willow Place, Sterling, VA 20164. Shelley Tamres, 703-450-0218, shelleytam@aol.com.

**Jefferson Area Libertarians** For information, please contact Marianne Volpe, Chair, at 804-293-3976, or e-mail mev6e@avery.med.virginia.edu.

**Students for Individual Liberty,** Box 514, Newcomb Hall Station, Charlottesville, VA 22904, 804-982-5016, e-mail liberty@Virginia.edu <http://darwin.clas.virginia.edu/~liberty>

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**The Future of Freedom Foundation** See their ad in this issue. **The Vienna Coffee Club.** For details contact The Future of Freedom Foundation, 703- 934- 6101 or visit their web site at [www.fff.org/freedom/daily/](http://www.fff.org/freedom/daily/).

#### ATTENTION READERS OF VIRGINIA LIBERTY

Please send news articles, ads, information, and letters to : Virginia Liberty, 7011-A Manchester Blvd. Suite 1776, Franconia, VA 22310 or e-mail :74633.3520@compuserve.com. We will entertain letters to the editor of less than 250 words, articles less than 800 words, free ads no more than 3 lines. Please send all items to VA Liberty by the 5th day of the publication month. The editor reserves the right to make changes to any submissions in order to make this publication succinct. All affiliate parties are requested to send local news to be included in VA Liberty. Please send all address changes to the editor. PUBLICATION SCHEDULE: Feb 20 Tax Day activities, proposed LPVA Constitution changes for any planned convention. Apr 20 City Election issue, July 4 activities are planned, county fairs etc. June 20 The Re-up issue. Aug 20 This is a standard issue. Oct 20 the General Election issue. Dec 20 Holiday issue. VIRGINIA LIBERTY NEEDS YOU! In order to keep costs down, the editor has reduced the number of pages and will mail to LP members only. The editor asks for voluntary contributions to enhance this publication. Make checks to the LPVA and state that it is for VA Liberty. The address is LPVA, Box 28263, Richmond, VA 23228. Help us to reach future libertarians and provide a consistent vehicle for informing the LPVA membership of our fast growing and active state party.

#### VIRGINIA LIBERTY ADVERTISING RATES

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Single issue	Six issues-1 yr.
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1/8 page \$ 8.80	\$ 52
1/16page \$4.40	\$ 26

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### CLASSIFIED THE TOM PAINE CAUCUS

Join other LP members in the mid-Atlantic region interested in the classic libertarian ideas of Paine, Henry George, et al promoting liberty and a principled statement of ownership of the land within the LP platform. Contact Paul Gagnon at 703-329-6957 or e-mail 74633.3520@compuserve.com.

### LP OF FAIRFAX COUNTY SOCIAL

The LPFC will hold a social dinner at the Mustache Cafe, 6723 Richmond Hwy. on Jan 19, 1998, a federal holiday. An informal buffet dinner will start at 6:30 p.m. Speaker TBA. Dinner cost \$16 (cash or checks please) and dress is informal. Take 495 to exit one before the Wilson Bridge, south on Richmond Hwy. The cafe is a half a mile south and on the left, across from the Beacon Mall. Cash bar from 4-7 p.m. Please RSVP to 703-329-6857 before Jan. 19. All are welcome.

### OUR PRINTER

The Supply Room Companies, 4109 W. Clay St., Richmond, VA 23230.

*continued from pg. 1, Campaigns*

though I raised over \$4,000 from one mailing, I could have done all the public forums, above, without much money. We are the party of principles, of ideas, and those ideas don't cost money to share with others. Let us think in terms of influencing the debate, more than winning a contest. Think of the Socialists in 1928. They bent the debate in America for the next 50 years, but they never won an election. The Libertarian Party can be the prime influence on 21st Century politics, whether we "win" or not. (2) The state's threats of fines and prison are so much scare talk. Do all you can to obey their regulations, live a clean life, and chronicle all your income and expenditure, but don't let them terrorize you. Call their bluff. In a just world, small parties with limited money would be exempt from reporting anything under, say \$5,000, like taxpayers who don't file 1040 forms unless they earn \$15,000 or so. My own experience is that they break their own regulations far more often than we do, so they have no standing pretty picky with our forms. (3) Working without a net is risky, but the payoff is more votes. By just showing up and answering all questions and surveys, I was able to score 981 votes (about 5%). Just the name recognition and face-time can buy you that. Don't back off from any debate or encounter, even if you feel ill prepared. So, Virginians, GO FOR IT. Run in 1998 or 1999. Virginia needs you.

### CAMPAIGN CAVILS

by Marta Howard

I'm not the sort of person who can easily open her mouth in front of groups of strangers to talk about public policy, but the product I was selling is so compelling, and the advice and research I got from Paul, Bill, Irene and Nat (among many others) so reliable that I was rather easily motivated, and not as tempted by the usual traps with which I'm all too familiar from playing auditions over twenty years.

Bringing alternatives to statism to the voters is a high calling, and many, many of them were interested to hear about it. We all (particularly me and my 400-some supporters of Nov. 4) know what the political challenges are for Libertarians, but it was exciting and inspiring to talk to concerned individuals, and learn how similar our goals for government really are, and to propose some new ways to accomplish them. Making alliances with the biker gentlemen from ABATE, with members of the NVCDL and the NRA, and having long, substantive interviews with the Fraternal Order of Police and the Fairfax Journal were all gratifying experiences. The event highlight had to be the Vienna Halloween Parade, where my husband Nat drove me in our open convertible, escorted by nine hog-riding bikers, rounded up by Mike Niznik from ABATE. When "Born to be Wild" came on the radio and we all potted it up, placid Maple Ave. was transformed!

Many candidates' forums were ostensibly set-ups for the Rep. or Dem. candidate, but the attending voters were always respectful, and if they started out merely curious to hear the Lib-

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## IMPORTANT NAMES AND PHONE NUMBERS

**Dana Johansen**, LPVA State Chair- 2601 Wagon Dr. Alexandria, Va 22303. e-mail VETODJ@jml.com.703-960-9120.

**Tomas Estrada-Palma**, LPVA Vice-Chair, Woodbridge, 703-492-7095, e-mail testrada@citi.net.

**Marc Montoni**, LPVA Secretary, Ambassador@bigfoot.com. Call 804-264-1776.

**Scott Elston**, LPVA Treasurer. 2800 Aspinald Dr., Richmond, VA 23233

**Paul Gagnon**, Chair of LP of Fairfax County, 7011-A Manchester Blvd. Suite 1776, Alexandria, VA 22310, 703-329-NVLP. e-mail 74633.3520@compuserve.com

**Jay Rutledge**, Virginia Sixth District Friends of Liberty, 1823 Blenheim Rd., SW, Roanoke, VA 24015, 540-981-9213 e-mail is: noborders@gnn.com

LPVA, PO Box 28263, Richmond, VA 23228, 1-800-619-1776. web site is <http://www.lp.org> or <http://LPVA.com>

**Brad Barnhill** as the LAP (Local Affiliate Parties) Chair. 109 Shale Place, Charlottesville, VA 22902, 804-295-2312. e-mail bradbva@chv.mindspring.com.

**Marianne Volpe**, Jefferson Area Libertarians, 817 White Rock Rd. Charlottesville, VA 22902, 804-296-0955. e-mail: mev6e@virginia.edu

**Gail Hughes**, Chair of LP of Blue Ridge, 105 Buckskin Trail, Winchester, VA 22602, 540-877-2319. e-mail c/o Mary Watkins, LPBR secretary, witchdr@mmsinc.com.

**Philip Hodson**, Chair of LP of Prince William County, 11035 Edgepark Circle #301, Manassas, VA 20109, 703-257-1712. e-mail: philiphods@aol.com

**Shelley Tamres**. Ballot Access Chair, 703-450-0218. e-mail: shelleytam@aol.com. 108 Willow Place, Sterling, VA 20164.

LP National Headquarters, 202-333-0008

**Sanford Pankin**, Hampton Roads Libertarians, P.O. Box 5796, Newport News, VA 23605, 757-244-0516

**Stephanie Yanik**. Farlandria Libertarians, 683-9825

**Stew Engel**, newly forming LP of Fredricksburg, e-mail: stew@fls.mfi.net 303 1/2 Caroline St., Fredericksburg, VA 22401-6011 Fax: 540-374-9884 (call to arrange) Voice: 540-374-9884

### YOUR LPVA REPRESENTATIVES

Sanford Pankin, district 1 rep, King George. 757-244-0516  
Lennice Werth, district 4 rep, Crewe. 804-645-8816  
Gary Westmoreland, district 5 rep, Charlottesville, 804-296-0955  
Jay Rutledge, district 6 rep, Roanoke. 540-981-9213  
Irene Carpenter, district 8 rep, Alexandria. 202-334-4626  
Jim Lark, district 9 rep. 804-973-5958  
Shelley Tamres, district 10 rep, Sterling, 703-450-0218  
Matt Thexton, district 11 rep. 703-536-5030

## **LIBERTY TODAY TV**

**Hosted by Matt Thexton on channel 10 (Fairfax County Cable). The shows will air on the 3rd and 4th weeks of a month, a new show each week. Each show will air: Sunday 9:30 PM, Monday 6:00 PM, Wednesday 10:30 AM. Catch it!! Matt is looking for volunteers to be a part of the T.V. crew. On the job training provided. Call 703-536-5030.**

(Continued from page 2, campaigns)

ertarian approach to local issues, oftentimes they ended up telling me afterwards how our ideas were making them think. Would I do it again? Not without long conversations with my husband and my endocrinologist. Has campaigning had an effect on me? Yes, I can argue better now than I used to, and I'm more inclined to see a confrontation as a challenge than as an invitation to cut and run. And, boy, am I glad to play music again! Was it worth it overall? As one voter put it, "It's so good finally having someone to vote FOR!" I'd answer YES!

### **From the Chair: LEGISLATION WATCH**

"Dana Johansen" <vetodj@cais.com>

It is time again to start thinking of next year's legislative activity. I am seeking volunteers to keep an eye on various committees and review the bills submitted to each. Volunteers would be responsible for reading the bills (which can be found at the Legislative Information Service page of the state web site {URL <http://legis.state.va.us/>}), determining the libertarian or authoritarian content of each one, and making a proposal to the LPVA State Committee regarding whether the LPVA should support or oppose it. If the volunteer has a proposal for amendment of same, it may be included in the report. If this seems within your area of interest, please contact me. To request a copy of the help file, reply to this message and put "help" in the subject.

### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

contact: Marc Montoni, 804-264-1776

**1. Database Handlers for 2nd & 3rd Congressional Districts** We are looking for a database handler for the 2nd congressional district of the LP (part of Norfolk and all of VB). Wayne Schneider, the district chair, does not have a computer and needs someone who does have one to help him manage the 2nd District database. I would imagine the duties would be relatively light. The main tasks of the congressional district committees is to seek out candidates for congress in next year's elections, and also to assure that we have a presidential elector for that district when the next presidential election rolls back into town. The job of the database handler, therefore, would simply be to make sure the list stays clean for the time when a candidate needs to use it to mail to; and also to provide mailing labels when the time comes to do district mailings or congressional candidate mailings. Another task might be to encourage & support local affiliates in Norfolk and the Beach. lease e-mail (Marc Montoni <ambassador@bigfoot.com>) me immediately if you can take care of this item. NOTE: We also need the same for the 3rd District, but that one's a bit more complicated.

**2. Patrick Henry Supper Club worker.** I need someone to take over putting together the PHSC meeting notices --just the typesetting & mailing (or bringing personally) the camera-ready art to one of two volunteers who have access to high-speed copiers at work and have volunteered to handle photocopying tasks. I'll handle labeling & mailing. This implies that this volunteer would become the speaker-arranger also; and would therefore coordinate the lining up of the program with Mr. Lark.

**3. Local Affiliate Organizers.** Remember the old saying about how all politics is local? Well, it's true. We need to move more swiftly on setting up local affiliates in every county and city in the state so our members can begin working on running in more local and state races. If you are in a county or city that does not yet have an LP affiliate organized, here's your chance. The area that is covered by the Patrick Henry Supper Club is all available, because the Supper Club is not the property of nor an affiliate of the state LP. There's enough of us now, however, that I'd like to see people

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start splitting off into local groups, such as the Henrico County LP, the Richmond (city) LP, and so on. All you need is ONE other person to have the beginnings of a local committee. You don't have to be an expert at politics; just have a willingness to learn -- and do a bit of work to make it happen. Take a look at your local political representatives -- do you think they do a good job? You and I know YOU can probably do better. So roll up those sleeves, do some organizing, and let's start making the collectivists in the old parties really sweat. Contact Brad Barnhill for information about setting up a local affiliate in YOUR area. LPVA has startup money available, along with lists of LP members in your county/city for you to work with.

**4. CANDIDATES for 1998.** Any LP member may seek the LPVA's endorsement for a run for office. Being an LPVA-endorsed candidate has a few rewards; among them limited access to the LPVA mailing list for soliciting donations and volunteer assistance, and coordinated advertising funds for party-building in your election district. Please contact LPVA chair Dana Johansen, e-mail: [vetodj@cais.com](mailto:vetodj@cais.com) for information on how to be officially endorsed by the LPVA; and to see what resources we can let you use.

### LP BUSINESS DIRECTORY

**Harriet Cobb**, who is LPVA member # 001518 from Harrisonburg, is in the following business and would like to help other LP members with their needs:

Harriet Cobb, Ed. D.: Private psychotherapy practice includes psychotherapy for children, adults, couples, and families. 540-434-5141; email: [cobbhc@jmu.edu](mailto:cobbhc@jmu.edu).

**James Turney**, who is LPVA member # 010307 from Lorton, is in the following business and would like to help other LP members with their needs: Whole Systems Design, Inc: Website design/hosting & permanent e-mail address: <http://look.net> ; E-mail list discussions/announcements: <http://listserv.com>; E-mail auto-responders <http://emailondemand.com>. <http://threadeddiscussion.com> ; others.

Jim Turney [jim@look.net](mailto:jim@look.net); 888-LOOKNET; 703-339-5012.

**Paul Gagnon**, who is LPVA member # 060942 from Alexandria, is in the following business and would like to help other LP members with their needs: Gagnon Training & Development: mediation and conflict management for groups, companies; training in career transitioning, assertiveness training, team building, and communications. 703-960-2840, ext. \*3, e-mail [74633.3520@compuserve.com](mailto:74633.3520@compuserve.com).

**Paul McKnight**, who is LPVA member # 100224 from Arlington, is in the following business and would like to help other LP members with their needs: Buffalo Trading Group, INC: A small commodity brokerage dedicated to providing the best possible service for our clients. We help them buy and sell commodity futures and options contracts. THERE IS RISK OF SUBSTANTIAL LOSS IN TRADING FUTURES AND OPTIONS. 800-318-1952 fax: 703-841-2377; [Http://www/au.com/psm/](http://www/au.com/psm/).

**Sanford Pankin**, who is LPVA member # 101652 from Hampton, is in the following business and would like to help other LP members with their needs: Sanrabie Publications: Sanford Pankin: 757-244-0516.

**Chris Markwood**, who is LPVA member # 139280 from Sterling, is in the following business and would like to help other LP members with their needs: RE/MAX Distinctive Real Estate: I help buyers, sellers, landlords and renters with their real estate needs in the NoVA area. I also have a nationwide network of agents to help with out of the area moves. Discount for LP members: \$500 off listing commission, or \$500 credit/purch. dpmt. 703-404-4310; 703-404-1141 fax; e-mail [remaxchris@aol.com](mailto:remaxchris@aol.com).

**Gary Brown**, who is LPVA member # 186239 from Vienna, is in the following business and would like to help other LP members with their needs: International Postals Systems: ON BOARD AIR COURIER SERVICE - for parcels from an ounce to a few pounds; larger parcels, freight. Next-day desk-to-desk deliv in major Euro cities; 2-3 day deliv. to most of world. Hand delivery (legal deliv proof). Pkg over 2 lbs cheaper/faster than mail! Initial contact: Gary Brown,

[bbfnc@erols.com](mailto:bbfnc@erols.com) / 703-281-403

**Peter Thomas**, who is LPVA member # 208881 from Vienna, is in the following business and would like to help other LP members with their needs: Painless Computing Inc: Business Information Technology services covering the whole life-cycle. Needs analysis, specifications, purchasing, upgrade, support, expansion, & etc. Specialties include Win95/NT networks, Internet commerce. Discount: Free initial 1 hr consultation. 703-938-5543; [pete@painless-computing.com](mailto:pete@painless-computing.com); web url similar.

**Marta Howard**, who is LPVA member # 225964 from Vienna, is in the following business and would like to help other LP members with their needs: Chamber Music by Con Briol: Chamber Music & Lessons in Viola. E-mail: [Marta@pupworks.com](mailto:Marta@pupworks.com)

**James Vencill**, who is LPVA member # 233327 from Nokesville, is in the following business and would like to help other LP members with their needs: The Technology Group: Computer systems Integration; specializing in computer telephony Jim Vencill, 703-598-8162, e-mail: [jlvencill@mindspring.com](mailto:jlvencill@mindspring.com).

**Bill Lawry**, who is LPVA member # 529653 from Woodbridge, is in the following business and would like to help other LP members with their needs: Clearview Management Consulting Inc: On- and off-site Personal Computer hardware & software upgrades & repairs - website design & development - custom programming. Bill Lawry, 703-730-8530; [bill@inov8tn.com](mailto:bill@inov8tn.com).

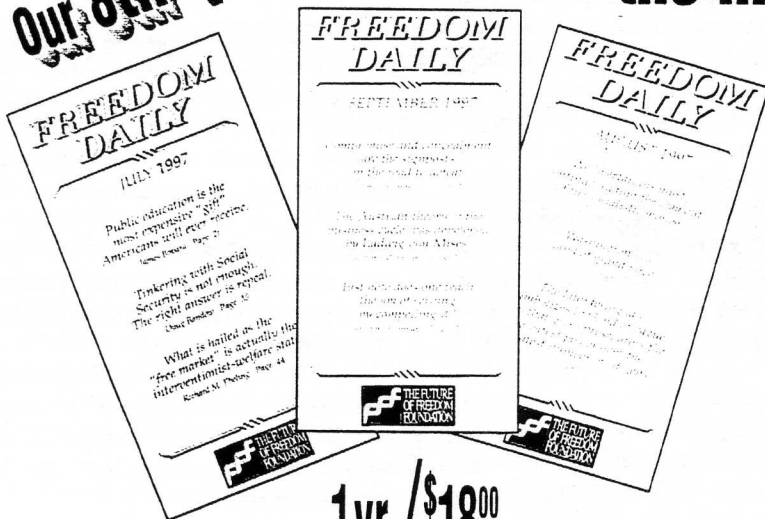
### CONVENTION BUSINESS

This is just a reminder that the LPVA bylaws require that any business to be conducted at a regular LPVA State Convention must be submitted to the State Central Committee in time to have it published at least one month prior to the Convention. So if you have a proposed bylaws change, or recommended Policy Statement Platform Plank, please write it up and have it ready to present to the SCC during its meeting in January or February of next year. You may mail it instead (at least two weeks prior to the meeting) to the SCC Secretary, Mr. Marc Montoni, at: LPVA POBox 28263 Richmond VA, 23228-0263

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**We Don't Compromise.**

# FROM THE EDITOR- Paul E. Gagnon

The 1997 campaign was a roller coaster of emotions. On one hand, our candidates in the LPVA have done some of our best work. Not only did they succeed in getting our message out the public, our candidates did it their way. Shelby McCurnin showed infectious exuberance. Gary Alexander was fiesty. Jim Vencill showed professionalism. Marta Howard was pure class. Robert Buchanan played the youthful rebel. Kip Karl was the impressive new kid on the block.

One more important thing. I decided to go ahead with the "In Your Face" campaign despite only two other contributors. The Karl, Alexander, and Howard campaigns put up our kelly green "Vote Libertarian" signs throughout Mt. Vernon and Reston. It was worth the money because it demonstrated the libertarian label is not a hindrance but a positive thing. So

wear the label proudly!

The 1997 campaigns also emphasized some problems for the LPVA. The need for campaigns to rely on support outside their districts and the state, says we need to do some serious party building. Libertarians in a three way race simply cannot compete in the fund raising area at this time. The volunteers were few but generous. Many members of the LPVA are not ready to commit to greater activism. Also, the media coverage was atrocious. We cannot expect sympathy from the mass media. We need a new, powerful way to get our message out to the public. Libertarian candidates can do quite well in two candidate races at the local level with a limited amount of funds. We must preprare for the opportunities in 1999. Our 1997 candidates have given us a great foundation.

# THE SAM ADAMS AWARD

Your editor has been aware of a youngster from Burke in Fairfax County who has generously given of his time and allowance to the cause of Liberty. Hoist a tankard of cold milk and munch a cookie for Josh. Merry Christmas Josh!

## THE EVOLUTION OF POLITICS?

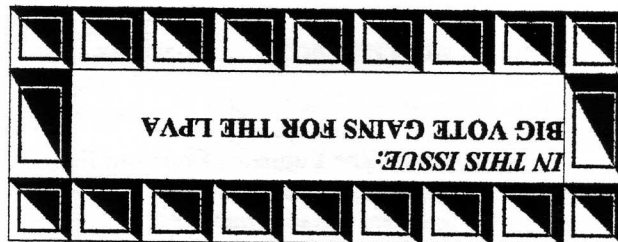
"Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom must, like men, undergo the fatigue of supporting it."

—Thomas Paine, libertarian

The U.S. must move toward ... "parental guardianship of the people"... who needed the "sustaining and guiding hand of the State,"

—Frank Munsey, a director of U.S. Steel, to Theodore Roosevelt in the 1912 campaign.

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Stew L. Engel  
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