



Virginia LIBERTY

The Official Newspaper of the Libertarian Party of Virginia * January/February 2003-04

McBride Campaign Sets Vote Record

by Chuck Eby

The McBride campaign set a new high water mark for Virginia Libertarian candidates going against both major parties.

Receiving nearly 20 percent of the vote, McBride topped by a large margin the previous mark of 15 percent set by Paul Gagnon in his 1991 race for Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. Although quite an accomplishment from an historical standpoint, it was not enough to claim victory in the race.

The Occoquan district seat of the Prince William County Board of Supervisors, vacated by the retiring Republican Ruth Griggs, was picked up by Republican Corey Stewart who defeated both McBride and Democrat Keith Scarborough. Stewart received 3,110 votes to Scarborough's 1,790 and McBride's 1,196.

Griggs surprised county Republicans last September when she withdrew her endorsement of Stewart, preferring instead to endorse Libertarian McBride.

In a letter to the Potomac News and Manassas Journal Messenger, Griggs called herself a "coward" for not endorsing McBride earlier. Saying that she had felt that

McBride was the better candidate all along, she had endorsed Stewart because she did not want to break with the Republican party.

"It took a lot of courage for Ruth to switch her endorsement," said McBride campaign manager Paul Miller. "To my knowledge, this type of endorsement is unprecedented in state party history. Ruth's courage showed that Robert was clearly the better candidate", he added.

McBride had also received the endorsement of the Northern Virginia Journal newspaper in October.

The campaign, one of the most exceptional in the history of the state party, was boosted by dozens of volunteers including forty who staffed the district's eight precincts on Tuesday. "I felt like the surfer dude with this great wave of energy pushing me along; all I had to do was keep my balance," said McBride to his volunteers at a post-election party Tuesday night.

Over the past several months, McBride and his volunteers were able to distribute campaign literature door-to-door to 23,000

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What's Inside. . .

- * 2004 Conventions -- LPVA and National LP
- * 2004 Candidate Call
- * Upcoming Local Events
- * 2004 Ballot Drive

Libertarian Elected in Botetourt

by Chuck Eby and Liz Bowles

Botetourt County Libertarian Jeff Bowles was elected Soil and Water Conservation District Director for the Mountain Castles District on November 4th. The final results were not released until November 6th.

Bowles decided to run a write-in campaign when he heard from the county registrar that there were two seats for director and only one declared candidate.

After discussing the idea with Jim Lark, who has been working closely with the new group, and Marc Montoni, who was elected as a Soil and Water Conservation District Director in the Lord Fairfax District in 2001, Bowles decided to seek the seat.

"At first it looked like very low-hanging fruit," explains

Bowles. "I thought I could ask my family, a few friends, and the members of our new affiliate to write me in, and that would be sufficient."

Things got a little more complicated when the local Republicans decided to run a write-in campaign with a very credible candidate as well. "We found out that we had a real race on our

hands the Wednesday before the election on Tuesday. At that point, I ordered some signs to put up at the entrances of the polls, and Liz (Bowles' wife) printed up 1,200 paper business-card-sized pieces with my name on them to give to voters at the polls. We sent

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Marc Montoni
Shaun Whelden
Steve Damerell

Contributors

Chuck Eby
James Lark
Ron Crickenberger

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We hold that all individuals have the right to exercise sole dominion over their own lives, and have the right to live in whatever manner they choose, so long as they do not forcibly interfere with the equal right of others to live in whatever manner they choose.

Contact Us

Libertarian Party of Virginia
4201 Wilson Blvd. Suite 110-164
Arlington, VA 22203-1859
Information requests only:
(800) 619 - 1776

<http://www.LPVA.com>

Chairman's Message

A Call to Action

Friends of freedom,

As we move out of the 2003 election cycle, there is good news from around the state. In Northern Virginia, Robert McBride fought a long, hard campaign and came away with almost 20% of the vote -- a new record for a 3-way partisan race by a Libertarian. And in Botetourt County, Jeff Bowles surprised us all by *winning* a race for Soil and Water Supervisor. There aren't many better surprises than finding out that a Virginia government board has a new voice of freedom to defend its citizens.

I spent the campaign season in northern Virginia, working

question -- what happens next? Do we stop here, or do we continue building on our success? **I want to see us**



you, our committed activists, not on special interests fighting for their slice of your money or power-hungry bureaucrats looking for new ways to threaten your freedoms under the guise of national security.

Virginians everywhere deserve real choices -- choices that voice a clear opinion against the size and intrusion of government. We can decide to *be* that choice, or we can let the status quo go unchecked, and watch quietly as our earnings and our rights are simultaneously drained.

Please read the news and announcements in this issue with hope. I'm excited about our prospects in 2004, but success and growth will only

"I want to see Libertarians all around Virginia next year working together for candidates that they can support without reservation."

as much as I was able for Robert McBride, and I saw something remarkable happen. Libertarians, not just from Robert's home of Prince William County, but from all around the area and even the state, came out in droves to support Robert because they knew that he was working hard and had a real chance at victory.

That victory didn't come for us this year, but something important happened nonetheless - *the Libertarian Party of Virginia came together and worked on real politics*. Honest citizens who were concerned about the growth of government came together, offering their money and their time to support a serious change. The internal debates that have consumed us far too often were put on the shelf by people who all agreed that Robert's work for liberty was much more important. All of those people were right, and they all deserve heartfelt thanks for pitching in.

But we're left with a new

keep growing. I want to see Libertarians all around Virginia next year working together for candidates that they can support without reservation -- candidates who remember Jefferson's timeless words that the government that governs least, governs best.

That's why I hope you'll take the announcements in this month's *Virginia Liberty* seriously. It's why I hope you can pledge to be a candidate, or to support our ballot drive next year with your time or financial support. The success of the LPVA rests on the shoulders of

follow from teamwork and the efforts of people like you.

As always, I'm absolutely open to contact from any members who want to discuss ideas or offers of help. If you want to be part of the LPVA's team of activists next year, please don't hesitate to contact me. These are trying times for liberty, but together, we can protect America's heritage.

Yours in liberty,

Steve Damerell
LPVA Chairman
Chair@LPVA.com

A brief note

This issue of *Virginia Liberty* was delayed due to staffing changes. Kevin Rollins has resigned from his position as editor to better focus on his own endeavors. The LPVA thanks Kevin for his work on this newsletter and wishes him the best as he moves onward.

Apologies to you, our loyal membership, for the delay you experienced in receiving this newsletter.

-Steve Damerell

Freedom Team 2004: Run For Office!

by **Ron Crickenberger**

LPVA Political Development Director

Wouldn't you like to see a Libertarian candidate in every spot on your ballot in 2004?

Don't you want the chance to vote for your ideal candidate?

One who truly understands the Constitution and the Bill of Rights? Who believes that freedom works and freedom is right? Whose stand on the issues matches your own pro-freedom on every issue all the time.

That ideal candidate is you!

Because people won't know we really want to win until we do the things a major party does. And one of those things is to run candidates in a majority of the districts and races across the state. We must do it to be taken seriously. And we can do it if you will join Virginia's team of Libertarian candidates for 2004.

The media and the public will take us much more seriously if we have 100 candidates competing rather than just one.

While we would like to see active, competitive campaigns in every district, there is still great value in filling every possible slot. Fielding full slates brings more media, more manpower, more money, and more credibility for the LP.

Time after time, we see that the more candidates a state runs, the more media they get, the better the average vote for all their candidates, the better the top of the ticket does, and, most importantly, the more Libertarians they elect. You will greatly help our effort even if your

campaign activities are limited to little more than getting your name

on the ballot.

Without candidates and campaigns, we are invisible.

Most Americans get their first exposure to Libertarian ideas through our campaigns. Running for office is the single most effective way to promote the freedom philosophy.

Don't stand by and let big government just keep getting bigger and bigger. Give your neighbors the chance to vote for a candidate they really want, instead of just a choice between two evils.

Don't fall into the trap of saying, "I'll run next year."

By next year they will have

raised your taxes again. By next year they will have taken away more of our gun rights. By next year they will have imprisoned hundreds of thousands more for victimless crimes.

THIS YEAR is the year for you to run for office!

Make sure your ideal candidate is on the ballot. Join the 2004 team of Libertarian candidates!

But do it now. Contact me -- today -- and I'll send you complete information on running for office in your area.

I'll personally help you get started with your campaign, and I will have continued

training and support available throughout the year.

Thank you for taking the time to read this article. I hope you will give running for office very serious consideration. And thank you for all your support for the Libertarian Party and the cause of freedom.

Here's how to get in touch with me:

Ron Crickenberger
7007 Ellen Ave
Falls Church, VA 22042-1852
(703) 536-1777
Ron@RonCrickenberger.com

2004 ELECTIONS -- A SUMMARY

May 4th, 2004 Local Elections (Primary February 10)

City Council (34 cities) (terms vary - set by Charter)

City School Boards (18 cities) (terms same as City Council)

Town Council (171 towns) (terms vary - set by Charter)

City or Town Mayor

Town Treasurer

Town Recorder (Clerk) If required by Charter (terms vary - set by Charter)

November 2nd, 2004 State & National Elections (Presidential Primary February 10, all other primaries June 8)

President (4-year term)

U.S. Representative (11) (2-year term)

County Board (Arlington) (4-year term)

County School Board (Arlington) (4-year term)

City Council (4 cities) (terms vary - set by Charter)

City School Board (2 cities) (terms vary - set by Charter)

Town Council (7 towns) (terms vary - set by Charter)



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by Marc Montoni

Arlington County

Meeting Info: Regular meetings, but the group is looking for a new venue. For more information: Shaun Whelden, 703-534-1488, or shaunw@liberateschool.com.

Botetourt County

LP member Jeff Bowles beat a Republican for a seat on the Mountain Castles Soil & Water Conservation District (see the article in this issue). Jeff joins Shenandoah County LP member Marc Montoni on our list of elected officeholders. The Bowles were pleased to find a very nice article in their local paper about Jeff's win on November 15th.

"It had Libertarian in the headline," said Ms. Bowles. The Botetourt County LP also staged a traditional reading of the Bill of Rights on the courthouse steps on December 15th.

Meeting Info: Regular meeting is the 3rd Tuesday of each month, 6:30 pm, at the Fincastle Library, 11 Academy St., Fincastle. For more information: Liz Bowles, 540-473-3510, or liz_bowles@hotmail.com.

Charlotte County

Local Affiliate Parties Chairman Jim Lark attended the inaugural meeting of the Charlotte County Libertarian Party on Wednesday, November 26. Among others, Natalie Raven, Dave Overstreet (chair of the Lynchburg Libertarian League), and Dr.

Lark were there. The group discussed setting up outreach info tables at some festivals in Charlotte County and Prince Edward County next spring. Such tables could be very helpful both in terms of recruiting interested people and petitioning to put the LP presidential ticket on the ballot. Ms. Raven intends to gather information about these events. At least one newspaper in the area ran an announcement about the meeting, based upon a



Jeff Bowles speaks at the Botetourt County LP's Bill of Rights Day ceremony

press release sent by Ms. Raven. Individuals interested in helping this local group may contact John Spadavecchia: 434-248-6610, or CharlotteCounty@LPVA.com.

Charlottesville

The Jefferson Area Libertarians (JAL) sponsored a celebration of the Bill of Rights on Saturday, December 6, 2003, from 3 to 4 pm, on the steps of the University of Virginia Rotunda. The celebration was open to the public. The JAL found several cosponsors for the event -- such as the Rutherford Institute, The Liberty Coalition, The Individual Rights Coalition, and the Jefferson Leadership Foundation. Following the celebration was a presentation

hosted by the Jefferson Area Libertarians and the Liberty Coalition. For more information about this event, please contact JAL Chair James Curtis (see information below).

Meeting Info: The Jefferson Area Libertarians hold regular meetings & social events, time and location by announcement. For more information: James Curtis (434-2954144 or 434-973-5958), JAL@LPVA.com, or <http://www.jalibertarians.org/index.html>.

Fairfax County

Members of the Fairfax County LP selected their County Committee officers for the next year on November 8, 2003. Members elect the county committee and then the committee selects its own chairman. Fred Childress, Chuck Eby and Jim Turbett were re-elected to the County Committee while Paul Cox, Dana Johansen, and Marianne Volpe were elected to join them. A seventh candidate for the committee (Marta Howard) withdrew. Immediately following the Convention the new County Committee met and appointed Dana Johansen to the chairmanship.

The monthly Fairfax Potluck social began immediately following the LPFC meeting. 25 people, including LPVA Chairman Steve Damerell and Vice Chairman Leonard Harris, attended and enjoyed good food and conversation (as well as a rare Lunar Eclipse).

Meeting Info: Regular meeting is the 3rd Monday of each month, 6:45 pm, at the Harvest Moon Restaurant, Falls Church. This group also sponsors

the Northern Virginia Volunteer Party, which always falls on the Saturday before the regular meeting. For more information: Dana Johansen 703-960-9120, Fairfax@LPVA.com.

Gloucester/Mathews Counties

LPVA member Kevin Arden is currently serving as the contact person for these two counties. Individuals interested in helping with a local group should contact Kevin: 804-693-4004 or kevinarden@yahoo.com.

Lynchburg

Meeting Info: Regular meetings are on the 2nd Monday of the month, at 6:30 pm. Location is the Monte Carlo Restaurant across from Applebee's on Old Forest Road, in Lynchburg. For more information: Dave Overstreet, 540-587-7597, or Lynchburg@LPVA.com.

Martinsville/Henry County

Terry Nelson is the LP contact for the city of Martinsville and Henry County. Individuals interested in helping with this local group should contact Terry: 276-956-5735, or tnelson_2000@yahoo.com.

New River Valley

Meeting Info: Regular meeting is the 2nd Monday of each month, from 6-8pm, at Bogen's Restaurant, downtown Blacksburg. For more information: Bob Tipton, 540-552-1685, NewRiver@LPVA.com, or <http://www.nrvliberty.org/>.

Northern Neck

Michael O'Quinn is the local contact in the area; no local meetings are currently held. For more information: Michael O'Quinn, 804-443-1965, or NorthernNeck@LPVA.com.

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Decide the future of the Libertarian Party

Become a National Convention delegate

The Libertarian Party is your voice in American politics -- and you can be among the people who decide what that voice will say. Become a delegate to the 2004 National Convention in Atlanta, Georgia -- and help your Party to chart its course for the next two years.

To become part of the Virginia delegation, an LP member must appear before the LPVA members assembled at the State Convention, and be elected to be either a Delegate or Alternate.

Under National LP rules, all Delegates must be members of either the national or state LP;

and they must register at the Convention.

The Virginia LP has been notified by National that we are entitled to send forty-nine delegates to the national convention. If you do not want to be "first in line," we are also able to send up to fifty Alternate delegates. Alternates will be asked to sit in our delegation if a primary delegate is unavailable.

For more information about becoming a candidate to be a Virginia delegate, please contact Steve Damerell, LPVA Chairman, at Chair@LPVA.com or (703) 851-4674.

Get Local!

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Prince William County

Robert McBride wrapped up his campaign for the PWC Board of Supervisors (Occoquan District).

Meeting Info: Regular meeting is 2nd Monday of each month, Pizzeria Uno, 2680 Prince William Pkwy, Woodbridge, VA 22192. The Social Hour kicks off at 7:00 p.m., business meeting begins at 7:30. For more information: Kathy Mullin, 703-221-9875,

PrinceWilliam@LPVA.com or <http://princewilliam.lpva.com>.

Richmond City LP

For more information: Greg Kontos, 804-355-1637, Richmond@LPVA.com, or see <http://www.richmondliberty.org/>

Richmond Metro Libertarians

Social Hour: The Richmond Libertarians have taken over the former Henrico LP weekly Social Hour. It remains successful, with attendance of a half-dozen to a dozen freethinkers every week. Meeting Info: Every Friday at Starbucks, 3555 West Cary St. (Carytown), Richmond. 6:00 - 7:00pm (6:00-6:30 informal business session). For more information: Leonard Harris, 804-266-6572, Richmond@LPVA.com, or <http://www.richmondliberty.org/>.

Patrick Henry Supper Club: Next meeting is scheduled for January 6, 2004. Join the Richmond Libertarians as they hear from Parrish Mort, who will speak about "Avoiding the Government School Monopoly." Meeting Info: 1st Tuesdays of each month, 6:00 pm for group dinner, 7:00 pm for the meeting, China Buffet, 7586 W. Broad St., Richmond, VA 23294 (in Merchants Walk Shopping Center) Tel: (804) 672-6688. For more information: Leonard Harris, 804-266-6572, leonard

@richmondliberty.org, or <http://www.richmondliberty.org/>.

Roanoke Valley

Meeting Info: 1st Mondays of each month, 6:30 pm 8:00 pm, at the Roanoke County Public Library on Electric Rd, Roanoke County. For more information: Charles or Angell Pasley, 540-767-1776 <Roanoke@LPVA.com>.

Shenandoah County

Shenandoah LP chairman Marc Montoni, currently one the LPVA's two elected officeholders, continues to attend the Lord Fairfax Soil and Water District monthly meetings where he is a Director. The Shenandoah Libertarians publish a newsletter, and they have had many letters to the editors of local papers printed recently. Meeting Info: By announcement -- call, write, or email to be added to the list. For more information: Marc Montoni, 540-984-4608, or <Shenandoah@LPVA.com>.

Tidewater

The Tidewater Libertarian Party holds two meetings each month (in Virginia Beach on the first Saturday, in Norfolk on the third Saturday). Communications Director Robert Dean says the Virginia Beach meetings continue to break records.

Dean announced recently the plans to celebrate "Bill of Rights Day" on December 13. "We owe so much to George Mason as one of the first protectors of our individual liberties, and the author of Virginia's Constitution, that we feel special recognition is deserved to highlight the great Ten Amendments," Dean said. "We should also recognize the efforts of another great American, James Madison, who ushered the amendments through Congress." The Tidewater LP is doing the job right, too -- beginning on Tuesday,

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2004 Ballot Drive in Full Swing

by Marc Montoni

On January 2, Libertarians in Virginia were permitted by state law to begin petitioning to place our candidates for President and Vice President on the Virginia general election ballot.

Successful petitioning means picking the time, days, and location carefully.

Location matters for most petitioning -- you want a high-traffic spot where you can ask large numbers of people.

Downtown malls are frequently excellent places to petition during lunchtime -- especially in spring and summer when workers take their lunch breaks outside. Plus, most downtown malls are public property -- which means the petitioner can petition without interference (which is not always the case when petitioning on private property).

Gun show visitors are also usually receptive to Libertarians -- many gun owners are now fully aware that only Libertarians stand with them at all times, and they are more willing to sign than many crowds.

Rock concerts at downtown stadiums are great for high numbers, but as most of the

patrons are young, many are unsure of their voting status and so the validity rate may be lower.

Two important dates stand out as excellent petitioning days -- the primaries for the May 4 and November 2 general elections. On February 10, the presidential primaries (if the Democrats and Republicans choose to select their candidates by primary, that is) will be held across the state. This primary will offer us an excellent chance to get nearly 100% valid signatures.

The LPVA will have plenty of blank petitions and other materials available for LP members interested in petitioning. For more information, contact the Petition Coordinator, Jim Lark, at PO Box 274, Free Union, VA 22940; call 434-973-5958; or email <JWLark@Virginia.edu>.

Incidentally, there will be various "rewards" programs offered by various LP members and perhaps even the state committee itself, for LPVA members who collect large numbers of signatures or who manage to collect certain numbers very rapidly.

So don't miss out -- get those petitions from Jim and hit the streets!

enough in the waning days before the election to mail out thousands of ads attacking McBride as a member of a party that wants to abolish public schools and legalize drugs.

McBride singled out his campaign manager Tuesday night. "Special thanks to the giant brain behind this all, the Sherry Lewis to my Lambchop, Mr. Paul Miller," said McBride. Although this was Miller's first campaign as manager, he showed adept skill at the position, and worked long, hard hours on McBride's behalf.

McBride

Continued from page 1

households in the district. This was augmented by 26,750 pieces of direct mail, six large newspaper advertisements including the whole back cover of the Potomac News 2003 campaign special section, and 10,000 phone calls to likely voters.

The campaign can count another first for the state party - attack ads by the opposition. Stewart took the threat by the McBride campaign seriously

State Central Committee meets in Fredericksburg October 18

The State Central Committee is the policymaking body of the LPVA.

Voting SCC members in attendance: Steve Damerell, Chair; Leonard Harris, Vice Chair; Kevin McKenna, Treasurer; Kevin Rollins, Proxy for Secretary; Stew Engel for the 1st Congressional District (CD); Tom Cantrell, CD2; David Hultstrom, CD3; James Curtis, CD5; Marc Montoni, CD6; George Marchenko, CD7; Dana Johansen, CD8; James Lark, CD9; Philip Hodson, CD10; Bill Lawry CD11. Non-Voting: Shaun Whelden, Communications Committee; Jim Turbett, Address Corrections Manager; Marianne Volpe, and one additional guest (name not captured).

At this meeting, the SCC:

- Considered (but did not adopt) an expulsion procedure.
- Approved a new contribution of \$3,000 from the General Fund to the McBride campaign; and added the provision that any leftover funds had to be returned to LPVA. On a roll call vote, all voted "Aye" except the 8th CD chairman, who abstained.

- Directed the Treasurer

to create a standing fund line called "Communications Committee"; and transferred \$ 500 to this fund from the General Fund. The funds are to be used for operating expenses authorized by the Chairman of the Communications Committee.

- Directed the Treasurer to create a standing fund line called "Political Development Committee" and transferred \$ 1,700 to this fund from the General Fund. The funds are to be used for operating expenses authorized by the Chairman of the Committee. The SCC also required that any revenue from the Campaign Committee's letters shall be returned to the General Fund.

- Authorized the Treasurer to move \$379.08 to the 2003 Special Convention fund from the General Fund, and thence to close out all accounting on the 2003 Special Convention.

- Scheduled its next meeting for Saturday, January 17, 2004, with a snow day of January 24, in Fredericksburg, with exact details TBD by chair.

The meeting adjourned at 4:58 PM.

Got a response?

Send Letters to the Editor to:

newsletter@LPVA.com

or

The Libertarian Party of Virginia
attn: Newsletter Editor
4201 Wilson Blvd, Suite 110-164
Arlington, VA 22203-1859

The Book Nook

Guns Save Lives: True Stories of Americans Defending Themselves with Firearms

by Shaun Whelden

"Now, with the deranged stalker inside her house, Elizabeth Magruder knew it was life or death. She raced to the closet in her bedroom, with Cook only a step behind. She reached up to the shelf where she'd hidden the gun. She got it just in time. Cook clutched at her, grabbing her by the throat. He pulled her to him, placing her in a chokehold. As he held her in a death grip, Elizabeth twisted toward him, placed the gun against his chest and squeezed the trigger."

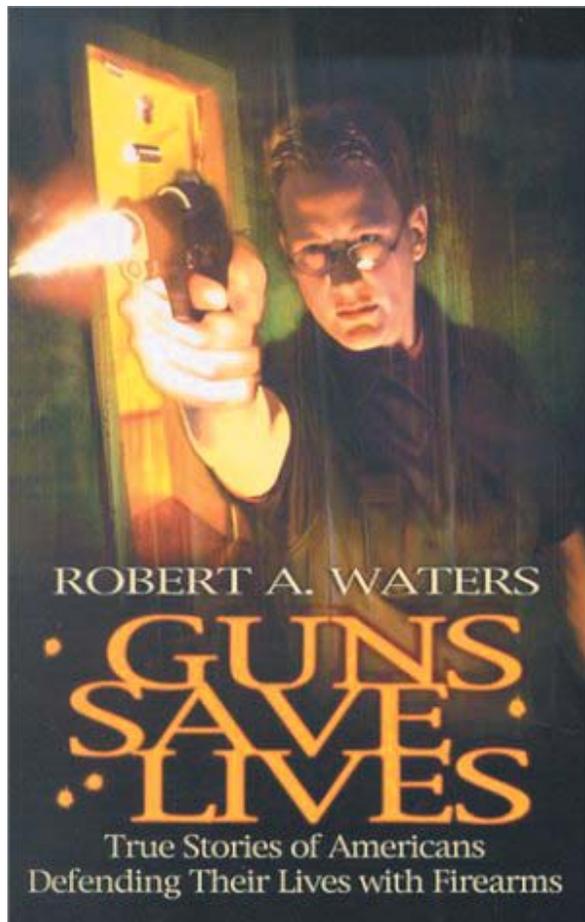
This is an excerpt from one of many stories contained in *Guns Save Lives: True Stories of Americans Defending Their Lives with Firearms*, by Robert

Waters. The book is an engaging collection of true stories of armed Americans resisting violent criminals.

This book is an entertaining read. Each story is detailed, and well written. But you should buy this book for more than just the amusement it will provide; you should buy it as a tool to add to your toolbox in our struggle against the radical anti-gun fanatics.

Libertarians are lucky, because when it comes to gun rights, the facts are on our side. But it seems like just about every other day, the evening

news has another sad story to tell about a little kid shooting his or her self with a gun. And when they want to flash some gun-violence statistics on the



screen, where do they get it from? Why, Handgun Control, Inc. (or whatever the heck they're calling themselves these days), the spawn of the notoriously anti-gun (except of course when she was caught buying one) Sarah Brady. HCI is infamous for exaggerating, playing word games, and even flat out fabricating statistics. The mainstream media has made their anti-gun agenda clear, so we can't expect any favors from them. So when debating gun control with a brainwashed victim of this TV culture of ours, it is important that we be able to counter the

anti-gun horror tales they've heard on the news with the stories they haven't heard; about regular Joes (and Janes) using firearms to protect their lives, the lives of others, and their homes. This book will give you plenty of stories to pass along to others. And if you're not much of a talker, just pass the book along. It should speak for itself to anyone who has an open mind on the issue... well, that and the statistics, anyway.

So if your favorite column in your NRA Magazine is "The Armed Citizen", this book is for you. The stories are detailed with the use of excellent imagery. It is published by Loompanics Unlimited. If you purchase this book directly from them, they'll send you a neat

catalog every so often filled with a bunch of other great books.

Now, there was one aspect of this book that totally stunk: the price... ABSOLUTELY RIDICULOUS! \$15.95 for a 168-page paperback!?

How do these folks stay in business charging such outrageous prices? If you don't want to pay full price, you might be able to find a used copy book on eBay, Half.com, or Amazon.com. If you do want to pay full price (because you want to receive those catalogs), visit <http://www.loompanics.com>. One way or another, I wholeheartedly recommend this book.

This article contains a brief excerpt from "Guns Save Lives: True Stories of Americans Defending Themselves with Firearms" by Robert Waters. Published by Loompanics Unlimited. Copyright 2002 by Robert A. Waters.

Excerpt included for the purpose of critiquing a literary work, in accordance with Fair Use provisions of copyright law. Proper credit has been given.

Local

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December 2, the TLP will send out one of the 10 Amendments each weekday to the media, in the form of a short essay espousing the virtues of the Amendment. It is our hope that the Tidewater school systems will read one of them during morning announcements and that government teachers will begin their class by reading and briefly discussing each of them with their students. TLP also asked Tidewater radio talk-show personality (and libertarian) Tony Macrini to do the same on the 10

days leading up to December 15.

Meeting Info: Two regular meetings are held each month; one for Virginia Beach residents (first Saturdays, Old Country Buffet, 1952 Laskin Rd., Virginia Beach), and one for those in Norfolk (third Saturdays, House of Eggs, 3320 N. Military Hwy., Norfolk, 757-857-1510). Both meetings take place at 8:30am for breakfast, and 9:00am for the meeting. For more information: Kim Oliver, 757-422-1317, <Tidewater@LPVA.com>, or <http://www.TidewaterLP.com>.

Affirmative Action Bake Sale Sparks Controversy

From a Report In LPNews
Edited by Marc Montoni

Williamsburg - November 24, 2003 - Libertarians at the College of William and Mary in Virginia have cooked up a controversy. Or rather, baked up a controversy.

An Affirmative Action Bake Sale conducted by the libertarian group Sons of Liberty was shut down by the administration on November 8.

Sons of Liberty members hosted the event in the University Center lobby, selling cookies and brownies at different prices for different racial and ethnic groups. For example, whites paid more than blacks or Hispanics.

Administration officials showed up at 3:00 pm, and told the libertarians they were in violation of the school's anti-discrimination policies. The group was ordered to sell the baked goods for the same price for everyone. Rather than comply, they closed up shop.

"The whole point was to show how affirmative action itself was racist," Sons of Liberty

cofounder William Coggin told the student newspaper, the Dog Street Journal. "The point of the stand was obvious."

Another Sons of Liberty cofounder, Pat Reilly, said he was surprised by the hubbub.

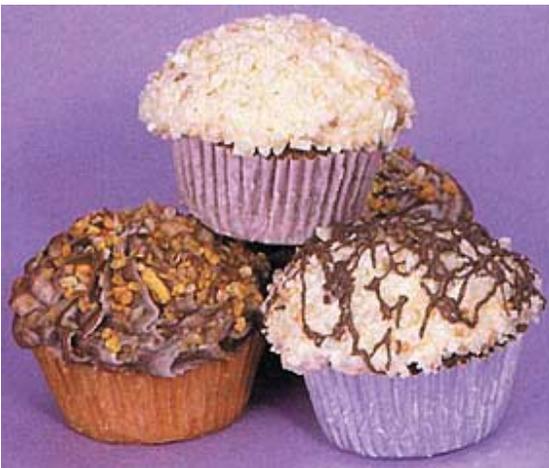
"I didn't think anyone would be offended by the price of a cookie," he said. "The point of the bake sale was just to raise awareness. It was not to offend anybody."

The bake sale put the "college community up in arms," according to the Dog Street Journal. The Student Assembly Senate even passed a resolution condemning the libertarians.

The College of William and Mary is located in Williamsburg. About 7,500 students attend the school.

Among Libertarians,

reactions were mixed. On the LPVA's public discussion email list (The Forum), Northern Virginia LP member Myron Pauli said that the university may not have been completely out of bounds. "The W&M students were



engaged in a 'commercial activity' - e.g. a 'bake sale' - which is not protected by the 1st Amendment," Pauli wrote.

Pauli thinks the Sons could have used a loophole to get around that: "If there was a bake sale where 'blacks' paid 50 cents and 'whites' paid \$1 (for example), it is non-discriminatory if they also

state that everyone has a right to declare himself/herself to be black, white, male, female, gay, straight, etc. regardless of race, creed, color, sex, etc. Then anyone who wants to pay the lower (or higher) price can just declare themselves to be a 'black lesbian Islamic communist transsexual from Mars'. The discrimination, in that case, is merely symbolic and then the University is punishing symbolic speech rather than a discriminatory commercial practice."

Others were disappointed by the conciliatory tone of the Sons. Jeff Pfeiffer of Shenandoah County noted a line in another article on the event, where sophomore Pat Reilly, co-founder of the Sons of Liberty and organizer of the bake sale, said "If they were offended, I'm honestly and deeply sorry."

Pfeiffer wrote, "Apologize to the real racists and bigots who support state sponsored racism? Affirmative Action is nothing [more than] state sponsored racism. Never apologize! ATTACK!"

Bowles

Continued from page 1

out email to everyone we had addresses for in the county and attached a sheet of the handouts, asking them to copy them and hand them out, too."

Election day was a long one. Liz worked all day at the poll in Fincastle where the Bowles vote, while Jeff traveled to several other larger precincts. Their 19-year-old son, Brad, worked several hours at the polls and voted for the first time. "It was great to have a chance to vote and work for a Libertarian, who also happens to be my dad, in my first election."

It worked. Bowles won 233-202 over the Republican write-in candidate.

Bowles' wife, Liz, who is the coordinator of the new affiliate, believes that the success was due to the candidate and not particularly to the last-minute campaign.

"At the risk of sounding like the adoring wife, which of course I am, I have to say that Jeff is an ideal candidate. He has a long history of public and civic service. He is currently an EMT and volunteers with the local rescue squad. He was elected to the Town Council in Fincastle and was appointed to the Governor's Board on Migrant and Seasonal Farm

Workers. In the eighteen years that we have lived here, he has been President of the Chamber of Commerce, Master of the Catawba Masonic Lodge, a coach and the Roanoke Region Treasurer of Odyssey of the Mind/Destination Imagination, a soccer and Little League coach, an actor with Attic Productions (the local community theater group), a volunteer firefighter,

and a member of various committees for church and civic groups. He also worked at the local community bank, rising to the level of Senior VP/CFO before accepting a CFO position at a ski resort and then starting his own company. I grew up here, but Jeff knows everybody. All we had to do was let them know he was running and how to write him in."

Libertarian Radio!

Head to <http://www.freedomworks.uni.cc/>, Saturday mornings at 7 AM to hear "FreedomWorks! The Libertarian Perspective," hosted by Florida-based Libertarians Michael Gilson de Lemos and Paul Molloy.

Call in at 1-866-TAN-1340.

Take our children off the Drug War battlefield

by Ron Crickenberger

Police pointing guns at children as they lay face down on the floor is what we expect to see in propaganda films about the Gestapo of WWII, not in the halls of our own high schools. I'm glad that former congressman Bob Barr finds this image "deeply disturbing" [Creative Loafing, Nov 20, '03]. But Mr. Barr still does not seem to realize that it was his drug prohibitionist zealotry while in the US House that has led inexorably to such horrifying incidents as the Nov. 5 drug raid on Stratford High School in Goose Creek, S.C.

Barr decries the raid on students as an "overreaction." Yet he was Congress' most ardent drug warrior and its chief proponent of sending armies of armed agents to raid medical marijuana clinics in California. The clinics, legal under state law, were the victims of the same SWAT team tactics as seen at Stratford High School. In one raid on a hospice, police pointed weapons at an elderly invalid, shouting at her to get out of bed with her hands up, while she vainly tried to

explain her paraplegia would not allow her to do so.

Where is the dividing line between a drug raid on the sick and dying, which Congressman Barr stridently supported, and a drug raid on equally terrified students, which Mr. Barr condemns?

Barr, to his credit, does seem to recognize that there are excesses in the drug war. But condemning excesses in the drug war is like condemning the excesses of slavery. The problem 200 years ago was not that we had too many slaves, but that slavery itself was wrong.

Prohibition itself is also wrong. Abraham Lincoln said, "Prohibition goes beyond the bounds of reason in that it attempts to control a man's appetite by legislation and makes crimes out of things that are not crimes. A prohibition law strikes a blow at the very principles upon which our government was founded."

We all learned in high school about the effects on society of the "noble experiment" of alcohol prohibition: the rise of organized crime, drive-by shootings, corruption of the courts, payoffs to police who could not resist the lure of easy

money, and assassination of those who could. Despite the law, alcohol consumption did not decrease. It merely shifted from beer and wine to easier to smuggle hard liquor and the contaminated bathtub gin that blinded thousands.

Our current politicians, and Mr. Barr while in Congress, seem blinded to the obvious fact that we have all the same problems again, thanks to the new prohibition of the War on Drugs. Perhaps Mr. Barr's new softer, saner stance is due to his having more time to reflect since leaving office. Or perhaps he realizes he lost his primary bid, in part at least, due to the Libertarian Party's advertising campaign pointing out his extremist views on medical marijuana.

We can hope that Mr. Barr will come to recognize the role he played in creating the societal attitudes that could allow the Goose Creek raid to happen. And we can hope he will continue to move toward the more rational drug policies that will make our streets safer from gang violence and our high schools safer from police violence.

For there are really only two directions for drug policy.

We can have prohibition, and the violent, uncontrolled black market that inevitably results. We can continue to arrest the terminally ill just for trying to alleviate their pain. And we can terrorize more students with raids.

Or, much like alcohol, we can have the controlled regulation that is inherent in the free market. It's not a perfect solution. But just as with the repeal of alcohol prohibition, it recognizes the reality that the consequences to society from drug prohibition are even worse than from drug use itself.

As a Libertarian, I believe in legalization and a move to free markets instead of black markets as the best way to ameliorate our drug problems. But while we have a war on drugs, what sense does it make to target the least powerful among us? Can't we at least take our children and students, and the sick and dying off the battlefield?

Join the Libertarian Party

To become a dues-paying member of the Libertarian Party, fill in and return this form together with \$25. You will receive 12 issues of LP News.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

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The Libertarian Party is the party of principle. To publicly affirm what we believe -- and to ensure that our party never strays from our principles -- we ask our members to proudly sign this statement:

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

Government Mandated Notice

The Federal Election Commission 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. The IRS requires us to print "contributions are not tax-deductible" on all fundraising appeals.

Signature _____

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Grow awareness of your
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Who Paid the Baker's Taxes?

by Don Tabor

It certainly wasn't the baker, but then nobody directly pays their own taxes anyway. Our entire scheme of Federal, State and Local income taxes and payroll (FICA) taxes exists solely to conceal from the voter the truth about who really pays the taxes. So, who pays the baker's taxes?

Well, where does the loaf of bread he sells come from? A farmer grew and harvested wheat for sale to the miller. The farmer paid income taxes based on his profit from the sale and property tax on his farm and equipment. Those taxes were, from his point of view, just another cost of doing business in the course of earning his living, just like fuel for his tractor or wages for employees. Since every other farmer had roughly the same expenses and taxes, the price they charge the miller must cover their expenses and taxes, plus their actual

disposable income. Otherwise, there would be no point in growing wheat. All of these costs and taxes were passed on to the miller, hidden in the price of wheat.

Likewise, when the miller sold the flour ground from the wheat to the baker, his taxes, plus the income and FICA taxes he withheld from his employees, plus the farmer's taxes, were all passed on to the baker. The baker then sells his bread made from the flour, carrying with it his own taxes plus those of his employees, plus all those previous hidden taxes from the farmer, miller and their employees, hidden in the price of that loaf of bread. The buyer and his family eat the bread, and, having done so, cannot sell it to anyone else and pass the taxes along, as the baker and everyone else before had done.

So, it is the consumer who paid the baker's taxes, along with the farmer's taxes, the miller's taxes and the taxes

they withheld from all of their employees. From bread to automobiles to brain surgery, the price of everything we buy carries in it the hidden taxes of everyone who contributed to the production of that product or service to the tune of, on average, forty cents out of every dollar we spend. Our entire complex, pervasive and expensive tax code is, in reality, a scheme to draft businesses and individuals as unpaid and unknowing tax collectors to gather a hidden sales tax, mostly from the middle class, and to keep the voters from realizing who really pays those high taxes.

There is no way around this central reality that all income and business taxes are a deception and that all taxes are eventually paid by the consumer, hidden in the price of goods and services. It doesn't matter what tax rate is applied to which tax bracket, or what deductions you receive. These devices only change the degree

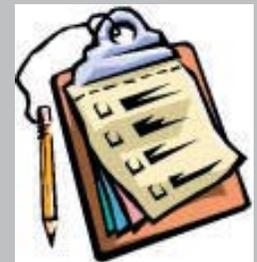
to which you are a tax collector, but the tax you ultimately pay depends solely on what you spend.

Paying this consumption tax is unavoidable, but the illusion of income based taxing does a great deal of harm. First, it distorts our economic decisions. Goods and services that are labor intensive, like automobiles and health care, are artificially more expensive than necessary, while raw materials and natural resources are under priced, leading to over consumption and waste. But even worse, hidden taxes distort the political process, encouraging government overspending by politicians who exploit the mistaken belief of many voters that government spending can be paid for solely by taxing corporations or the "rich." Voters might well choose differently were they aware that government spending is ultimately paid for by everyone, through an invisible sales tax.

Look Inside!

Enclosed in this month's *Virginia Liberty*, you'll find:

- One copy of the LPVA's 2004 Presidential petition
- A sheet full of handy instructions and pointers to go out petitioning



Our success depends on your help!

See full article on page 6 or the enclosed sheet to find out why volunteer signatures are crucial to our ballot drive -- and how easy it is for you to gather them.

Questions?

Contact Petition Coordinator Jim Lark:
(434) 973-5958 or JWLark@Virginia.edu

2004 LPVA Convention

Friday, March 26

7:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.: Hospitality Suite (sponsored by Richmond Metro Area Libertarians) Open to all LPVA members at no charge, although donations will be greatly appreciated.

Saturday, March 27

8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.: Registration; continental breakfast

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.: Welcoming remarks; "The State of the L.P.Va." address

10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.: Presentation on the McBride campaign

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.: Presidential candidate forum

12:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.: Lunch break (no luncheon scheduled)

1:45 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.: Business session:

Consideration of constitutional changes

Election of officers

Election of delegates to national convention

Consideration of resolutions

4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.:

- Meeting of State Central Committee

- "Fireside Chat" with Nolan and Badnarik (if available -- TBA)

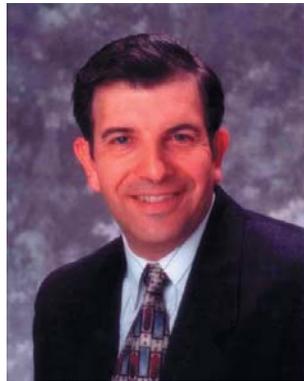
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.:

Reception (cash bar)

6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.:

Banquet and fundraiser

Speaker: James Bovard



Michael Badnarik

When? March 26-27, 2004

Where? Richmond Marriott

500 East Broad St
Richmond, VA 23219

Cost:

Before March 10th: \$40 Basic (all functions but banquet)
\$80 Full (all functions)

After March 10th: \$50 Basic
\$95 Full

* Note: LPVA Members may attend business sessions for free. Business sessions only for non-members will cost \$10.

Speakers:

James Bovard, author, *Terrorism and Tyranny* and *Lost Rights*
Michael Badnarik, candidate for LP presidential nomination
Gary Nolan, candidate for LP presidential nomination (tentative)
Robert McBride, 2003 LPVA candidate in Prince William County

Accommodations:

\$89.00 per night (single or double) plus tax (currently 12.5%). Reservations should be made on or before Feb. 25, 2004 to obtain the convention room rate. Guests may call Marriott at (800) 228-9290 or (804) 643-3400 to make reservations. Guests should ask for the Libertarian Party of Virginia convention rate. Parking for hotel guests: \$9.00 per day (self parking) or \$12.00 per day (valet parking)



Gary Nolan



I want to attend the 2004 LPVA Convention!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail/Fax: _____

Do you want us to contact you with a confirmation of your registration? [y/n]

If so, how should we contact you? _____

Payment by:

Check (enclosed, payable to the Libertarian Party of Virginia)

Credit Card

Please charge my [] Visa [] MasterCard [] American Express [] Discover

Card Number: _____ Expiration: _____

Signature: _____

Please mail to 2004 LPVA Convention Registration, PO Box 274, Free Union, VA 22940
If purchasing a full package, please indicate any special dietary requirements.

2004 Libertarian Party of Virginia Convention

March 26-27, 2004

Richmond Marriott

500 East Broad St
Richmond, VA 23219
(800) 643-3400



Prices:

Before March 10: \$40 Basic, \$80 Full
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See page 11 for full details and registration form!

Virginia LIBERTY -- A Publication of the Libertarian Party of Virginia

The Libertarian Party of Virginia
4201 Wilson Blvd, Suite 110-164
Arlington, VA 22203-1859
Information and Membership:
(800) 619-1776

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