



Virginia Liberty

The Official Publication of the Libertarian Party of Virginia
Volume 7, Issue 5, September–October 2002

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Calling All Candidates!

By Marianne Volpe, LPVA Chairman
chair@lpva.com

The Libertarian Party of Virginia is calling for candidates to challenge the Democrats and Republicans next year in state and local campaigns. We have the opportunity to run many campaigns and we need you to run as a candidate or assist a campaign. Let’s tell them that the Libertarians are everywhere the old fashioned way, by knocking on their doors, handing them literature at fairs, and asking for their vote on Election Day.

Are you ready for the challenge? Just thinking about it? Need more information or want to talk to someone? Contact the Chairman at chair@lpva.com, or by phone at 703-960-2973, or by mail at: Libertarian Party of Virginia, 4201 Wilson Blvd. Suite 110-164, Arlington, VA 22203-1859. If you have access to the web, you can skip to the State Board of Elections Websites at <http://www.sbe.state.va.us> for more information on the qualifications and available offices.

Want to get started now by learning right away by assisting a campaign? Ron Crickenberger is running for US House of Representatives for the 8th District, and his campaign team can be contacted at: Noelle Stettner at Noellestettner@juno.com or Fred Childress at fchildress@fastmail.fm or 703-698-5633.

Hard Copy or PDF?

By Dave Briggman, LPVA Communications Director
communications@lpva.com

In the spirit of providing alternate methods of the delivery of “Virginia Liberty” to the membership and to other interested parties (as well as an attempt to save the LPVA a significant amount of money which can be used for other things), this issue marks the beginning of what can be best called the “21st-century method” of how the LPVA will communicate with it’s membership.

We are now offering “Virginia Liberty” in a new 8 1/2 by 11-inch format, which allows us to also deliver “Virginia Liberty” in Adobe’s Acrobat or PDF format which will be posted on lpva.com or emailed to you upon request. This new method of delivery via PDF has the potential to save the LPVA a significant amount in printing and shipping costs, depending on the number of members who choose to forego receiving the “traditional” copy by mail.

Our new “Change of Address” link on the main page of lpva.com also allows you to tell us if you would no longer like to receive the printed copy of “Virginia Liberty”. If you would prefer to read the newsletter online in full color and with search capabilities, I would strongly encourage you to go to the link and make the appropriate entry. More on the “Change of Address” link and it’s function in another article.

Your response on this new method of communications by electronic mail would be appreciated.

The 2004 LPVA Convention

by Marianne Volpe, LPVA Chairman
chair@lpva.com

The Convention Committee of the Libertarian Party of Virginia is seeking proposals from local affiliates or other interested persons or groups to contract the production and marketing of the 2004 LPVA Regular State Convention. The exact date and location must be part of the proposal, and must be held at least forty five (45) days, but not more than 4 months prior to the biennial National Convention of the Libertarian Party. The National Convention 2004 is scheduled for the week of Memorial Day, May 25 through June 2, 2004.

Business for a Regular State Convention shall include the election of Party officers, election of delegates to National Libertarian Party conventions, and may include changes in the Party Constitution, passage of resolutions, adoption of a Party platform, and nomination of, or endorsement of, candidates for statewide offices.

The convention proposed should be consistent with the general guideline for a successful convention below. A "Convention Manual" is available to those who want to develop a proposal. As the manual is a significant document, a \$20.00 copying charge may be required.

Anyone interested in developing a proposal should inform the Chair of that interest at 703 960 2973, or by emailing chair@lpva.com. The deadline for responses to this RFP is February 27, 2003.

Details for expected content and process for submitting a proposal will be forthcoming, but the proposal should provide a full description of the convention (date, place, duration, etc) as well as expected attendance charges and anticipated up-front support required of the LPVA. Please be aware that all LPVA members may attend the business sessions without charge.

Characteristics of a Good LPVA Convention

Note that the "Convention Committee" is the winner of the contract or the in-house committee established upon failure to secure a satisfactory contractor.

Attendance Goal:

- More than largest in past
- Minimum, 1/15th of membership. Anything less is FAILURE.

Timing:

- Not to interfere with the May general elections for Cities, Towns, and other local offices.

Location:

- Place with
 1. tactical significance, or
 2. large local membership, or
 3. significant local attraction
- Quality, not Ritz.
- Low price lodging nearby.

Publicity:

- The convention is announced at least twice running in the "Virginia Liberty" (LPVA cost).
- The membership receives a direct mail piece specifically concerning the convention (ConComm cost).
- Press releases are sent out at least 3 times
 1. to each of the major outlets in each of the major markets in VA, AND
 2. to all the local area outlets.

The convention committee may use the LPVA facilities to the maximum level practical, but the convention committee is responsible for the press releases.

Technical Issues:

- Good A/V system.
 1. Video projection system / overhead.
 2. Music to fill gaps. Band?
- Good backdrop -
 1. Decorations (bunting, flags, banners, etc)
(The LPVA has bunting and such decorations available)
 2. Photo Montage

Format

Friday:

- Constitution and Bylaws Committee.
- Platform Committee.
- Friday evening registration
- Friday evening social activities. "Chairman's Reception" or Candidate's hospitality suites.

Convention Reflections

By Shelley Tamres, LPVA Vice Chair
vicechair@lpva.com

The 2002 LP National Convention was held in Indianapolis from July 3 through 7. It was my 3rd National Convention. Each one has had a different flavor and a different focus for me. This one was a kaleidoscope of experiences, some of which I'll try to share with you:

Spraining my ankle while packing to leave town and limping around the Convention the whole time. Thank heaven I packed an ace bandage and beach sandals!

Positive campaigning by the National Chair candidates, followed by a win by my chosen candidate, Geoff Neale, and an extremely gracious move by second place contender Eli Israel, who asked his supporters to rally behind Neale rather than go to a second ballot. Slightly marred by the obnoxious display of a few of the George Phillies supporters who tried every Parliamentary trick they could think of to substitute Phillies for Israel on a second ballot. The biggest source of disappointment was the failure of Phillies to stop his supporters...he should have followed Israel up to the stage and asked his supporters to make it unanimous for Neale.

An inspiring appearance by Otto Guevara, former Costa Rican Congressman and current Presidential Candidate. Guevara explained how proportional representation allowed the Costa Rican Libertarian Party, Movimiento Libertario, to elect a congressman in 1998 just two years after forming, and now they have 10% of the seats (6 congressmen out of 57) after the 2002 election. If they manage to win the Presidency in 2006, I'm thinking of studying Spanish!

Guevara endorsed the bylaws and platform changes submitted by our own LPVA member, Bill Redpath of Herndon, VA. And riding on that wave of enthusiasm, Bill was able to get his platform changes passed at last. (The bylaws debate ran out of time prior to getting to his proposals.) Congratulations, Bill!

Realizing that we have a GREAT gubernatorial candidate in former mayor Ed Thompson, Wisconsin. I believe he's actually got the capability to win.

Getting to see Congressman Ron Paul (our 1988 Presidential candidate) in person for the first time. I've been a supporter of him for years.

Nearly dying of laughter from comedian Tim Slagle's unbelievable performance. I bought an audio tape of it...I wish it had been available as a video.

See Convention Reflections, Page 4



At left:

Marianne Volpe, LPVA Chairman, Dana Johansen, 8th CD Representative to the LPVA enjoy themselves and shamelessly plug Ron Crickenberg for Congress from the Virginia 8th Congressional District.

A Plea from David Nolan

by Shelley Tamres, LPVA Vice-Chair
vicechair@lpva.com

David Nolan, Libertarian Party founder, spoke to the crowd at the Saturday night Banquet at the 2002 LP National Convention in Indianapolis. He told us about the "72 year cycle theory" in U.S. Presidential elections.

In 1788 we held our first Presidential election. 72 years later, in 1860, Lincoln was elected, and we got the Civil War. Another 72 years passed and, in 1932, FDR was elected, and we got the New Deal and WWII. 72 years from that election is the upcoming 2004 election.

David is predicting that 2004 will be another turning point in U.S. politics. He asked each of us attending the banquet to take the word back to all of our members at home that we must work harder than ever before for Liberty.

Even if you don't believe in the 72 year cycle theory (the evidence for it is extremely thin, statistically speaking), all you have to do is look at the reaction to 9-11 to realize that the 2004 election will be pivotal.

If you're like me, the extreme expansion of the Federal government in response to 9-11 is frequently filling me with a sense of hopelessness that I am constantly fighting. And fight it we must!

There are lots of folks out there who normally vote Democratic who are dismayed by the TIPS program. We need to reach out to them.

There are lots of folks out there who normally vote Republican who are disgusted with the Bush administration for failing to arm the pilots. We need to reach out to them.

We can turn this whole mess into an opportunity. We MUST!

See Plea, Page 4

CONSTITUTION
Libertarian Party of Virginia
Formed In Convention, December 15, 1974

ARTICLE I NAME OF THE PARTY AND AFFILIATION

SECTION 1. The name of this organization shall be "The Libertarian Party of Virginia" (hereinafter referred to as "the Party").

SECTION 2. The Party shall be affiliated with the National Libertarian Party and shall adhere to that organization's "Statement of Principles" adopted in Convention of the Party in June 1974 and amended henceforth; the text of said statement shall become a part of this Constitution as Article X.

ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP IN THE PARTY

The Libertarian Party of Virginia participates in the Unified Membership Program of the Libertarian National Committee. Except as provided for in Article VII, any person who is currently and has been a contributing member of the National Libertarian Party for at least thirty (30) days and who resides in Virginia is a member of the Libertarian Party of Virginia.

ARTICLE III OFFICERS; ELECTIONS; DUTIES; VACANCIES

SECTION 1. The officers of the Party shall be a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer.

SECTION 2. The officers of the Party shall be elected by a majority vote of the delegates to the Regular State Convention; or, in the case of a vacancy in any office, as elsewhere provided in this Constitution. The officers shall serve from the closing of the Convention at which they are elected until the closing of the following Regular State Convention, except as elsewhere provided in this Constitution. Officers of the party shall be paid members in good standing; and no person who is currently serving as an officer of another political party may serve as an officer of the LPVA.

SECTION 3. The Chairman's duties shall include, but not be limited to, acting as primary spokesman for the Party, chairing meetings of the State Central Committee and all Party conventions, and appointing, with the consent of the State Central Committee, an Executive Director, Legal Advisor, and all coordinators of standing and ad hoc committees. The Chairman shall also perform such other duties as may be assigned by the State Central Committee.

SECTION 4. The Vice Chairman shall chair meetings of the State Central Committee and all Party conventions in the absence of the Chairman. Should the office of Chairman become vacant for any reason, the Vice Chairman shall assume the Chair. The Vice Chairman shall also carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the State Central Committee.

SECTION 5. The Secretary shall take and distribute minutes of all State Central Committee meetings and of all Party conventions. In addition, the Secretary shall be responsible for official Party correspondence as required and for insuring the accuracy and completeness of all Party membership and mailing lists. The Secretary shall also carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the State Central Committee. The Secretary's nonvoting responsibilities shall continue beyond the Convention at which his replacement is elected for such duration as determined by the SCC solely in order to complete and present the Minutes of the Convention, the revised Constitution and Bylaws, and the revised Platform of the Libertarian Party of Virginia.

SECTION 6. The Treasurer of the Party shall establish and maintain all Party bank accounts and manage all Party investments, collect and disburse Party funds at the direction of the State Central Committee, keep records and receipts for all such transactions, and prepare and file any Party financial reports required under Virginia and federal law. The Treasurer shall also prepare and distribute a written financial report at each meeting of the State Central Committee and at all Party conventions, and shall perform such other duties of a fiduciary nature as the State Central Committee may assign.

SECTION 7. Any officer of the Party may be removed from office upon a vote of two thirds (2/3) of the entire membership of the State Central Committee. All members of the State Central Committee must be given written notice at least seven days in advance of a meeting that such a motion will be presented.

SECTION 8. Any vacancy in an elected Party office, except that of Chairman, may be filled by majority vote of the entire membership of the State Central Committee. Notice of such vacancy must be provided in writing to all members of the State Central Committee at least seven (7) days in advance of a meeting at which any such vote is to be taken.

ARTICLE IV ORGANIZATION OF THE PARTY

SECTION 1. The policy making and administrative authority of the Party shall be vested in a State Central Committee.

- A. Voting members of the State Central Committee shall be the officers of the Party elected by the preceding Regular Convention, or their successors, and the Chairman of the Party in each Congressional District of the Commonwealth. Any member of the State Central Committee may proxy his or her vote to any member of the Party, provided that such proxy is in writing, dated, and signed. No person may cast more than one vote. Persons holding more than one voting State Central Committee position shall be entitled to one vote only.
- B. Meetings of the State Central Committee shall be held at least four (4) times in each calendar year. Additional meetings may be called by the Chairman at his or her discretion. Notice of all State Central Committee meetings shall be given in writing to all State Central Committee members at least seven (7) days in advance. Meetings of the State Central Committee shall be open to all members of the Party.
- C. The powers of the State Central Committee shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - 1) the authorization of the appropriation and expenditure of Party funds with the approval of two thirds majority;
 - 2) the appointment, by two thirds majority, of an Interim Congressional District Chairman where such chairmanship is vacant and no district organization exists, but wherein such district there are at least ten members of the Party; such Interim District Chairman to serve as a voting member of the State Central Committee until a District Convention is held and a permanent District Chairman is elected;
 - 3) removal, by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the entire membership of the State Central Committee, of the Party's endorsement of any candidate for statewide office and, in announcement, delineation of the reasons therefor. The candidate in question and the State Central Committee must be notified of the proposal at least seven (7) days in advance of the meeting;
 - 4) discharge of all other responsibilities and duties as herein further provided, those duties inherent in any such organization, and those duties and responsibilities provided for in the Bylaws of the Party;
 - 5) adoption and amendment of Bylaws to this Constitution by a two thirds (2/3) majority.
- D. A quorum to conduct business at any meeting of the State Central Committee shall be a majority of its voting members or their proxies.

SECTION 2. There shall be a Party District Committee in and for each Congressional District of the Commonwealth of Virginia. The District Committee shall be responsible for the selection and support of a Candidate for the US House of Representatives.

- A. All members of the Party residing within a given Congressional District shall be eligible for participation in the affairs of the Party in that District.
- B. Whenever ten (10) or more Party members in a district which lacks a District Committee shall so request in writing, the Party Chairman shall call a District convention. The business of the District convention shall include election of District officers and may include the adoption of District Committee Bylaws. All Party members known to reside within a District shall be

notified by the Party Secretary of such convention at least fourteen (14) days in advance in writing. Only District residents who are members of the Party shall be eligible to vote at such conventions.

ARTICLE V CONVENTIONS OF THE PARTY

SECTION 1. The Party shall be empowered to hold Regular, Special, and General State Conventions.

SECTION 2. Regular State Conventions shall be held at least forty five (45) days, but not more than four (4) months, prior to the biennial Convention of the National Libertarian Party. They shall be called by the State Central Committee in accordance with the Laws of Virginia and the Constitution and Bylaws of the National Libertarian Party. At least thirty days prior to the date of such convention, the Party Secretary shall mail to all members, a notice of such convention. Business for a Regular State Convention shall include the election of Party officers, and may include changes in the Party Constitution, election of delegates to regional or national Libertarian Party conventions, passage of resolutions, adoption of a Party platform, and nomination of, or endorsement of, candidates for statewide offices.

SECTION 3. Special State Conventions may be called by the State Central Committee at any time in accordance with the Laws of Virginia and the Constitution and Bylaws of the National Libertarian Party. At least twenty one days prior to the date of such Special State Convention, the Party (Secretary) shall mail to all members, a notice of such convention. Business for a Special State Convention may include the election of Party officers where vacancies have occurred, changes to the Party Constitution, or such special matter or matters as defined by the State Central Committee in its call and publication of an agenda for said Special State Convention.

SECTION 4. One fifth of the members of the Party, not exceeding 200, carried on the then current list of members maintained by the Party's Secretary named in a petition submitted to the State Central Committee, may call a General State Convention at a time specified in the petition by notifying the State Central Committee of such intention. Upon such notification, the State Central Committee shall notify all members of the Party in writing at least twenty one days prior to the date of the General State Convention. The business, location, and agenda of a General State Convention shall be specified by a spokesman for those submitting the petition and the State Central Committee shall so inform the membership of the Party of the business and location of the Convention. The Party Secretary shall provide for mailing services within 30 days to solicit petition signatures. The spokesman shall bear all initial costs including mailings and accommodations, but shall be reimbursed by the State Central Committee if approved by two thirds of the General State Convention.

SECTION 5. District Conventions shall be held at least once every two years and at least thirty days prior to the Regular State Convention. The business of such District Conventions may include, but is not limited to, the election of District officers, election of other District Committee officials as may be necessary, nomination or endorsement of candidates for the United States House of Representatives, adoption of a District platform, and the conduct of any other business as may properly come before such conventions. Requirements for the conduct of District Conventions may be further defined in the Bylaws of the Party.

SECTION 6. Local conventions may be held in order to further the growth of the Party. Requirements for the conduct of Local Conventions may be further defined in the Bylaws of the Party.

ARTICLE VI ENDORSEMENTS BY THE PARTY

The Party, its District and Local Committees, shall be empowered to nominate, support, endorse, contribute to, or otherwise assist candidates for public office. Such powers may be applied to candidates of other parties or independent candidates provided 1) they certify in writing that they do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals and 2) that the National, State, District, or Local Libertarian Party organization does not have a candidate for such public office.

ARTICLE VII EXPULSION FROM THE PARTY

Any member of the Party may be expelled from the Party for cause; procedures for the expulsion from the Party under this Article shall be provided for in the Bylaws of the Party.

ARTICLE VIII LEGAL AND PARLIAMENTARY GUIDELINES FOR THE PARTY

SECTION 1. The Party shall be guided by the provisions of the "Virginia Election Laws as Amended to April 5th, 1974" and such subsequent amendments to said laws as may, from time to time, be enacted.

SECTION 2. In areas not specifically enumerated by this Constitution, nor in the law referred to in Section 1 of this Article, nor in the Bylaws of the Party, the Party and all its bodies shall be governed by a current, SCC approved, copy of "Robert's Rules of Order".

SECTION 3. The State Central Committee shall adopt and amend Bylaws to this Constitution by a two thirds majority vote.

ARTICLE IX AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

This Constitution may be amended at any Regular State Convention of the Party by a two thirds vote. This Constitution may be amended at any Special or General State Convention of the Party by a two thirds vote, provided that at least 1/15 of the state Party membership have registered at the Convention.

ARTICLE X STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES OF THE NATIONAL LIBERTARIAN PARTY, ADOPTED IN CONVENTION, JUNE 1974.

We, the members of the Libertarian Party, challenge the cult of the omnipotent state and defend the rights of the individual. 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. Governments throughout history have regularly operated on the opposite principle, that the State has the right to dispose of the lives of individuals and the fruits of their labor. Even within the United States, all political parties other than our own grant to government the right to regulate the lives of individuals and seize the fruits of their labor without their consent.

We, on the contrary, deny the right of any government to do these things, and hold that where governments exist, they must not violate the rights of any individual: namely, (1) the right to life -- accordingly we support the prohibition of the initiation of physical force against others; (2) the right to liberty of speech and action -- accordingly we oppose all attempts by government to abridge the freedom of speech and press, as well as government censorship in any form; and (3) the right to property -- accordingly we oppose all government interference with private property, such as confiscation, nationalization, and eminent domain, and support the prohibition of robbery, trespass, fraud, and misrepresentation. Since governments, when instituted, must not violate individual rights, we oppose all interference by government in the areas of voluntary and contractual relations among individuals. People should not be forced to sacrifice their lives and property for the benefit of others. They should be left free by government to deal with one another as free traders; and the resultant economic system, the only one compatible with the protection of individual rights, is the free market.

ARTICLE XI ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION

This Constitution shall take effect upon adoption by a two thirds vote at the Convention of the Party on December 15th, 1974.

Convention

(continued from Page 3)

Saturday:

- Free Continental Breakfast in Vendor's Hall (with minimum paid convention package)
- Saturday registration
- Opening session with keynote speech.
- Split to at least two tracks, one talking heads, one training.
- Vendor's Hall
- Paid Saturday Luncheon with Speaker.
- Continue two track programming.
- Paid Saturday Dinner with Prime Speaker.
- Free Saturday Evening activity:
 1. Fund-raiser (Reno Night?) or maybe
 2. Social (Dance?)
- Alternate Saturday Evening Activity (Paid Tour?)

Sunday:

- Paid Theme/speaker Breakfast.
- Business Session
 - < Note, the business session may be moved to Saturday afternoon if needed. >
- Platform / Constitution.
- Nominations / Elections.
- Meet the SCC / SCC training (if needed).

Plea

(continued from Page 2)

Commit a political act. Then another and another. If you live in Northern Virginia, help out with the Crickenberger U.S. House campaign and with the fight against the sales tax transportation increase this fall. If you live elsewhere around the state, write letters to the editor explaining Libertarian solutions to the issues. Run a Discovery table at a local event to bring in new members. Make a monthly pledge to LPVA so we can build towards supporting a big state-level campaign effort in 2003. Join a civic group such as League of Women Voters, Chamber of Commerce, Knights of Columbus, etc., and NETWORK. Join a Toastmasters club and work on your presentation skills. Attend and speak out at local Board meetings. Start thinking about running for State House next year.

REACH OUT!

**SCC Meetings are open to the
general membership of the LPVA.**

Convention Reflections

(continued from Page 2)

Intrigued by the reminiscences of our first candidates for President and Vice-President, John Hoppers and Tonie Nathan, about their 1972 campaign.

Flabbergasted by the realization that New Mexico Governor Gary Johnson (R) really is a libertarian! I had figured him for a conservative who just happened to be able to recognize the Drug War for the insane mistake that it is. I hope he formed a good impression of us from the Convention. Even if he never runs for us, he could do good things for us. He's quite a speaker.

LPVA member Fred Childress, Falls Church, was successful in his bid to become the Alternate to the LNC for Region 5. Congratulations, Fred!

Enjoyed getting to see Spear Lancaster, Maryland gubernatorial candidate, for the first time since our own State Convention where he was a guest speaker. Spear has agreed to come to Virginia for some candidate training next spring. Now to round up candidates!

These are just a few of many memorable moments. All in all, I have returned from Indianapolis refreshed and inspired to do a lot more work for freedom. Can't wait for the 2004 Convention!

**Make 2003 become
the year of the
Libertarian Party
in the
Commonwealth
of
Virginia.**

**Begin your
candidacy for
elected office
today!**

VSOT: Vision, Strategy, Operations, Tactics

By Marianne Volpe, LPVA Chairman
chair@lpva.com

The State Central Committee of the LPVA, acting on a suggestion from Dr. Jim Lark in November 2001, began a strategic planning process in March 2002. This process is similar to the process used by the LNC to develop its strategies, such as targeted drives to fund the recent USA Today full-page ad. The effort will yield a vision, a strategy for achieving the vision, and operations and tactics that will enable the strategy and realize the vision.

The VSOT process we have agreed to use, facilitated by Paul Miller, is a hierarchical process. Attendees first agreed upon the Vision, then worked to determine goals. Goals are things we believe are essential to accomplish by the end of 10 years. The VSOT attendees are targeting 3 to 5 goals. For each goal interim objectives are identified which are milestones and points at which we can re-evaluate the goal and make adjustments. Finally tasks and resources needed to achieve the interim objectives are identified.

At the first meeting, March 17, 2002, SCC members and interested LPVA members were guided by Paul Miller of the Prince William County LP. Miller explained the VSOT process, and ground rules were established for how the group would discuss and vote on matters. The attendees brainstormed goals that they wanted to consider, wrote them on index cards, and developed a new Vision statement for the LPVA. The new statement is: "To effectively use the political process to expand freedom in Virginia primarily by recruiting, supporting, and causing the election of candidates who will consistently advocate and support legislation that creates a condition of freedom."

The VSOT process continued at the second meeting on April 21, 2002 with the establishment of interim objectives, to be completed in 5 to 10 years. The Vision statement defined at the previous meeting was affirmed, and attendees reviewed the goals listed on index cards at the last meeting. By prior agreement all goals that were not supported by at least 4 or more attendees were dropped from consideration. The attendees decided unanimously on 3 of the remaining goals: to be a recognized political Party; to be Balance of Power in the state house; to have organized affiliates in at least 50% of all counties.

The formal wording of the goals was developed:

1. Recognized Political Party

At the conclusion of 10 years, the LPVA has sustained status as a recognized political party according to the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

2. Have at least 50 active and recognized local affiliates in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The definitions of "active" and "recognized" will be decided by the SCC.

3. Balance of Power in State House or Senate.

The LPVA will attain sufficient electoral success to assure that no political Party except the LPVA can unilaterally pass state legislation.

The attendees voted to rank the three goals in order of priority. The result was Balance of Power first, 50 Affiliates second, and to be a recognized political Party third.

The June 8, 2002 VSOT meeting lead to the adoption of interim objectives, or IOs, to obtaining the three goals. The rule was that if there was one objection, discussion would begin, and if there were two or more attendees who objected the IO would be dropped.

The IOs to achieve the goal of Balance of Power were:

- First win
- Implement a campaign manager training program
- Implement a candidate training program
- Raise \$50,000/per year war chest by the LPVA for campaigns
- State campaign coordinator
- Run candidates in 25% of races per year
- Establish/implement Communications Strategy

The IOs to achieve the goal of 50 affiliates were:

- Update local affiliate training
- Get Local Affiliate Party Chair – fulfilled by Jim Lark
- Establish local affiliates in all Virginia population centers; list of cities to be provided to Jim Lark
- Activist database.
- Identify contacts/conduits for affiliate formation (50-x)
- Revise and improve mechanism to manage contacts/inquiries
- Omnibus good ideas (such as creation of 10 college campus groups near affiliates; establish college internship program)
- Activist tool kit – on line, web-based, suggested by Jim Lark

Omnibus Good Ideas

- Virginia-specific party literature
- Establish youth/outreach program
- Internship program
- State Program or Platform

Jim Lark explained that the National platform covers all issues; the program covers 10 issues that are the most important and specifies programmatic responses. The platform is general, the program is specific and talks about how we get to where we want to go. Criticism of the National platform is that it is long and handicaps some local candidates. It may be better to have a program rather than a platform. The attendees decided to keep a State Program as an IO, but dropped the State Platform.

- Communications Dept – increase press releases. This IO was to be added to Balance of Power.

The IOs to achieve the goal of Party Recognition were:

- Identify a 3rd or higher tier candidate for state-wide office
- Passage of a bill to lower the bar for ballot access

The meeting continued with a discussion of all the environmental factors that stand in the way of the LPVA realizing its goals. This list was counterbalanced by a list of all the resources the LPVA has to accomplish its goals, such as a talented activist base and a great message. The plans of action listed were to identify a 3rd tier candidate and the passage of legislation to lower the bar for ballot access. The timeframe to identify 3rd tier candidates would be 2005, since the next state-wide races are in 2005 and the next US Senate race is 2006.

The VSOT process was scheduled to continue at the last meeting of the State Central Committee, but Mr. Miller was unable to attend. The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, September 14, from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Aunt Sarah's Pancake House in Fredericksburg.

Don't let another election go by without seeing a Libertarian candidate running for office in your jurisdiction.

Can you do it?

Yes, YOU CAN!

From the Chair

Dear fellow Libertarians and lovers of freedom,

The National Convention in July was an incredible experience for all the delegates, and I was inspired to work hard to increase membership and recruit and support record numbers of candidates next year. How will we do this? We will raise funds, recruit new members and run great campaigns with YOUR help. How can you help?

- **Affiliates, New and Renewing.** Be active in local LPVA activities through your local affiliate, see list at <http://www.lpva.com/main/localaffiliates.htm>. If you don't see an affiliate near you, or you want help organizing one, contact Dr. Jim Lark at affiliates@lpva.com to start one.
- **Bookkeeping.** The LPVA needs a bookkeeper for approximately 6 hours per week to perform basic data entry and deposits. Please contact me at chair@lpva.com or 703-960-2973 to discuss job requirements and salary.
- **Database Management.** Can you wheel and deal with databases in .dbf, Excel or Access? We need someone to run our database through a filter once a month and to send it to activists. This task takes about 8 hours per month, and follow up for address corrections is done by another volunteer. Please contact me at chair@lpva.com or by phone at 703-960-2973.
- **Campaign Development.** Are you ready to take on the local Demopublican next year or in 2004? Want to recruit the folks to run in races next year and beyond? We are supporting local and state races next year, and to do that we need candidates and campaign helpers. Contact me at chair@lpva.com, or by phone at 703-960-2973. Want to learn right away? Ron Crickenberger is running for US House of Representatives for the 8th District, and you can start by contacting Noelle Stettner at noellestetnet@juno.com or Fred Childress at fchildress@fastmail.fm or 703-698-5633.
- **Membership Renewal and Pledge Programs.** We need folks to email and phone members in their areas to remind them to renew and to ask them to pledge financial support to the LPVA. Contact me at chair@lpva.com, or call me at 703-960-2973 to find out how 1 hour a week will increase members and multiply our donations.
- **Newsletter and Website Contributors.** The Virginia Liberty and LPVA website need articles, news stories, photographs, letters to the editor and comment pieces. We are looking for folks all around the commonwealth to report on Libertarian activities and issues, and you do not have to have prior experience to join the team. Please contact Dave Briggman at communications@lpva.com, or Chuck Eby at webmaster@lpva.com.

I look forward to hearing from people soon, so don't hesitate to contact me. If you have any questions about any position, or if you have thought of something that you can do to help, please let me know.

Thank you,
Marianne Volpe
Chairman, Libertarian Party of Virginia

Kevin McKenna, New LPVA Treasurer

By: *Marianne Volpe, LPVA Chairman*
chair@lpva.com

Kevin McKenna was elected by the State Central Committee at its July 27 meeting in Charlottesville to fill the unexpired term of former Treasurer Garry Myers. McKenna has been a member of the LP since the mid-70's, and currently serves as the Crickenberger for Congress campaign treasurer.

McKenna's activism began with a run for Nevada State Assembly in 1980. In a hotly-contested three-way race he garnered 2% of the vote. He learned quickly that there was little difference between the two political parties, when the losing Democrat in the race went to Washington D.C. to work for a Republican member of Congress.

A resident of Alexandria since 1993, McKenna is a lawyer and a C.P.A. with his own tax accounting business. His first job as the LPVA Treasurer came before he was elected, in mid-July. The IRS required the filing of documents by non-profit organizations by July 15, 2002, and McKenna completed all the necessary paperwork by the deadline.

Read the current LPVA
Bylaws online at:

www.lpva.com/bylaws

Henrico Libertarians to Hold Convention

By Leonard T. Harris, Event Coordinator
leonard@richmondliberty.org

The annual convention of the Libertarian Party of Henrico County will be held September 17 at Dumbarton Library 6:00 - 8:45pm. The convention is free and open to the public. Dennis O'Connor, a Board Member of the Virginia Citizens Defense League will deliver the keynote address "The Benefits of Political Action". Former Libertarian National Party Chair, James W. Lark, III, will provide closing remarks.

The convention will elect party officers and decide on a strategy for the coming year.

"I am very excited about the convention," says Henrico resident and Party member, Trisha Cooke, "Now, more than ever, Henrico County needs the Libertarian vision of freedom, liberty and personal responsibility."

The Libertarian Party is America's largest and most successful third party.

Nationwide there are more than 300 Libertarians holding elective office, more than twice as many as all other third parties combined. The Libertarian Party ran more than 1430 candidates in the 2000 elections, more than twice as many as all other third parties combined. The LP is the first third party in 80 years to contest a majority of Congressional seats.

For more information about the LP Henrico County and their activities, go to <http://henrico.richmondliberty.org>.

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