



# Free? State LIBERTARIAN

April 2021

Newsletter of the LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF MARYLAND

## Join us at the Libertarian Party of Maryland 2021 Convention!

**When:** Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
**Where:** *Bavarian Brauhaus*  
7304 Parkway Drive South  
Hanover, MD 21076  
410-712-0300  
TheBavarianBrauhaus.com

**Platform Committee Meeting – March 22 (Monday)**  
8:30 pm or after the conclusion of the Executive Board meeting.  
Location: *Zoom*. Contact Secretary\*LPmaryland.org for link.

**Schedule:**

- 2:30 pm Registration  
3:00 pm State Central Committee Meeting – including regular business plus the following:
- Nominations and Elections for the Chairman and Executive Board. All positions are open.
  - Voting on motions to amend the State Party Platform, if any (only motions presented and discussed in the Platform Committee meeting on March 22<sup>nd</sup> will be considered for an up/down vote).
  - Voting up/down on the Constitutional Amendment (re V6B) proposed at the July 18, 2020 meeting.
  - Only current Central Committee members may vote; check your mailing label to verify that your MdLP dues are paid up and are therefore eligible. Go to [VoterServices.Elections.Maryland.gov/VoterSearch](http://VoterServices.Elections.Maryland.gov/VoterSearch) to verify you are currently registered Libertarian. If you want to join the Central Committee for the first time, see the Secretary prior to the meeting – preferably, contact him *long* before the convention because there is much activity on that day.
  - Minutes of the previous Central Committee meetings are in previous newsletters and on the website.
- Central Committee members may delegate a proxy: Sign and date a statement designating another member of the Central Committee as agent, granting that agent the power to vote in the Central Committee. Provide the proxy statement to the agent, who should present it to the Credentials Committee upon arrival. A *scanned* copy (smart-phones take quality photos, too) of the proxy can also be emailed to [Secretary\\*LPmaryland.org](mailto:Secretary*LPmaryland.org) prior to the day of the convention.
- 5:00 pm Break  
6:00 pm 2020 Libertarian Party Vice-Presidential candidate **Spike Cohen** live from Alaska!  
6:30 pm Dinner is served  
7:00 pm **Kerry McDonald**, Senior Education Fellow at *Foundation for Economic Education* (FEE.org) and author of *Unschooling: Raising Curious, Well-Educated Children Outside the Conventional Classroom* on home schooling.  
7:50 pm Break  
8:00 pm **Jim Bovard**, libertarian author of ten books, including *Public Policy Hooligan*, and according to the *Wall Street Journal* “... the roving inspector general of the modern State.” ([JimBovard.com](http://JimBovard.com))  
8:50 pm Adjournment

Check the website  
for updates!

Pricing, menu, and directions on page 3 →

*Don't Miss this Annual Affair!*

# Chair's Report



At the Maryland Libertarian Party convention last March, I announced that the 2020 - 2021 term would be my last as chair. And indeed I will be stepping down as chair at the upcoming state convention.

I will have served as Maryland LP chair for 14 years, and that is enough. I am getting a bit burned out, and it is time for new leadership. Further, stepping down now is the best time to do so, so as to allow the incoming chair at least a full year to prepare for the 2022 elections.

I do intend to stay active in the party, and if nominated to serve on the Executive Board, will do so. I also am involved with the Harford County group.

One good thing about no longer serving as chair is that it will allow me the time to do more research on the state budget and how things really work in Maryland. If there is one aspect to my tenure as chair that has been weak, that has been my reluctance to interact with the media and other groups to promote the party because of my limited knowledge of how things work in Maryland, such as zoning, infrastructure, transportation, school funding, the environment, and more.

I am hopeful that whoever succeeds me as chair will be more knowledgeable in these areas, and can be more aggressive with the media, showing how a more Libertarian Maryland is a better Maryland.

I want to thank those of you who have been and are dues-paying members of the state party, and help fund our activities. I want to thank those of you who have worked volunteer booths, and who have helped collect signatures to get us back on the ballot when we lost party status. I want to thank attorneys such as Eric Blitz, Mark Grannis, and Mark Davis, who have worked pro bono on our various lawsuits for ballot access for candidates and the state party.

Most of all, I want to thank those of you who have run for office as Libertarian Party candidates. Running for office as a minor party candidate is often a thankless task. It's difficult raising money, getting media attention, volunteers, and invites to candidate debates and forums.

There is no more important a person in the Libertarian Party or libertarian movement than an LP candidate. The overwhelming amount of voters become introduced to our ideas through candidates, as I did. Yes, libertarian-oriented books and think tanks are important, but nothing beats a solid Libertarian candidate who can disseminate our ideas and solutions clearly and succinctly.

I hope you will welcome and support the new chair to the Maryland LP, whomever that person will be. And please be patient – it takes some time to grow into the position and become familiar with everything involved with serving as a state party chair.

Also, please continue to support the state party, as a dues-paying member, as local activists, and with either running for office or helping one of our candidates.

— Bob Johnston

*Whoever follows Bob (the longest-serving active state chair in the country) will have a high standard to emulate – Editor*

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Check LPmaryland.org regularly for the current event calendar, news, blog posts, and more! Be certain to submit all of your current event information to Webmaster\*LPmaryland.org to get the information online.

## Content Policy

The views expressed by contributors to this publication are not necessarily the views of the Libertarian Party of Maryland, its Executive Board, or the Central Committee. The *Free? State Libertarian* is a first amendment publication, and welcomes diverse participation from many sources.

## The Libertarian Party of Maryland

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Website: LPmaryland.org

Facebook: www.Facebook.com/LPMaryland

Twitter/YouTube+: LPmaryland.org/get-involved/connect

(Verizon bought Yahoo – now all Yahoo Groups are eliminated)

## If You Are Not a Subscriber

The *Free? State Libertarian* is mailed to all Libertarian Party of Maryland members and paid subscribers. You may have received a gratis copy (mailing label says “Join the MD Libertarian Party”) because you are registered Libertarian, are a member of the National Libertarian Party, or requested information. We appreciate you acting to: join the MdLP with the back page form; join the Central Committee; become a newsletter subscriber only (send \$20 to above address); and/or register Libertarian (when we get 1% of the state registered, we can end collecting petition signatures).

### Directions:

- From Baltimore: Take MD-295S and exit onto MD-100W toward Ellicott City; use the 2<sup>nd</sup> from the right lane to take exit 8 for Coca-Cola Dr.; turn left onto Coca Cola Dr.; turn left onto MD-103E; slight left onto Pkwy Dr. S; turn right; turn right; destination will be on the left.
- From Washington: Take I-95N exit 43A to merge onto MD-100E toward Glen Burnie; keep left to stay on MD-100E; take exit 8 to merge onto Coca Cola Dr.; turn left onto MD-103E; slight left onto Pkwy Dr. S; turn right; turn right; destination will be on the left.

### Cost:

- The Central Committee *only* meeting has no charge.
- **\$60 Basic** package includes dinner and speakers.
- **\$100 Gold** package: in addition to dinner and speakers, join us for appetizers and drinks with invited guests from 5:00-5:50pm. Alcoholic drinks included (only during happy hour.)
- Happy Hour *Bavarian Brauhaus* cash bar is available from 5:00-5:50pm for those not purchasing the Gold package.
- Gold package availability is strictly limited.
- A limited number of **display tables** are available at \$100 and includes one Basic package.
- **To pay:** click *Donate Now* at right side of webpage or mail check to Box 176 address with prior registration by midnight April 13; \$10 surcharge after, space permitting.

### Menu:

- Dinner includes salad, rolls and butter
- Choice of one main dish:
- Jaegerschnitzel - Breaded center cut Pork cutlet fried golden brown topped with Bacon, Onion, Burgundy and Mushroom gravy.
- Lemon Chicken (6-8 oz.) marinated in Herbs, Garlic and Wine.
- Baked Flounder topped with tasty chive sauce.
- Brauhaus Wurstplatte - Bratwurst (pork sausage) and Bauernwurst (smoked beef sausage).
- **Contact Stuart Simms** (StuSimms\*LPmaryland.org) in advance **specifying one main dish plus one side** or a vegetarian option.

### Choice of one side:

- Potato Dumpling with Jaegerschnitzel gravy
- Warm German Potato salad
- French Fries
- Baked Potato
- Red Cabbage
- Sauerkraut
- Cucumber salad

Dessert: choice of German Chocolate Cake or Apple Strudel.

Iced tea and soft drinks are included. Cash Bar.

# Wayne Dougherty

March 21, 1955 – February 18, 2021



Wayne at the March 2010 MdLP Convention

I met Wayne immediately after joining the Maryland Libertarian Party in 1992. Barrel chested, big smile and glorious beard with a baseball cap and always wearing some colorful T-shirt, there was something about Wayne's down-to-earth and contagious spirit that always made me feel better when I saw him in the room in any one of our meetings. Wayne was really committed to the cause of liberty, and he knew exactly where to start – right at home in the city of Brunswick in Frederick County, Maryland. He worked to build that party by helping to elect Joe Harrington to City Council in Brunswick. He also ran for City Council himself, and although he didn't get in, he was eventually appointed to the City Planning Commission on which he served for many years, up until the time of his death. During that time, Wayne was able to organize and establish the City of Brunswick's recycling program. He cared about safety and security with the deep rooted understanding that freedom has to be at the heart of it. In 1998 he was elected to the Executive Committee of the Maryland Libertarian Party, the same year in which he received the Samuel P. Chase Award – the highest award a Maryland LP member can receive.

I remember when Wayne ran for U.S. Congress. I remember him saying with a big smile, "Someone has to do it, and I'll put my head on the chopping block." He knew how difficult it was. In 1997 I remember joining him and others at the Frederick County Fair. He had built a magnificent booth of 2 x 4s and plywood. This booth was strong and sturdy like Wayne and did its job very well.

Wayne didn't just work at building liberty in his own home town. I'll never forget when, in 1999 I ran for City Council in Baltimore City and I was allowed into a public debate. Wayne drove all the way from Brunswick to the Gardenville area of northeast Baltimore City to support my effort – a round trip drive of about four hours. That's who Wayne was.

God speed in eternity, old colleague and friend!

In liberty,

— Lorenzo Gaztanaga

# Libertarian Party of Maryland Platform

## First Steps Towards Freeing the Citizens of the Free State

The purpose of the Libertarian Party of Maryland is to use the political process to promote freedom as the primary value in the organization of a healthy society. To that end, we seek to elect Libertarians to public office, influence elected and appointed officials, and move public opinion toward supporting increased liberty in our daily affairs. Our liberties were not curtailed overnight and we do not expect them to be restored overnight. This platform represents our first steps toward expanding and protecting our freedoms.

### Jobs and Wealth Creation

- Reduce government spending and lower the tax burden on Maryland taxpayers.
- Restructure the tax system to encourage economic growth. Eliminate subsidies and special tax breaks. End public funding and financing of stadiums, hotels, and other facilities which are properly private activities.
- Reform licensing laws that unfairly restrict competition and protect special interests.
- Encourage entrepreneurs and small business start-ups by eliminating barriers to economic opportunity.

### Education

- Increase parental choice in education.
- Support and encourage smaller, more autonomous neighborhood schools.
- Encourage privately funded K-12 scholarships for non-government educational activities.
- Discourage government interference and control with home schooling.
- School boards should be elected, not appointed.

### Health Care

- Promote a free market system that respects the freedom of individuals to control their own health care, end of life choices, medicines, treatments, and health insurance.

### Crime and Public Safety

- Redirect law enforcement towards crimes against persons and property, rather than victimless crimes.
- End pre-conviction asset forfeiture.
- End the drug war. Promote medical treatment, rather than prison sentences for substance abuse.
- Law-abiding citizens have the constitutional right to arm themselves to protect their homes and liberties. Permit the carrying of firearms with training and a background check (shall-issue).

### State Government

- Prohibit Maryland officials from funding or participating in domestic espionage and bulk data collection. Prohibit Maryland from using or maintaining such data except in accordance with a constitutionally proper warrant.
- Eliminate preferences for special interests.
- Establish an objective redistricting process to end gerrymandering.
- Decentralize government in Maryland. Politicians should respect the right of local communities to govern themselves to encourage civic participation and account for regional differences.
- End exclusionary ballot access laws and encourage ranked choice voting to foster a strong and vibrant democratic process.
- Eliminate unfunded mandates on local jurisdictions.

### Property Rights

- Forbid government entities from abusing the power of eminent domain in order to transfer private property to privileged individuals.
- Phase out government entities that compete against the private sector.

### Land Use, Transportation, and the Environment

- Eliminate all subsidies to developers.
- Insist on maintaining local control of zoning decisions and limit state zoning mandates on local jurisdictions.
- End the bipartisan practice of raiding the Transportation Trust Fund for non-transportation projects, which increases traffic gridlock.
- Promote free market environmentalism to promote conservation and environmental protection. Prevent pollution and increase environmental awareness by making polluters pay for environmental damage through civil liability.

*Approved by Central Committee, April 28, 2019*

## State Executive Board Officers

Chairman	Bob Johnston	443-310-5373	Chair*LPmaryland.org
Vice Chairman	Krystal Woodworth		Vice-Chair*LPmaryland.org
Secretary	Robert E. Glaser	410-363-6626	Secretary*LPmaryland.org
Treasurer	Eric Blitz		Treasurer*LPmaryland.org
At-Large	Michael Linder	410-569-2186	AbingdonMike*yahoo.com
At-Large	Stu Simms		StuSimms*LPmaryland.org
At-Large	Phil Dassing		Phil.Dassing*LPmaryland.org

The executive board meets monthly. All meetings are open to Central Committee members. Contact the Chairman for date, time, and location.

## Local Groups

Anne Arundel County: David Dull David.Dull\*LPmaryland.org  
 Baltimore City: Scott Spaulding sSpaulding\*LPmaryland.org  
 Baltimore County: Doug Stanley Doug.Stanley\*LPmaryland.org  
 Carroll County: Vacant  
 Frederick County: Brian Krahlung Brian.Krahlung\*LPmaryland.org  
 Harford County: Chris Gannon Chris.Gannon\*LPmaryland.org  
 Howard County: Christopher Stanton ChrisStanton\*LPmaryland.org  
 Montgomery County: Kyle Walker kWalker\*LPmaryland.org  
 Prince Georges County: Matt Beers Matt.Beers\*LPmaryland.org  
 Southern Maryland: Vacant  
 Upper Eastern Shore: Krystal Woodworth kWoodworth\*LPmaryland.org  
 Mid Shore: Tim Miller Tim.Miller\*LPmaryland.org

Maryland voters registered Libertarian:

**15,644 (0.38%)**



### Report of the Investigating Committee on the proposed amendment to V6B of the Maryland LP Constitution proposed July 18, 2020

The Investigating Committee consisting of Bob Johnston, Dean Ahmad, Eric Blitz, David Dull, and Brian Krahlung met at 11am on January 16, 2021 by ZOOM. The meeting was called to order by Bob Johnston. Dean Ahmad volunteered to serve as Committee secretary. There was no objection.

Johnston asked for comment on the amendment that we replace “A written petition of twenty percent or more of the members of the State Central Committee may call a meeting of the State Central Committee for a specific stated purpose” be amended by adding with “A written petition of twenty percent or more of the members of the State Central Committee as of the close of the previous Central Committee meeting may call a meeting of the State Central Committee for a specific stated purpose.”

Dean Ahmad moved that the committee recommend passage on the grounds that the change is a non-controversial technical correction. The motion was approved unanimously, and the secretary of the party is instructed to include this report in the state party newsletter.

Respectfully submitted,

*I. Dean Ahmad*, Investigating Committee Secretary

“If fifty million people say a foolish thing, it is still a foolish thing.”

— *Anatole France*

## Community Activities

David Griggs continues his prolific success in getting published. On January 15, the *Baltimore Sun* printed his letter below:

Politics-free redistricting is the right thing to do

Your recent editorial concerning congressional redistricting was not surprising but extremely disconcerting (“Congressional redistricting: How do we get a rational map?” Jan. 13). You agree with Gov. Larry Hogan that a better redistricting process is needed in Maryland but present a completely unprincipled argument that the state should not have a partisan redistricting process. What other states do or not do does not have any impact on what should be done. Just because other states have an undemocratic redistricting process does not argue that Maryland should follow suit.

Why not have a redistricting commission populated by citizens not members of either major political party with the guidance that the districts will be determined without regard to the politics, racial makeup, gender or any other aspect of the individuals in any district? What could be more fair? Why care about what other states do unless you are primarily interested in political power for Democrats, not basic principles of fairness for all citizens?

David Griggs, Columbia

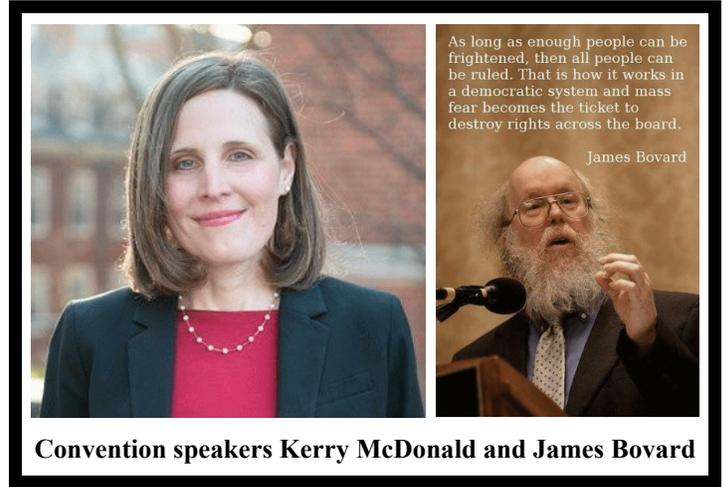
*Congratulations to our public advocates. Every time a newspaper prints your letter and you note yourself as a **Libertarian**, it tells readers that our party exists! Please send in reports of your success, too!*

# LPmaryland.org

## COMING EVENTS

Stay up-to-date on MdLP activities with our online calendar-of-events: visit [LPmaryland.org/events/](http://LPmaryland.org/events/) (often!). Check page 5 for contact numbers not listed here.

- January 13 through April 12: Maryland General Assembly in session. Contact Eric Blitz about helping with legislation.
- March 22 (Monday) 8:30pm: Platform Committee meeting, p. 1
- April 15 (Thursday): Tax Day protests.
- April 17 (Saturday) 2:30-9pm: MdLP annual convention, page 1



# 1-800-MLP-1776

Please check the first line of the mailing label to verify your MdLP status (see page 2)

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