

Nova Liberty

Volume 4, Issue 3

July, 2004

NOVA EVENTS

www.lpva.com

LPVA SCC MEETING
SATURDAY, SEPT 11,
12:00-5:00 P.M.
Place to be decided in
Richmond. All mem-
bers are welcome.
See the LPVA event
calendar for more info,
www.lpva.com

NOVA POT LUCK DINNER
PARTIES, 7:00 P.M.
July 17, 2004
RSVP Fred Childress,
703-533-0330, email
fchildress@fastmail.fm
3015 Aspen Ln., Falls
Church, VA 22042

August 21, 2004
RSVP Chuck Eby,
703-378-1188, 4572
Fair Valley Dr., Fairfax,
across from Fair Lakes
Shopping Center

September 18, 2004
RSVP Steve Dasbach,
703-241-8436, 2803
Flagmaker Dr., Falls
Church, VA 22042.

NOVA SOCIAL HOUR
Wednesdays 5:30 p.m.-
7:30 p.m. Hamburger
Hamlet Crystal Square
shopping center. Call
Dana Johansen, 703-
960-9120, or email FairfaxLP@lpva.com

LPFC MEETINGS.
Third Monday, 7:00
p.m. Harvest Moon
Restaurant, 7260 Ar-
lington Blvd. (come at
6:45 p.m. for the buffet
dinner)

"Celebrate Fairfax" Outreach Success

By Marianne Volpe

The weekend of June 11-13, 2004 members of the Libertarian Party of Fairfax County (LPFC) and other Libertarian volunteers operated its most successful outreach booth. The bright sunshine and mild temperatures brought a large crowd to the event and many visitors to the LPFC booth. More than 400 people took the World's Smallest Political Quiz and 13 inquiries were generated. Volunteers gave out more than 100 pieces of



(Continued on page 3) Volunteers Tony Torres, Karin Stevenson, and Steve Dennett at the LPFC Booth. Picture by M. Volpe

Fairfax Libertarians Adopt-a-Highway, Plan Activities

By Marianne Volpe

The Libertarian Party of Fairfax County Committee met on June 21, 2004 to talk about the results of the outreach effort at the Fairfax County Fair and plans for more "Operation Politically Homeless" booths. Committee Member and Booth Committee Chairman Chuck Eby told the Committee that he would fol-

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SPECIAL NOTICE

This newsletter is normally sent out in electronic format, but if you would like a hardcopy, turn to page 6 for subscription information.

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Record Number of Virginia Libertarians Attend National Convention, Nominate Badnarik, Campagna

Libertarians from across the nation met in Atlanta at the Libertarian Party National Convention last month to choose Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates and for the first time Virginia sent a full delegation. A record number of Virginia Libertarians attended the National Convention as delegates and voted to make Michael Badnarik of Texas the Presidential nominee and Richard Campagna of Iowa the Vice-Presidential candidate.

Badnarik beat his competitors, Hollywood movie producer Aaron Russo and radio talk show host Gary Nolan, in an exciting contest. The first ballot had Russo first with 258 votes, Badnarik second with 256, and Nolan third with 246. A motion was made and passed to drop the rest of the candidates on the second ballot, and the vote was Russo first with 285, Badnarik second with 249, and Nolan third with 244.

Nolan was allowed to address the delegates and he urged them to support Badnarik. On the third vote Badnarik beat Russo, 423 to 344. Russo made a speech supporting Badnarik's nomination and urging the delegates to give generously to his campaign.

Badnarik spoke to the enthusiastic cheers of the delegates, thanking his family and girlfriend for their years of support. Badnarik was considered the winner of the candidate debate the night before the vote by most of the delegates. In the debate he spoke with passion and intelligence about foreign policy, noting that as President he would only go to war after getting a letter of marque and reprisal against those responsible for terrorist acts.

The Badnarik campaign plans to visit as many states as possible, with potential campaign trips to Virginia by either Badnarik or Campagna. Local campaign coordinator Steve LaBianca is looking for volunteers, and you can contact him at freedhwy@netzero.net, or the campaign at www.badnarik.org.

Volunteers Needed for the Libertarian Party of Fairfax County

* Presidential Petition Drive. The drive is by no means over, and Fairfax Libertarians are committed to getting more signatures before the August 20 deadline. If you want to gather signatures or assist LPVA Chairman Steve Damerell in coordinating this drive, please contact him at 703-851-4674 or by email at Chairman@lpva.com or call Marianne Volpe at 703-960-2973 or by email at mvolpe@starpower.net.

* Fall for Fairfax, Saturday, October 2, 2004. The LPFC is planning to have a table at Fall for Fairfax, and we need your help to give out literature and help visitors take the World's Smallest Political Quiz.

* Adopt-A-Highway road clean-up, tbd. This is a fun way to let people know Libertarians care about their community.

If you have a few hours on a Saturday in the coming months, please contact Chuck Eby at Webmaster@lpva.com or 703-855-8767 to volunteer.

* Booth Committee, Website Help, Precinct Captains, Letter writers, Candidate Recruitment, and Candidates needed! If you can help with our outreach events, have technical skills or website design experience, or would like to run for office, we want to talk to you.

Contact information: Chairman Dana Johansen, telephone at 703-960-9120 or 703-960-2973, or by email at Fairfaxlp@lpva.com. Thank you.

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literature, and more than 600 signatures were gathered for the Presidential petition drive.



LPFC Chairman Dana Johansen. Picture by M. Volpe

Volunteers came from far and wide to staff the booth and gather signatures. Dr. Jim Lark drove up from Charlottesville, VA on Saturday to spend the day gathering signatures, and the Stevenson family of King George, VA came on Sunday to staff the booth. Ken Morrison, past Chairman of the Prince William County Libertarian Party and Eleventh Congressional District Chairman joined Jim Turbett, past Chairman of the Libertarian Party of Fairfax County, current Chairman Dana Johansen, and LPFC members Steve Dennett, Alan Grimes, Fred Childress and Marcia Strasel, Josh Dunn, Scott McPherson, Tony Torres and Marianne Volpe.

LPFC Committee Member Marianne Volpe. "We were lucky to have so many great volunteers respond to the call for help this weekend, and the cooler-than-usual weather helped on Saturday and Sunday."

The three day fair on the grounds of the Fairfax County Government Center draws up to 150,000 visitors from all over Northern Virginia. Some quiz takers and inquiries were from New York State, Maryland and Illinois, but most were from Fairfax County. Although there were only 13 requests for more information, LPFC Chairman Dana Johansen said that may have been because some volunteers were not



Jim Lark gets signatures for the ballot drive
Photo by C. Eby

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YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

Outreach booths like the one we sponsored at the Fairfax County Fair are an important way for us to educate voters and find new members. Please help the LPFC by pledging your support on a monthly basis, or by making a one time donation. Mail the form below to: LPFC, PO Box 31, Merrifield, VA 22116.

Yours in liberty,
Dana Johansen, LPFC Chairman

Yes! I would like to support the LPFC by making a monthly pledge.
I would like to pledge \$ _____ per month.
Here is my one time donation of \$ _____.



Charge my Visa Mastercard AMEX Discover
 (I understand that my credit card bill will show a charge to the LPVA)

 CARD NUMBER

 EXPIRES ON

 SIGNATURE

 OCCUPATION*

 EMPLOYER

 EMPLOYMENT LOCATION**

*Federal law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, occupation, and name of employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. Contributions are not tax deductible
 **Virginia law requires all committees to report the name, mailing address, job title or profession and name of employer or employer's specific field for each individual whose cumulative contributions aggregate is in excess of \$100 in an election cycle.

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trained to solicit them, and just handed people literature. He said that at future events he would provide training to the volunteers to get names and addresses from inquiries. The quizzes were checked by Chairman Johansen and the results tabulated. "The results may have been skewed this year," said Johansen, "because many Republicans appear to have avoided taking the quiz." The results showed more people scoring in the Libertarian quadrant than in previous years.

The Good of the People by Beth Homicz

Most people think, perhaps quite sincerely, that our government's job is to do what's good "for the people." Many of us have been taught that that's the function and benefit of a "democracy." (This ignores the fact that our government was created as a republic.)

And, when we think about what we expect and want our government to do for us, much of it is what some would call good for the people: build highways, subsidize schools, etc. Sure, you could make out a case for them, right? But if you try, consider this: someone's paying for it all, and "someone" might well be you.

In an episode of *The West Wing*, President Bartlet, as a candidate during the New Hampshire primary, admits to a dairy farmer that some legislation he voted for when he was in Congress meant that the farmer "got screwed." And Bartlet justifies his vote by saying that somebody had to lose in the deal, and poor people who needed milk shouldn't have been the losers.

I say that NO ONE should be a loser by what our government decides. If there has to be a loser, there shouldn't be a deal at all.

Our government can't even play by the simple rules we all learned before age six: Don't take what's not yours. (See U.S. Constitution, Amendment Article V: "...nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation." See? Social Security and eminent domain are unconstitutional.) Play fair. Treat people right and with respect. Clean up your own messes. I sound like Robert Fulghum here, but you get the idea. We all know that decency is basic and understood by most people.

So I'm going to propose a radical new standard for our governmental operations: If it ain't good for EVERYONE, then you, benevolent leaders, have no business in it. By EVERYONE I mean the decent, law-abiding citizens of the U.S.A., those who work their tails off and pay the taxes to keep this country going.

We cheer when someone, like Kevin Kline's character in the movie *Dave*, figures out the obvious, and shows us how simple it really is to cut government spending and balance a budget. But let's do something about it ourselves! Sure, no one wants to run for Congress nowadays, not with the way they'd make hash of every parking ticket you ever got, not considering the kind of deals you'd have to make to get the campaign cash you'd need. Most of us are just too sensible.

Anyway, we KNOW that our government is way out of control on spending and in the way it treats US, its own supporters-in-chains. Please note that I refer always to OUR government. We need to remember that that's exactly what it is.

There's no reason why we can't, as free individuals, spend our own money to support studies of the mating habits of houseflies, or subsidize rulers of other countries in what we see as charitable purposes. We're perfectly able to do so as and when we choose. More power to you if you do so: you should always put some money and energy where your values are.

But then what *would* our government be doing under my plan? Well, first of all, it wouldn't be doing 99 per cent of what it does today. It wouldn't fake us into thinking it's planning for us to have a prosperous retirement while stealing our money AND the interest it should be earning. It wouldn't butt in presumptuously making choices for us that we, as adults, are fully capable of making for ourselves, thank you very much. Don't tread on me, man.

What our government WOULD be doing is simple: protecting from harm, violence and fraud the

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Shaun Whelden for School Board, "Families and Freedom First"

By Shaun Whelden

As most of you know, I have decided to seek one of two available seats in the upcoming November 2, 2004 election here in Arlington County. The seats are both at large (all Arlington County School Board seats are at large).

The campaign is off to a great start. I have been covered by two local papers to date. A blurb was published about my candidacy in the Sun Gazette, and the Northern Virginia Journal published a front page article about me. The front page article was quite positive.

At twenty years old, I am the youngest person ever to run for Arlington County School Board. Rather than trying to downplay my age to the voters, I have decided to embrace it and run as the "students' candidate"; offering a youthful perspective.

So far, it appears that I will be facing both incumbents and one challenger (remember, there are two seats available, not just one). I was greeted warmly by one of my incumbent opponents at a school board meeting the other night, so I'm hoping that this will be a fair, fun, clean race.

As I was typing this article up, I received some unfortunate news. The campaign and the local LP affiliate were unable to secure a booth at the Arlington County Fair, because all the booths were taken by exhibitors from previous years. They get first dibs on booth space. Although this will mean missing out on a significant campaigning opportunity, it does save some much needed funds, which I will use to purchase campaign supplies (signs, literature, etc).

There are two things you can do to help my campaign:

1. Donate Money. Go to my website (<http://www.liberateschool.com>) for more information. You can even donate via credit card.
2. Volunteer. Again, visit my website to sign up via the web.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed money and/or moral support to my campaign.

LibertarianTV.com Will Broadcast Michael Badnarik on the Internet

By Walt Thiessen

The dot com and telecom crashes of the past few years have had one positive effect. They have led to plummeting Internet bandwidth costs. What's a bandwidth, you might ask? Good question. Put it this way...it's a measurement of all the stuff that comes over the Internet into your computer, including text, photos, graphics, movies, (movies???) and...yes...TV shows.

TV shows??? Who besides the big corporations can afford to put TV shows on the Internet? Well, that's the whole point. The cost of delivering multimedia content (audio and video) has gotten ridiculously low, if you know where to look for it. I know where to find it at really, really low prices. That's why the time is right to start putting libertarian TV shows on the Internet.

This is a project I've been nurturing on the back burner for some years now. In May, while most of you were attending the national convention in Atlanta, I began carefully acquiring the necessary components of a complete, mobile TV studio. That task is nearly completed. The next step...start shooting!

No, not guns. Video!

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people who pay to keep it functioning.

This means domestic redress of wrongs -- the punishing of crimes of force and fraud, through police and the courts -- and it means national protection from foreign threats, through a reliable and ready military.

Doesn't this also mean, for instance, that our government should provide jobs for the "disadvantaged", or free health care and day care to anyone who qualifies, since that would keep them from harm? No. Why? Because in order to pay for such jobs and services, our government would harm, by taking money and perhaps other commodities from, people who work to keep the economy going to PROVIDE the jobs and such.

Our founders knew it and made it clear: You can't have a government that favors one group of people at the expense of other groups.

Yet, that's exactly what we have today.

When someone tells you that a government edict is "for the good of the people," your first response should be, "WHICH people?" Don't kid yourself. It isn't about YOUR good, if you're a decent American. It's about the good of politicians, their pet interest groups, and any other mobs that have learned how to kowtow for a few favors.

Ever heard of regular folks creating a PAC to lobby Congress in their own interests? Nope, and you never will. It's a losing battle, and the thing is, we don't have enough in common to get militant together. We're of many different minds about things.

That's exactly my point. If we can't agree pretty clearly as a whole people that something is good (and "the will of the people" is something that doesn't even exist!), then: a) it probably ISN'T good for many of us, so it isn't REALLY "for the good of the people"; and b) our government should stay the heck out of it.

It's that simple. And it would make our Congresspeople's lives much easier. They could stay home in their districts most of the time, since there wouldn't be much for them to do. We'd already have the basic laws we really need, and the systems in place to carry them out. We could go back to the way it was when Abe Lincoln was a Congressman: our "leaders" would only have to work in Washington for a couple of months a year, which is all we'd pay them for, including reasonable expenses, and they could stay in boardinghouses as Honest Abe did.

The rest of the time, they could go home and get real jobs, just like us. See what it's like to live the way they tell us to. Now THAT would be good for the people.

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low up with the officials for the "Adopt-a-Highway" program. At a previous meeting the Committee agreed to participate in the program. Groups that adopt a stretch of road in the state have to clean it up at least four times a year, and they get a sign at each end of that stretch with their organization name.

Chuck Eby will report on "Fall for Fairfax", on October 2, at the July meeting. The LPFC has had a table at Fall for Fairfax in the past, and the members agreed that it would be another great outreach opportunity. Chairman Dana Johansen suggested that the LPFC could have outreach efforts at local malls, citing the table the LPFC sponsored at Springfield Mall a few years ago.

Libertarian Party of Virginia Chairman Steve Damerell reported on the petition drive. He said that there were more than 10,000 signatures collected and at least 400 signagtures in each congressional district, so that an early turn in would be possible.

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If you would like a copy emailed to you, send a message with "subscribe Nova Liberty" in the subject line to Marianne Volpe at: mvolpe@starpower.net.

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By Email	Free	\$5.00 per year
By Post	\$5.00 per year	\$10.00 per year

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I'm not alone in this project. To date, there are six people involved to various degrees, and we would welcome more assistance from others. Our list of declared supporters include Beth Homicz, Jan Helfeld, Patrick Opitz, Chris Hindman, Marianne Volpe and myself.

The day after Badnarik won the nomination, I tried to contact the Badnarik campaign to pitch my proposal. When I didn't get a reply, I asked a teammate for help. Marianne to the rescue! She was able to reach Michael by cell phone, and he loved the idea. He passed us along to campaign manager Fred Collins, who was also excited by it when I spoke to him by phone. He passed me along to the scheduling coordinator to try to find some time on Michael's busy schedule.

Meanwhile, I heard from David Rostcheck, campaign media coordinator, who reaffirmed the campaign's interest in the project. Apparently, the team had been brainstorming some creative ideas for public outreach, and my proposal played a prominent role in the discussions.

The bottom line is that the Badnarik campaign is trying to find time in Michael's schedule to do some sit-down interviews on the issues...something similar to the videotape the Browne campaign released. They are also sending us some footage they shot at the convention in Atlanta, which I'll turn into the first episode of our series of videos.

There are two differences compared with these videos and the Browne video. The first is that the cost of production is going to be dramatically less than what Harry had to spend. The second, bigger difference is that, this time, anyone with a computer and access to the Internet will be able to watch the videos. This time, we could really reach millions with it.

Of course, the Badnarik campaign is only the start. Another project I'm working on is, *The Nolan Chart*. This show would have panelists from each region of our famous quiz: one liberal, one conservative, one libertarian, one authoritarian, one centrist, and one moderator (me), discussing the issues of the day.

Over the long run, I can see us offering all kinds of entertainment...not just political shows. Imagine taking a popular piece of libertarian fiction and turning it into a made-for-Internet movie. I've already spoken to L. Neil Smith about adapting his book, *The Probability Broach*, and he loves the idea. The list of possible adaptations is nearly endless.

Want to help? Email me: walter@libertariantv.com, or call 540-347-4584.

Fairfax County LP Committees

Were you wondering who serves on various FCLP committees? Glad you asked, here is a list – and if you are interested in helping, please contact Chairman Dana Johansen at Fairfaxlp@lpva.com or 703-960-9120.

County Committee:

Dana Johansen, Chairman
 Fred Childress
 Paul A. Cox
 Chuck Eby
 Jim Turbett
 Marianne Volpe

Committees: Booth

Chuck Eby

Fundraising

Marianne Volpe

Newsletter

Marianne Volpe

Social

Marcia Strasel

Website

Fred Childress

Nova Liberty is published four times a year by the LPFC.

If you would like to respond to any articles, or send articles, forward them to the Editor, Marianne Volpe at: mvolpe@starpower.net

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Need to Renew Your Membership? Join the LP?

Renewing your membership is easy, and during this important Presidential campaign year, you won't want to miss anything. You can renew your membership by calling the National office, 202-333-0008, ext. 231, or at the website, <http://www.lp.org/members/>. If you are ready to join us, just go to the National website, <http://www.lp.org/action/join.php>, or call Marianne Volpe to request a membership form at 703-960-2973.

NORTHERN VIRGINIA LIBERTARIANS

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In This Issue...

Celebrate Fairfax Success, New LibertarianTV.com, National Convention Results, Campaigns, Libertarian Party of Fairfax County News and More!

NOVA MONTHLY DINNER PARTY!

Every month the Northern Virginia Libertarians have a pot-luck dinner at someone's home, and you are invited. The recent hosts of these parties are Anne and Scott Wakeman, Chuck Eby and Judy Herzog, and Fred Childress and Marcia Strasel. This is a great way to get together with other Libertarians and share laughs and good conversation in a relaxing environment.

The next dinner party is 7:00 p.m., Saturday, July 17, at Fred and Marcia's house, 3015 Aspen Ln. Falls Church, VA 22042. This is a "pot luck" dinner, so all you need to do is bring a dish of your favorite fare, something you would be proud to share with others, and come casual. If you cannot think of something to bring, just call Fred or Marcia at 703-530-0330 for menu suggestions. If you have kids, please bring them – and please help with a bit of "kid watch."

Would you like to host a party at your home, community center, or friend's home? Please contact Marcia at 703-533-0330 – the more hosts, the better.

