

# VIRGINIA LIBERTARIAN



"Equally Free and Independent"



March 1984



## *The Roots of Modern Terror*

by St. Tribunal Overdrive  
and Gerry Reith, AØ

You are among the many passengers of a large bus careening wildly down a twisted mountain road. The bus is being driven by a drunk who is half blind. He and those near the front are suffering intoxication from gaseous emissions. They are also drinking. It is night; not even the moon is out to provide lighting. The main lights of the bus are broken from near brushes with the steadily deteriorating old guardrails that are the only thing between the bus and a twenty five hundred foot plunge off a sheer face cliff.

The bus is travelling at a truly high rate of speed. Evidently the brakes are out. Only the screams from the watchful passengers have kept the sleeping driver from crashing. Within the last few minutes more than four times the bus had a near miss, headed straight forward into a sharp curve.

It is raining and the roads are slick. You originally got into the bus to obtain protection from the elements. This was long ago; so long that you don't remember. Way back then, some wise guy started the bus and began driving. The drivers have been changed several times, but no matter what they all speed up; they frequently promise to slow down some; and they all drink from seemingly bottomless flasks stored near the front.

Most of the passengers sit, mute, staring off into space, rolling out of their seats and not getting back into them. They seem paralyzed. Those that still seem conscious are divided.

Most of them believe that the bus is headed somewhere. So do the drivers. But others know that there was never any particular destination in mind. A while back you and some others found a map, inside something called a "history book," and on

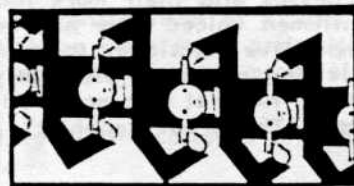
that map was a picture of a road. The map has clear markings that say "Dead End." In fact, this is a deader end than most; the map indicates that the road ends in an abrupt, unmarked precipice.

Some of the passengers want to get out, but the windows and doors are welded shut. When they go up front to talk to the driver

or his supporters, who are also drunk, they are forcibly pushed back. Shouts have one result; the driver speeds up and slumps over the wheel more frequently. Some of the passengers think that everyone should be quiet and enjoy the ride. Others are positively certain that the driver should speed up. Still more don't even think the bus is moving.

Once in awhile, a passenger goes beserk, doing great physical harm to those around him in an attempt to go and seize the wheel.

According to the map, you are not far from the end of the road. Most of the people who hear this become agitated and call for new drivers. They then try to go and take the wheel, which causes the driver to swerve and screech around in an even more chaotic way. You just want to stop the bus and get out, but you cannot. To no one else has it occurred to stop the bus. And it seems that those in favor of speeding up are gaining the upper hand; they are driven by the idea that if they get there faster everything will be okay. Federal Government.



# Letter from the Editor

My name is Jay Tubb, and I'm the new editor for the Virginia Libertarian. While I am fairly new to the libertarian movement, I recognized immediately upon reading the Statement of Principles that the ideas were ideas which I already agreed with, but had been unable to identify with as a complete philosophy beforehand.

I work with Jim Turney in Richmond, and have been thoroughly indoctrinated in basic libertarianism in the year which I have been at Liberty Audio. I have met many libertarians and have heard many diverse points of view.

I have seen the unfortunate results of infighting, especially at the National level in the LP. Far too many libertarians indulge themselves in factionalism, causing the forest to be obscured by the trees. I personally have no intention of belonging to any faction.

One thing which I love almost as dearly as my own life is my ability to think and reason for myself, and to do so as objectively as possible. I hope to reflect this in my job as editor.

I would like to hear from as many people in the Va. LP as possible (I need to hear from you in order to put out an effective newsletter). The way to influence this newsletter is to let your voice be heard, otherwise your opinions mean nothing and no one will pay attention to viewpoints overlooked.

This being an election year, I plan to put out a newsletter monthly. The deadline will be the 15th of the month, beginning in March. Anyone may submit articles, even if its only a paragraph.

Let's work together for more liberty, and use every chance we get to present the image of a solid organization. It is of absolute importance that people perceive us as what we can be, rational, orderly, and effective.

I would like to thank Dan Rothenhoefer for his encouragement and only hope that I can fill his shoes. I will do my best to issue something monthly, be it significant or not. I feel that VA LP members deserve something for their money.

JAY

## VA Libertarian Advertising Rates

1/8 page - \$4.00	10% discount for
1/4 page - \$7.00	camera ready ads
1/2 page - \$15.00	10% discount for
Full page - \$30.00	multiple issue ads

Note: Ads are non-profit, they go for printing costs only

Deadline is the 15th of every month, both for ads and submissions

Typesetting and lay-up available \$10/hr

For more information, contact Jay Tubb  
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Mailing address: 824 W. Broad Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23220

## Letters Section

No letters this month. But please write in with your questions and ideas. If you have no questions or ideas, What do you think of the proposal to raise the drinking age in Va. to twenty-one?

Also, I'd like to have volunteers to be correspondents on district activities. If you would like to be a correspondent, write and let us know. Of course, you don't have to be limited to district activities, and you may submit anything that you would like to submit, the sky is the limit. Or beyond (any L-5ers?)

## This Month's Quote:

"Even in Virginia, where the common people had always acquiesced in the leadership of the planting gentry, political authority began to show signs of deterioration. The relation between the members of the House of Burgesses and their more independent constituents were no longer clear. Gentlemen voiced more and more concern over the increase in the number of competitive elections, their mounting costs and the growing corruption in the soliciting of votes, especially, as one planter noted, by "those who have neither natural nor acquired parts to recommend them."  
(from "The Great Republic", Vol. I, Pgs 243-244)

# NEWS

The 1984 Presidential Ballot Drive and Contest has begun. We need approximately 20,000 signatures to place Bergland and Lewis on the Va. ballot. Enclosed as the centerfold this month is a petition, many of you will have already have received one, but hopefully it is full now, and you can begin a second. If you can't get any signatures, or don't have the time, the state party is asking you for a contribution of \$25.00 to help finance the ballot drive. The cutoff part of this phase is March 15, 1984.

What's the contest part you ask? Well, Henry Thrasher, our Ballot Access Coordinator, is offering gold and silver for the most signatures. The way that the contest works is that the first people to get 150, 300, and then 500 signatures will get one-tenth of an ounce of real gold. The second place balloteers will get 2 ounces of silver, and the people who qualify for third place will get 1 ounce of silver. So hurry up and do your best, because there are several people who are already in serious contention for first place.

In addition, I should add that National LP is also offering gold for signatures. For 800 signatures the prize is 1 ounce of gold! Sounds like a bounty to me.

Send your Virginia signatures to Henry T. Thrasher, 7416 Major Ave., Norfolk, Virginia 23505. For your Ballot Access Contributions, send money to John Alluisi, 3224 Barbrough Way, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23456. Please mark the envelope Ballot Drive.

The General Assembly is in it's 1984 session, and as we should all know by now, elected representatives usually think that they know what is best for everyone else. The unfortunate result of this form of thought is legislation which increasingly restricts our liberty. The usual excuse used is that people are irresponsible and must be restricted for their own good, equating unrestricted liberty with chaos.

Following are some of the wonderful ideas which our friends at the State Capital in Richmond have been considering:

--- Legislation that would demolish the presumption-of-innocence principle for drinking and driving. The bill proposed by Senator A. Joe Canada, Jr. of Va. Beach and Delegate Mary Sue Terry of Patrick County, would provide for the automatic conviction of any driver found with a certain percentage of alcohol in his or her blood. No trial, just jail, no matter what your state of mind.

--- "Rounding to the next highest dollar" when you are computing how much money you are going to give to the state in taxes. This would bring the state an extra half of a million dollars in taxes. The state, of course, would round off to the next lowest dollar and 'save' \$600,000 in the process.

--- Requiring deposits on all beverage containers, which applies to all carbonated drinks. Just imagine what that would do to the price of the average six-pack.

--- Raising the age for purchase and consumption of alcohol to 21. This will no doubt stop teenage drinking completely and will be extremely beneficial to bar owners and restaurants, especially those located near college campuses.

--- Barring young men from attending public colleges if they do not register for the "Selective Service".



--- Legislation to increase state control in the area of home schooling. More on this legislation next month, as it's a real hot issue, locally and nationally.

Both the bill to raise the drinking age and the drunk driving 'reform' bill have passed the House and are before the Senate. The best way to influence the outcome of Senate hearings on these bills, the best way to affect any legislation at all is to let your Delegates and Senators know where you stand. You may write them, of course. But you can also call them. If they don't talk to you, leave a message stating your view. For information on how to contact your 'democratic' representative, or to get information on pending legislation, you can call (804) 786-7281 or 786-6530.

Do something today so that we can keep, or hopefully increase, our freedom tomorrow. Your effort makes a DIFFERENCE.

7

D2 M The Virginian-Pilot, Friday, Feb. 3, 1984

## CITY REPORTS

### Norfolk

## Libertarian Party's leader will seek City Council seat

By WARREN FISKE  
Staff Writer

Alvin A. Anders, president of the Tidewater Libertarian Party, announced Thursday that he will be a candidate in the May 1 City Council election.

Anders, 29, is a bus driver for Tidewater Regional Transit. This is the first time he has sought public office. In keeping with Libertarian philosophy, he said he will campaign for less governmental regulation in Norfolk.

The candidate said he would favor reducing the role of the Planning Commission in determining neighborhood development. Anders said he would prefer a program in which civic leagues would meet with city officials to agree on what kind of development is best for certain parts of the city.

Anders said the city should deregulate the

taxicab business in order to spur more competition and lower rates.

Anders also proposed a program in which civic leagues would be allowed to determine the intersections at which traffic signs would be placed.

"The city government is not omnipotent," he said. "The neighborhoods know best what their problems are."

Anders said he believes the city should not have subsidized development of Waterside. The downtown marketplace should have been financed with private money, he said.

Anders supports neighborhood schools and a ward system to elect the City Council members, now chosen at-large. He said he expects to draw support from the Tidewater Libertarian Party, which he described as having 30 "activist members" and a newsletter mailing list of about 100 names.

A native of Mishawaka, Ind., Anders attended Indiana State University. He moved to Richmond in 1975 and came to Norfolk three years later. He lives in Park Place.



Anders

As you can see from the above, Al has announced his candidacy for Norfolk City Council. So far seven candidates including two incumbents have announced for the three seats available.

Al has taken his campaign before the Patriot's Network, which was his first campaign speech, and also to his own Civic League. He has speeches scheduled this month for the Duck Club and the Virginia Gay Alliance.

# Getting Local Media Coverage

By Sandy Burns

Many Libertarian groups complain about lack of media coverage. "The media is biased," they say. I was told this when I volunteered to work as media contact for the Central Region here in Ohio. However, I was delightfully surprised. Not only were the media cooperative, but they were very helpful to me during the following year.

The obvious first step in developing a cooperative media relationship is to create a local media list which includes the names, addresses and telephone numbers of the major local newspapers, radio stations and television stations. A telephone call to each media outlet will enable you to personalize your media list with names of assignment editors, political reporters and news directors. When a news release is issued or an event planned, the media coordinator can then follow-up with a personal phone call to an individual news person. In a very short time, the two will be on a first-name basis.

I found that the more media people I knew on a first-name basis, the more individual coverage we received.

Many Libertarians are on the defensive when interviewed by the media. We don't always know all the answers to their questions. Depending upon the specific political persuasion of a reporter, some of our principles and/or issues are very controversial. However, reporters are news people. If we approach them in a forthright and honest manner, we can (and do!) receive fair and unbiased coverage.

A reporter is responsible for his or her news piece. It carries a reporter's "signature." Therefore, the piece will be edited to reflect the reporter in the very best light -- which means the reporter will edit the interview to make it as good a news story as possible. We really have nothing to fear, especially when we know a reporter personally.

Creativity plays a large part in a media coordinator's job. We can use the most ambiguous news item to our benefit and project many Libertarian ideas and principles. For example, on "Beggars' Night" this past Halloween, local Libertarians visited Children's Hospital and our local orphanage and gave "Clark bars" to the children. Simultaneously, other Libertarians were handing out Clark bars during their door-to-door distribution of Clark brochures in Columbus neighborhoods, offering voters a "treat, not a trick."

We called several reporters, individually, to let them know what we were doing. One radio announcer said, "Sandy, was this your idea? You Libertarians are so creative. I hope they stop by our station because I love Clark bars."

We did stop by that station and gave the reporter a Clark bar. As a result, we were interviewed and had a full day of media coverage every hour on the hour.

People in the media can also be a big help. There were times when we didn't know where to hold a news conference when Clark was coming to Ohio. Because of the time he was scheduled to arrive, we didn't know whether to hold it at the airport or take the time to bring him downtown. I called the news director at a local television station to ask his advice. He told me we would probably get more coverage if we held the news conference downtown. He explained that the reporters would have to fight rush-hour traffic and would take longer to get their stories back to their stations.

We held the news conference at our downtown headquarters. About 20 reporters attended. David Boaz, Clark's political advisor, said, "Columbus is one of very few cities where a news conference can be called at 4:40 p.m. and have every representative of the media attend." He then asked, "What is your secret?"

There is no "secret" in developing media relationships. A media coordinator can establish credibility by being open, honest, considerate and presenting himself or herself with conviction. A reporter will be much more impressed with a Libertarian who says, "I don't know the answer, but I will find out for you," and who will follow through, than with a Libertarian who fakes an answer. The media respect an honest answer and appreciate a prompt follow-up.

News people are also regular people and appreciate common courtesies. I was told never to thank a reporter for covering a Libertarian event. News is news and covering a Libertarian function is a reporter's job. There is nothing wrong, however, with complimenting a reporter for the way he or she covered an event.

News people also appreciate friendly corrections of information presented, if done in a positive, constructive manner. One reporter implied Libertarians do not file income tax returns when he covered our Tax Protest last year. I called him the next day and told him his piece was excellent, but I wanted him to know that although we were protesting paying taxes, most Libertarians do file income tax returns. The reporter was very apologetic and admitted he had made a mistake in his wind-up of two stories. He felt terrible for the implication and what impact it could have on local Libertarians.

The next meeting we had wasn't a hot "news event", but that reporter made it over and we made the 11:00 news that night.

Another advantage of getting to know news people on a first name basis is that you can call them at home and tell them about an event called at the last minute. News people appreciate getting a story which is somewhat exclusive to their station or newspaper. Be careful, of course, not to alienate other reporters by favoring one too greatly or obviously.

Reporters will tell you they often need news. Create Libertarian news for them. For example, in October I read a small article stating that the City of Columbus had spent \$47,029 providing security for various candidates who had visited the city. Out of \$47,029, a total of \$7.37 was spent "to provide security for little known Libertarian presidential candidate, Ed Clark."

Since we did not request security from the City for Ed Clark, and didn't even know it had been provided, we reimbursed the City. I sent a check to the City Treasurer along with a copy of a news release which was delivered to the major media, stating that since the Clark campaign is financed solely by voluntary contributions, we felt the taxpayers of Columbus should be reimbursed for any security for Ed Clark for which they did not voluntarily provide.

We received radio coverage every hour for two days and had articles in both local newspapers. The City Treasurer, when interviewed, stated that this was the first time a candidate had ever reimbursed the City for security provided and ended the interview saying, "But I wish the other political candidates would do the same." Subtract \$7.37 from \$47,029 and imagine what our local taxpayer/voters thought.

The Clark television and radio ads helped us tremendously. People know who Libertarians are now. When I first contacted the media over a year ago, they had only vaguely heard about us. Now they call the Libertarian Party Headquarters in Columbus for information and ask us for interviews.

Being media coordinator requires a lot of work and long hours. It also is the most enjoyable work I have ever done.

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## NEWS

From the Tenth District, Scott Bowden has addressed the Fairfax County School Board at their budget hearing on February 8th. Scott accused the board of extravagance, lack of sympathy for the taxpayers, and cautioned them against trying to expand their computer program with the idea of producing computer professionals. He reasoned that the concept was beyond the competency of the public school system.

Also in the Tenth District, Dan Rothenhoefer plans to begin issuing the Northern Virginia Liberty in March, now that he is no longer editor for this state newsletter.

Recently, a Banker, an Electrician, and a politician were all taking an I.Q. test. One of the Questions was, "What term would you use to describe the problem that results when outflow exceeds inflow?" All three of them thought about it and the Banker wrote "Overdraft", the Electrician put down "Overload", and the politician wrote "What problem?"





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