

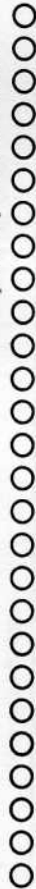
# Bowden Speaks to Voters in 10th Race



Tenth District Congressional Candidate Scott Bowden speaks to the Arlington Civic Federation about the Libertarian approach to government as other candidates pretend to listen. Seated are incumbent Republican Frank Wolf (with his finger in his eye) and Democrat Ira Lechner. Bowden, former LPVa State Chairman, was the only Libertarian candidate to run in Virginia in 1982, garnering slightly over 1.3% of the vote in a low-key campaign overshadowed by vicious mudslinging between Wolf and Lechner. Wolf was re-elected, if anyone cares.

A notable election statistic in America's most maggot-infested Congressional District where Congressmen are traditionally elected according to who can promise the most to Federal workers: In a precinct-by-precinct breakdown, Bowden's percentage tended to increase with distance from the Nation's capital.

photo by Rod McFadden



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# Paraphernalia Law Challenge Defeated

Virginia's controversial drug paraphernalia law was upheld September 22 by a three-judge panel of the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond, affirming a July 1981 decision by District Judge Albert V. Bryan Jr. in Alexandria.

The challenge filed by the National Organization for Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) asserted that the law violated its First Amendment right of free speech by allowing police to seize NORML literature as evidence of a merchant's intent to encourage drug use. The NORML literature we've seen has generally urged reduction of penalties for marijuana use, or moderation of various drug laws, and has been political in nature rather than "encouraging drug usage," but evidently some vice cops have trouble making such fine philosophical distinctions, especially if they feel they can make an arrest.

The law, called "useless and totally unenforceable" by NORML's Virginia Director Rick Ford, provides criminal penalties for merchants who sell "drug paraphernalia," and defines any item as "drug paraphernalia" according to its intended use. In other words, if you buy a sack of fertilizer and tell the clerk in the store that you intend to use that fertilizer on marijuana plants, he commits a misdemeanor if he sells it to you. Unless you are a juvenile, and then it's a felony.

Most shops that sell items which could occasionally be considered "drug paraphernalia" have avoided trouble by posting disclaimers asserting that items they sell are not intended for any illegal purposes, and only about a half dozen arrests have been made in Virginia since the law went into effect in July 1981. According to Ford, such arrests usually come about when undercover vice cops buy a pipe and

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# Factions Fighting Over O'Keefe Purge

Things are still in an uproar at LP National HQ in Washington since the removal of former National Director Eric O'Keefe. Many who worked at HQ under O'Keefe have found employment with the Cato Institute. Media relations coordinator Sandy Burns "quit" her position in October, citing frustrations over energies spent in factional activities. Burns will continue her activities in the A.P.T. seminars and plans to be very active in the Virginia Party.

O'Keefe's supporters have been circulating a petition to urge the LP National Judicial Committee to hear an appeal of the action taken by National Chair Alicia Clark and NatCom removing O'Keefe as National Director. To accomplish this requires the signatures of five percent of the National membership.

Although factional lines don't seem to be well-defined at this point, there are no clear indications that the present dispute will fall along the "Crane/Cato vs. Rothbard/radical caucus" lines as have several other past disputes. Clark and the National Committee will choose a National Director this December at the

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# Address Correction Requested



Re: "The Ultimate Initiation of Force," without going to lengths in justifying my position, I must say I take serious exception to your case for the non-use of the death sentence by society. Quite frankly, your arguments ring of unresolved conflicts within yourselves. Plainly, clearly, and simply: *He who takes a life forfeits the right to his own.* All other arguments are at best comitant, tangential, or pragmatic (sic) to this basic moral stance.

Let me take just one example of your thinking. "Killing him won't bring his victim back." Sure it won't, but neither will imprisonment! Perhaps you think that the prospect of imprisonment is a horrible possibility to a criminal? Have you thought that such an alternative might be desirous? And worth the crime?!

Certainly, an enlightened justice system must be sensitive to degrees of fit the crime. Also, there is a strong legitimate claim that better ten men live rather than one be executed in error. Thank you for your attention.

Lawrence I. Wolitz  
Stuart, Va.

*My argument was not for the non-use of the death sentence "by society," but against premeditated murder by the State. Since "society" consists of individuals who have the right of self-defense, such individuals may kill to protect life and property, and I would*



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*not hesitate myself to kill in self-defense. The argument was against retaliatory violence.*

*Your position that "he who takes a life forfeits the right to his own" is essentially the "eye for an eye" creed expressed in the Code of Hammurabi and again in Mosaic Law. But the "enlightened justice system" you speak of should not be operating solely under the principle [or non-principle] of expediency.*

*If someone hits me, I may hit him back. But few courts would grant me the right to hit him back a year later. The delayed retaliation would become every bit as criminal as the initial action, despite anyone's feelings about the situation.*

*For another approach to the issue, see Scott Bowden's article on page 5.*

Ed.

Please remove me from your mailing list. Your concepts are different from Jehovah's Witnesses—but I find them just as anti-intellectual, and just as irritating.

Robert Halvorsen  
Clarksville, Va.

*Libertarians have been called many things, but I don't think anyone has ever called us "anti-intellectual" before. If you have some sort of cogent argument to support your thesis, we'd love to hear it. Some of the more fervent statistes we've met have arrogantly referred to themselves as "intellectuals" despite the failure of their logic in real-world situations. Such individuals would no doubt find the Libertarian philosophy an irritating antithesis to their alleged thought processes. Tell us what you mean and we'll be glad to print it.*

Ed.

## Editor's Comment: Freedom Isn't Free

When Jane Rosecrans resigned as LIBERTYVA editor a couple of months ago, we sent one issue of our 10th District newsletter, NORTH VIRGINIA LIBERTARIAN, around the State to fill the void until a new state newsletter editor could be found. Soon thereafter, it was suggested that NVL become the state newsletter. Reluctant at first, I soon agreed to take on the task, and all was made official by the State Central Committee in September. What you now hold in your hands is essentially the same publication Libertarians in the Tenth District have been receiving regularly for the past year. If you like it and want to keep receiving it, heed well what I'm going to say, on behalf of the entire staff.

To produce a publication like this is no small task. We who produce it are performing a labor of love as unpaid volunteers. Were we paid normal commercial rates for our efforts, the cost to design, write, edit, typeset, paste up and produce a single issue would be well over \$1,000. This we freely give to you in the name of liberty. However, there are still the printing and mailing costs, which do have to be paid. To print and mail this issue took approximately \$600 from the LPVA treasury, with volunteers providing the labor to print and affix mailing labels, bundle and sort, and do all the mailroom work. All that work; all that time; all that money—you can be entertained and informed for a little while.

Now what are you going to do for us? We enjoy doing this, and want to continue. And your money will enable us to do just that. Ten bucks buys a subscription. And another ten buys a gift subscription [Christmas is coming—what better gift than Liberty!]. But can you do a little more? Can you handle an extra ten, or twenty, or fifty? Is it worth it to you?

To keep the LP growing, we need [Damn, I hate to use that word] to maintain this vital communication link. Your support will keep the Libertarian movement alive in Virginia. Right now, before you forget, fill out the coupon on page 15 and put it in the envelope we've so thoughtfully provided, along with a check for the maximum amount you can comfortably handle. Every dollar counts. As soon as you get back from the mailbox, you can finish reading the magazine and I won't bother you anymore. I promise.

Please respond promptly and generously. There are too many important issues to discuss to spend a lot of time and space begging for money, and I'm not going to do it in the next issue. But if you don't send in some money, there may not be a next issue. May the holiday season find you and yours healthy, happy, prosperous and free.



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## Notice

The Arlington Libertarian Committee will not meet in December. The next meeting will be at 9 p.m., Wednesday, January 20, 1983 at Bob's Big Boy Restaurant in Leesburg Pike Plaza, just east of Bailey's Crossroads (across from the Skyline Complex). At this meeting we will discuss plans to begin building a County-wide precinct organization geared toward providing candidate support and winning elections. The presence of all Committee members is expected at this meeting. Other area Libertarians are invited. For further information or directions, call (703) 998-5693.

*Daniel L. Rothenhoefer*

