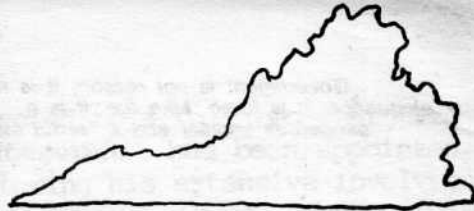


# VIRGINIA LIBERTARIAN



★ "Equally Free and Independent" ★★★ Summer 1984 ★★★

## LP of Va Sues Election Board

By Scott Bowden

By the time this newsletter reaches you, lawyers from the Foundation for Free Campaigns and Election (FFCE) will have petitioned the Federal Courts for relief from certain election laws. The suit is being brought on behalf and at the request of the Libertarian Party of Virginia.

The burden some laws include: a requirement that prtion collectors be residents of the same Congressional district; the laws which allow the Democratic and Republican parties to purchase the registered voter lists while forbidding any similar LP of Virginia access to these lists; and the requirement that a party receive ten percent of the vote in a State-wide race for it to obtain "permanent" ballot status.

Of these, the first two are the most urgent, since they impact the LP's 'Bergland for President' petitioning drive.

The FFCE is a non-profit organization that was formed in October 1982 by Richard Gardiner (LP of Va 8th District Chairman), Jim Featherstone, and Maguerite Wagner. They have fought for and received tax exempt status as a charity (501.3c) from the IRS, so contributions to this organization are tax deductible.

Jim Featherstone of Santarelli and Bond, which is a highly respected law firm in the Washington, D.C. area, will be representing the LP of Va. Mr. Featherstone's research and his arguments before the Election Commission were instrumental in defeating of Anderson's attempts to obtain Federal funding for his 1984 presidential campaign. Mr. Featherstone's work in the Kentucky case caused the Attorney General there to hold as invalid a Kentucky law which would have required petition signers to place their Social Security numbers onto the petitions.

Mr. Featherstone has been working with election law for five years and has developed a very rare specialty. It is exceptionally fortunate that he may be willing to provide much of his service gratis. Although, as those who have provided volunteer work know, it is a practical rule that in the long run volunteer work must take a second place to efforts which bring income.

Funding for the project has been (and will continue to be) through all of our tax deductible contributions to the Foudation. I'm sure that it will sur-

Government is not reason; it is not  
eloquence; it is force Like fire, it is a  
dangerous servant and a fearful master  
George Washington

The money required  
to provide adequate  
food, water, education,  
health and housing  
for everyone in the  
world has been  
estimated at  
\$17 Billion a year  
It is a huge sum of money.

...About As Much  
As The World Spends  
On Arms  
Every Two Weeks.

#### Virginia Libertarian Ad Rates

1/8 page - \$4.00 10 per cent off  
1/4 page - \$7.00 for Camera Ready ads  
1/2 page - \$15.00 and for multiple  
Full page - \$30.00 issue advertising

NOTE: Ads are non-profit, they  
help us to offset printing cost.  
Deadline is the 15th of every month,  
both for ads and for articles.  
We will be glad to arrange for  
any of your typesetting or lay-up needs.

#### MAILING ADDRESS:

Virginia Libertarian  
824 West Broad Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23220

## Statement of Principles

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 oper-  
ated 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 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 do-  
main, and support the prohibition of robbery, trespass,  
fraud, and misrepresentation.

Since governments, when instituted, must not violate  
individual rights, we oppose all interference by govern-  
ment in the areas of voluntary and contractual relations  
among individuals. People should not be forced to sac-  
rifice 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.



## Membership Libertarian Party

7887 Katy Freeway #385 • Houston, Texas 77024

- NEW I want to support the efforts of the LIBERTARIAN PARTY by  
 RENEWAL becoming a national member in the category below:
- Basic (\$15)  Patron (\$100)  Life/Benefactor  
 Sustaining (\$20)  Associate (\$250) (\$1000)

"I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means  
of achieving political or social goals."

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Evening Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\*Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

\*Name of Employer \_\_\_\_\_

\*Optional, federal law requires  
us to ask.

## CHARGE

Please charge my contribution to:

MASTERCARD  VISA

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Card No. \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

# NEWS

GOOD NEWS! Phil Friday of Urbanna was elected to a full two-year term on the Urbanna Town Council in the May 1st elections. Phil had been appointed to the council last October to fill a vacancy following his extensive involvement in council meetings for the previous two full years. Congratulations! His example is one that we should all follow.

Al Anders of Norfolk also competed for his City council. Al gained important newspaper publicity for the local L.P., and managed to finish with some 1,700 votes for ninth place out of ten candidates. Congratulations to him, also, for being one of the precious few Virginia Libertarians who has worked up the guts to get out there and actually run for office.

PETITION DRIVE: The news here is not nearly as good. We have been notoriously slow in getting out of the blocks this year. Henry Thrasher did a fine job in organizing the initial mailing in January and has continued to work hard at coordinating at the state level. However, it is now up to the local committees to do the legwork of locating good petitioning spots, finding the dates and times of the local events that will draw good crowds, setting up telephone trees and contacting the local members to get them out to the right places at the right times with the right supplies and training in order to get the most signatures possible. The months of June and July are crucial to this ballot drive because of the large number of outdoor events during this time period, especially the Fourth of July holiday.

We all know that the lion's share of petitions will come out of Arlington, Richmond, and Norfolk, but I would like to remind everyone that this year we are required to 200 submit valid signatures (figure 400 to be safe) from each congressional district. At this point, the 5th, 6th, and 9th districts are the trouble spots. I urge those of you in these areas, especially in Lynchburg, to do what you can. Let us know how we can help.

Time is flying by and so are the missed opportunities.

MEMBERSHIP: We badly need more cooperation between the district chairs and the membership chair. David Saum has been updating the list, but he needs the names before he can put them on the list. Each district and local committee should have a membership chair to gather prospect and member names that are generated locally and send them to David Saum at least monthly, if not weekly. These new names should also be sent promptly to Henry Thrasher for ballot drive and to Jay Tubb for sending them complementary newsletters.

One of the main things that we need to start doing much better with new people is to follow up with them and recruit them into the activities of the Party. To do this effectively, we need more information about them. I will work with David Saum to develop a standard form that will incorporate the items on the current pledge cards with the following additional information: (1) contact date, (2) source of contact, (3) level of membership in libertarian organizations, (4) memberships in other civic and fraternal organizations, (5) occupation, (6) date and amount of contributions to the LPVA. We will get these forms out to you as soon as possible. In the meantime, please try to gather this information and send it in along with the names, addresses and

phone numbers as best you can. Gathering this type of information will help us greatly in recruiting and organizing new activists, which can only help us all.

**NEWSLETTER:** You may have noticed that the newsletter that just arrived in your mailbox was long on articles and general information, but was very short on news about the Libertarian Party of Virginia. The only way to correct that is for you to send Jay that news. He is trying to publish at the beginning of each month, so he asks that you get him news and articles by the 15th of the preceding month. Be sure to send him meeting calendars and contact people, and for the next few months, dates and locations of festivals and other events that will make good petitioning events. If Jay gets this information, he'll print it.

I will begin a regular "From the Chair" column with the June issue.

**SUMMARY:** The Libertarian Party is at a crossroads in 1984. If we fail to make progress this year, the Libertarian Party will rapidly become just another historical footnote. On the other hand, if we are successful in raising our stature this year, we will set the stage for the growth of the L.P. into a dynamic force that will be capable of knocking down the government barriers that are separating all of us from the free, prosperous, and peaceful world that we all seek. The choice is ours. We all know what needs to be done to build this party. It boils down to doing what we know we should be doing. If we who call ourselves leaders don't do it, then who will? So let's do it!

James R. Elwood

The National Ballot Drive has been taken up by National LP Headquarters, relieving the Bergland HQ of much of their burden. As you can see from the map enclosed in this issue, there are many critical states which we need, where ballot access is terribly difficult, as it is here in Virginia. National is sending us a Ballot Drive Coordinator who will be headquartered in the Tidewater area. This is it folks, we're down to the line, so if you don't have the time to help, please send donations to the Ballot Drive c/o Henry Thrasher, 7416 Major Avenue, Norfolk, Va. 23320.

Ed Alexander, Third District Chair, has announced that he will be running a LP of Virginia booth at the Chesterfield County Fair, which begins September 1st. He would like some assistance with the manning of the booth, as well as any useful ideas you may be able to pass along to him. Ed can be contacted during the day at (804) 275-260

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*A black market is really nothing more than a free market reasserting itself in the face of government interference.*

**Robert Ringer**

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*The Swiss have no MX missiles; what they have is the will to defend themselves.*

**Petr Beckmann**

