



VIRGINIA *Liberty*

Libertarian Party of Virginia

4th Quarter 2008

Vote Libertarian!

By Marc Montoni

Don't forget to cast your ballots on Tuesday, November 4th! Statewide, all Libertarians



can vote for LP presidential candidate Bob Barr (photo at right) as well as U.S. Senate candidate Bill Redpath (top left).

If you live in the 1st congressional district, you also will see Nathan Larson (below, left) on the ballot as a Libertarian.

Nathan's district includes most of Caroline County, Essex County, most of Fauquier County, Gloucester County, James City County, King And Queen County, King George County, King William County, Lancaster County, Middlesex County, Northumberland County, Richmond County, Stafford County, and Westmoreland County, part of Newport News and Poquoson, in Caroline County -- Bowling Green District, Mattaponi District, and Port Royal District, in Fauquier County -- Cedar Run District, Lee District, and part of Marshall District, and in Prince William County -- Dumfries District.

Both Nathan and Bill have worked long and hard to spread the message of liberty.

Bill has driven thousands of miles to events across the state. Nathan has also driven many miles in his not-so-compact and contiguous district, and has won over more than a few Ron Paul fans at various events.

These fellows all "walk the talk" and are asking for every Libertarian's support.

Please -- take a few minutes on Tuesday to visit your local polling station, meet a few of your neighbors, and cast your votes for our Libertarian standardbearers.



How to Get in Touch

National Libertarian Party:

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<http://www.LP.org>

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<http://www.LPVVA.com>

Redpath for Senate Campaign:

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Leesburg, VA 20175
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Larson for 1st District U.S. House:

Nathan Larson for Congress
9270 Prospect Ave., Catlett, VA 20119
NathanLarson3141@gmail.com
(703) 298-3838
www.NathanLarsonForCongress.com



LP In Hanover?

Jon Walker of the Richmond LP reports he is currently helping to form a Libertarian committee for Hanover County (north-east of Richmond) .

Members who live within the confines of Hanover are asked to contact Ian Foley (pictured at left, doing phone canvassing for the 2008 campaigns), at ifoley90@yahoo.com or via phone at (804) 335-6027.

Ian is a recent graduate of Atlee High School in Mechanicsville.

According to the most recent list, Hanover has 4 current members, 38 lapsed ones, and 117 inquiries. Not a bad place to start!

Photo by Jon Walker with his trusty new camera. Which he's still trying to figure out how to operate.

Barr, Redpath Visit CNU

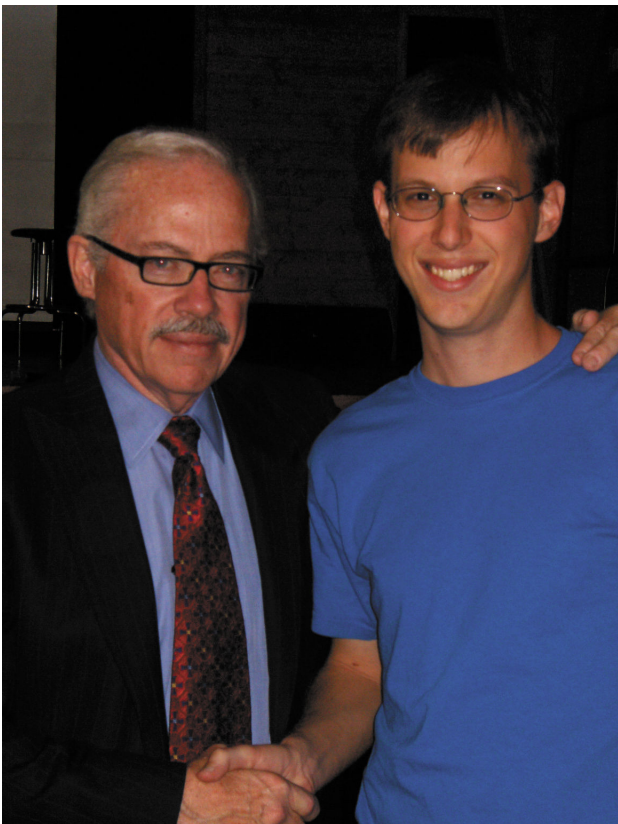
By Steven Latimer

On Wednesday October 15, Liber-

tarian Party candidate Bob Barr spoke on his candidacy for President and current issues at Christopher Newport University's Yoder Barn Theatre in Newport News. He was joined by US Senate candidate Bill Redpath.

Barr spoke highly critically of the presidential debates, and stated that he feels Sarah Palin is not qualified to serve as President or Vice President. Before Bob Barr gave his responses to the questions in the final Presidential debate, he and Redpath jointly participate in a Q&A session.

A mostly libertarian, youthful crowd peppered the two with queries. One student asked how they can go about actively changing the way the Libertarian Party is perceived. Barr recommended that this person run for office, because the candidates are always the face of the Party that is presented to the public.



Virginia LIBERTY

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THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF VIR-
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And your federal, state, and local govern-
ments, which provide an endless litany of
things to write about.

Special Thanks to William Winter, LP
News editor 1997-2004, for inspiration
and assistance.

Editorial Submissions

Press releases, editorials, and let-
ters to the editor are welcome.

Please e-mail submissions to
Communications@LPVA.com

When a Libertarian Debates

By Rick Sincere

Say what you will about the Libertarian Party, its candidates enliven the political process.

This past Wednesday, in debate sponsored by the League of Women Voters in Williamsburg, Nathan Larson, a Libertarian candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives in Virginia's First Congressional District, faced off against Republican incumbent Rob Wittman and Democratic challenger Bill Day.

The result, according to press reports, was an actual debate rather than an exchange of predictable soundbites.

The Flat Hat, a student newspaper at the College of William and Mary, noted in an editorial headlined "Debates Need Third Parties":

"While Democrat Bill Day and Republican Rob Wittman vied to show their support for energy independence and fiscal responsibility, Libertarian Nathan Larson helped shape the debate — and drew some jeers from the audience — with his plans to drastically reduce or eliminate the role of government. We applaud the Williamsburg League of Women Voters' decision to admit him. Open political discourse comprises a key tenet of the American democratic ideals, and we hope that in the future, debate organizers will seek to include all registered candidates.

"The traditional debate has become a tennis match of platitudes. Game-changing moments rarely emerge between the memorized volleys. But drop in a third-party candidate and the calculus changes.

"Larson's argument that the American economy would have been better served by allowing bad banks to fail required the others to justify their support for the Treasury Department's bailout package. Without him, Day and Wittman likely would have stuck to criticizing the original bailout package's earmarks or lack of accountability as they'd done in the past.

Larson is the only Libertarian candidate for the U.S. House in Virginia this year. (LP national chairman Bill

Redpath, who ran for Virginia governor in 2001, is on the ballot statewide as a candidate for the U.S. Senate. His opponents include former Republican Governor Jim Gilmore and former Democratic Governor Mark Warner. They are all seeking to fill the seat being vacated by 30-year incumbent John Warner.)

Writing in the *Daily Press* about the LWV debate, reporter Hugh Lessig summarized Larson's positions and the reactions from the audience:

"Larson said the government should stop 'bailing out businesses that are failing.' The only way for capitalism to work, he said, is when poorly managed companies are allowed to fail. That allows capital to flow to businesses that are good stewards of their money...

"Larson said he favored abolishing Medicare, an answer that brought gasps from some older members of the audience. In his view — where government plays as limited a role as possible — the tax dollars that fund Medicare would be better spent in the private sector with insurers and other private organizations that could provide health care to the elderly....

"Larson ... would privatize the Chesapeake Bay. If it came under private ownership, there would be a natural incentive to harvest its resources responsibly and prevent pollution. The key to environmental protection, he said, is to establish property rights over all resources, extending to sections of the ocean floor.

Reporter Alex Guillen of *The Flat Hat* focused on some other topics covered by the three debaters. He noted, for instance:

"Larson argued for privatizing transportation and other areas of government.

"There's no service the government provides that couldn't do better privately,' he said.

Larson said that education should be privatized and, in a move that drew laughs from the audience, made optional. Larson argued for the abolition of almost all government services and tax-

es, although he was unable to say how he would convince Congress to do so.

There was even a rare moment of agreement among all three, said Guillen:

"Larson, again shocking the audience, advocated the abolition of Medicare.

"After touching on federal recognition of Indian tribes — which Wittman and Day supported and Larson did not — all three candidates affirmed their support of nationwide congressional redistricting by an independent, non-partisan body.

The three differed in how they would advise the incoming president, however:

"Larson said he would give the next president some economics books to read, bringing a laugh from the audience.

Wittman argued that the next president must reach across the aisle to enact change.

Day was more specific, saying that the next president must focus on the national debt, balancing the budget and securing energy independence, issues he said cross party lines.

In an email to Marc Montoni's "LPVA-Forum" online libertarian discussion list, Larson provided the text of his closing remarks at the Williamsburg debate:

"Now is the time to begin restoring freedom to America. Congress should completely deregulate the economy, so that businesses can thrive to their fullest potential. We should break the government monopoly on currency, so that entrepreneurs can create gold- and silver-backed currencies that will be more stable than our present U.S. dollar. Government services should be privatized and funded entirely by user fees, so that the different needs and desires of customers can be better accommodated through a competitive marketplace. Taxation should be abolished so that Americans will

See 'Sincere', Page 4

On Tap:

----- November 4, 2008 -----

General Elections. Remember to Vote, and Vote Libertarian!

----- January 24, 2009 -----

LPVA State Committee Quarterly Meeting. All LPVA members welcome to attend. Group lunch at 11:00. Meeting begins at 1:00. **Bleu Bistro, 8982 Quioccasin Rd., Richmond, VA 23229.** NOTE: Snow date January 31.

----- March 3, 2009 -----

Primaries - for May 2009 Local Elections. Great day for petitioning for your favorite Libertarian candidate!

----- May 5, 2009 -----

Local Elections. Another great day for petitioning for your favorite Libertarian candidate!

----- June 9, 2009 -----

Primaries - for November 2009 General Election
Another great day for petitioning for your favorite Libertarian candidate!

- September 24-October 4, 2009 -

LPVA Outreach Booth at Virginia State Fair. The Meadow, Caroline County, VA

----- November 3, 2009 -----

General Election.
Remember to Vote, and Vote Libertarian!

Debates (cont'd from p. 3)

be free to devote their money toward productive investments, charitable contributions, and improvements in their quality of life, rather than having their incomes siphoned off into wasteful government programs, including unnecessary foreign wars and bailouts of poorly managed companies.

"Historically, we've seen that nations such as the Soviet Union, in which government tried to exercise too much central control over the

economy, have often collapsed. At best, they tend to experience economic stagnation compared to freer countries. The current recession is a result of some of the same kinds of harmful government interference. By electing a Congress that will simply rein in government, and let the market correct itself, America can get through the recovery faster and continue on to a more prosperous future."

While the editorial board of The Flat Hat praised the League of Women Voters for including Nathan Larson in the debate, credit is also due to Congress-

man Rob Wittman and to Bill Day. In a year in which candidates are refusing to debate their opponents in fora that might attract a large audience, Wittman and Day deserve congratulations for being unafraid to debate someone who brings new ideas to the table. Regardless of who the official "sponsor" might be, the two major parties generally control the terms of these sorts of events, usually excluding third-party and independent candidates, so Wittman and Day's openness to participation by all certified candidates is welcome.

Let's hope other candidates follow their example in future campaigns.

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