

**Support  
Liberty Point —  
Subscribe &  
pass it on**

Subscribe online via PayPay at  
<http://LibertyPoint.org>.

For your \$5 subscription you'll  
received as many copies as you  
like per quarter, provided you  
agree to distribute them by  
dropping them in public places,  
even government offices. Or fill  
out this subscription form and  
mail it, along with a check for \$5  
to: Brian Irving, 206 Clancy  
Circle, Cary NC 27511

Name  
Address  
Phone

\*E-mail (for future e-letter)

**Liberty Point Subscription**

*Liberty Point*

206 Clancy Circle  
Cary NC 27511-5335

An independent, quarterly  
newsletter of libertarian thought  
and action, designed as a guide to  
the understanding  
and appreciation of libertarianism  
for  
non-libertarians.

**Brian Irving**  
Editor

Contact:  
[brian@libertypoint.org](mailto:brian@libertypoint.org)  
919.938.4548  
<http://LibertyPoint.org>

*Libertarianism for  
non-libertarians*

*Liberty Point*

Vol. 1 No. 1

April/June 2010

**NC Libertarians have unique  
opportunity in 2010**

The Libertarian Party of North Carolina has unique opportunity to  
make a difference in North Carolina politics in 2010, according to their  
new political director.



“The only thing that separates Libertarians from  
the two larger parties is organization, and I plan to  
remedy that,” said Matthew Reeps. “Certainly on the  
economic and government side, we have a winning  
message that is current and resonates.”

“All electoral success flows from organization  
and attention to the proven fundamentals of political  
campaigning,” he said. “We have the message, we  
have the mood of the electorate. Now we simply  
need to focus on the fundamentals.”

“Our message, as a party or as an individual  
candidate, cannot compete in the marketplace of  
ideas if we don't bring it to the market,” Reeps said.

**Matt Reeps**

Like many libertarian activists, the Philadelphia-born Reeps is not a  
professional political operative. While he earned a Virginia real estate  
license at 18, and holds a private investigators license, Reeps has spent  
most of his adult life working as a computer network technician.

Reeps believes his organizational and operational experience coupled  
with his intense study of modern campaign will benefit the LPNC and its  
candidates.

In 2009, he worked on Travis Wheat's campaign for Charlotte City  
Council. He also served as director of cadet programs for the Virginia  
Wing of the Civil Air Patrol, the civilian auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force.

Reeps want to create “enough of a polling stir” in at least one 2010  
race to garner national media attention to boost the party's exposure and  
support. This will prepare Libertarians to run a credible three-way race for  
North Carolina governor in 2012.

“The goal is double digit election results for our gubernatorial  
candidate,” said Reeps.

## Growth brings things we enjoy

Here is another letter-to-the-editor written by Mecklenberg libertarian Christopher Cole in response to a letter to the editor in the Lake Norman Times complaining that growth was ruining the enjoyment of the Lake Norman area.

By Chris Cole

Like writer Luann Laubscher, I am also a resident of the Lake Norman area. Like her, I enjoy the amenities of the Lake. Unlike her, I include such amenities as homes, stores, and restaurants, because I am a human, not a squirrel.

Too often, people forget that mankind is part of nature. We evolved to live in nature. Sometimes, I think that environmentalists



think mankind was dropped on earth by some antagonistic alien, dedicated to destroying all that is good and natural. In fact, one radical environmentalist has actually described mankind as a disease that must be eliminated.

However, mankind differs starkly from the rest of nature. Other animals adapt to their environment. They grow fur or hibernate, evolve claws or horns. All just to survive.

Humans have none of those things. Where the climate is hostile, we build warm homes, whether as simple as a teepee or as sophisticated as a lakeside house. We have no natural attributes for hunting or self-defense, so we adapt tools from our environment, whether tools or weapons.

Other animals adapt to their environment; men adapt our environment to us. That is our natural way of existence.

Luann extols the virtues of the lake. I share that appreciation. However, she seems to have blanked out why Lake Norman's amenities are even available. Was it due to the benevolence of random nature? Certainly not.

In the 1960's, the needs of mankind determined that a nuclear plant be built here. I remind Luann that the lake is artificial, built for the sake of a nuclear plant. Her lake amenities are a consequence of man's nature, to seek a more prosperous and comfortable life.

Luann, without the very greed that you decry, our precious Lake wouldn't be here. Growth has brought you the things you enjoy. It is hypocritical to oppose the same thing for successive generations.

## The 'wasted vote syndrome'

By Brian Irving

Editor

Libertarian candidates are often told that voting for them would be a "wasted vote," because they have no chance of winning. For that matter, the same comment is made to Green, Constitution and other third party and independent candidates.

Mike Munger, the 2008 Libertarian candidate for governor had this to say about the "wasted vote syndrome:"

"The election for governor is not going to be a tie. You don't have to worry that your late vote on November 4 will select the person to occupy the governor's mansion.

"But your vote will send a message to the person who gets that authority.

"If you are happy with the see-saw, back and forth swapping of Democrat-Republican-Democrat with ever increasing intrusion into your life, then go ahead and vote for a Democrat or Republican. But you can send a message that fundamental change is needed."

Michael Badnarik, the 2000 Libertarian candidate for president used this analogy:

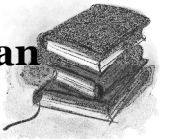
"If you were in prison and faced a 50 percent chance of death by lethal injection, a 45 percent chance of the electric chair, and had a 5 percent chance of escape, would you vote for lethal injection because it was the most likely outcome, or would you try for escape?"

"Voting Libertarian is our only chance for political survival. Choosing the lesser of two evils is still choosing evil."

My favorite response is this comment from John Quincy Adams: "Always vote for principle, though you may vote alone, and you may cherish the sweetest reflection that your vote is never lost."

*"Always vote for  
principle, though  
you may vote  
alone. You may  
cherish the  
sweetest reflection  
that your vote is  
never lost"*  
—John Quincy  
Adams

## A basic libertarian library



This is by no means a definitive list, but these books will help you get a basic understanding of libertarianism.

- **Libertarianism: A Primer** by David Boaz (Online at [libertarianism.org](http://libertarianism.org))
- **Libertarianism in One Lesson** by David Bergland
- **Healing Our World In An Age of Aggression** by Dr. Mary J. Ruwart
- **Why Government Doesn't Work** by Harry Browne
- **How I Found Freedom in an Unfree World** by Harry Browne
- **Economics In One Lesson** by Harry Hazlett
- **Ain't Nobody's Business If You Do** by Peter McWilliams
- **Free to Chose** by Milton Friedman
- **The Libertarian Reader** edited by David Boaz