

# Will Don Fowler's friends destroy the Virginia Democratic Party?

by Nancy Spannaus

As a candidate for the Democratic Party nomination for Congress in Virginia's 10th Congressional District, I am seeking to arouse substantial numbers of Virginians in my district, 51% of whom did not vote in the last elections, to help me take leadership of the Democratic Party on behalf of Lyndon LaRouche's policies. Many citizens have been disgusted with the lies that say the economy is fine, and with the trashing of the Presidency through the McCarthyite operations of Kenneth Starr and his backers. They know that LaRouche not only forecast the financial upheaval that is in process, most visibly in Asia, but that he uniquely has proposed the solution. They know that he has fought injustice tirelessly—against overwhelming odds—in both his own case and that of others.

I began my campaign in May 1997, with a street mobilization against incumbent Republican Frank Wolf's complicity in the worst holocaust in 50 years, then occurring through forces deployed by Ugandan warlord Yoweri Museveni in Zaire, Rwanda, and Burundi. Wolf, an associate of Christian Solidarity International, a de facto British intelligence front, supports Museveni, and especially Museveni's war to carry out genocide in Sudan, his neighbor to the north. "Never Again!" I said, demanding that the Congressman take a moral stand. Wolf never said a word against the British-run genocide, earning his nickname as "Boxcar" Wolf, when Hutu refugees were forcibly repatriated in boxcars reminiscent of Hitler.

In the context of the ongoing financial collapse—and given Wolf's preference for the speculators over the people, and his willingness to sacrifice Social Security, health care, and decent transportation to the interest of the bankers—it was clear that an effort to unseat the 18-year incumbent could be successful, especially as more and more Americans undergo a paradigm shift toward "bread-and-butter" issues of economic survival.

In stepped the friends of former Democratic National Committee Chairman Don Fowler in the Virginia Democratic Party. Their first step was to create an "insider" movement for another Democratic candidate, Washington lawyer Cornell Brooks, in such a way that it was clearly impossible to beat Wolf. The party mounted no primary election to mobilize the voters, scheduled no debates, deployed virtually no money—in effect, in an operation to "stop the LaRouche candidate," not the Republican incumbent.

The second step was to mobilize the lunatic fringe of the

Virginia party, centered in Loudoun County, where I live, to oppose the seating of myself and other LaRouche Democrats on the local Democratic Committee. While this has no legal bearing on my status as a candidate, in a Federally supervised election for Congress, the move to oust us was intended to reinforce the McCarthyite atmosphere of fear around LaRouche and his associates, many of whom live in the county.

The Loudoun lunatics took a page directly from Fowler's 1996 manual against Presidential candidate LaRouche, when Fowler intervened to dictate that duly elected delegates pledged to LaRouche not be seated at the Democratic National Convention. Using outrageous lies which have been crafted by the same sources—including Richard Mellon Scaife—which are now mounting the assault on the Clinton Presidency, Fowler prevailed in his strongarm move. LaRouche and his delegates' legal challenge, which stated that the ruling violated the Voting Rights Act, was initially dismissed, but is still in the Appeals Court. The argument by the DNC, and its co-defendant Virginia Democratic Party, was that LaRouche's case is "moot," because the action was unique to the 1996 election campaign—an argument that has been substantially destroyed by the Loudoun Committee's action.

## The big move

At first, it appeared that the Loudoun lunatics would be put in their place. The leadership, which I and the LaRouche wing of the party have provided in the fight to stop Oliver North's 1994 campaign against Sen. Chuck Robb and to expose the British assault on the Presidency, has had a substantial impact in mitigating the fears which many Democrats have had in associating with LaRouche. Thus, the leadership of the 10th Congressional District Committee of the Democratic Party acted to overturn what it correctly characterized as a violation of due process of law, in the Loudoun County Democratic Committee's (LCDC) rejection of membership by LaRouche associates.

During the arguments in late February, I stressed that the move against me was nothing less than McCarthyism, like that being used against the President, and that it was being taken, in effect, to benefit the Republicans, who fear LaRouche's leadership in the Democratic Party. Well aware of the pro-Republican proclivities, as well as lies, of the Loudoun Committee representatives, the 10th District ruled

in my favor.

To the surprise of many, the LCDC appealed to the Virginia Democratic Party's state steering committee. A hearing was held May 2 in Richmond, which pitted the frothing representatives of the LCDC against the 10th District Chairman Eve Wilson and her counsel Bob Weinberg—with only two minutes given to me for a brief comment. In a subsequent executive session, the steering committee voted, by the narrow margin of 11 to 10, to uphold the Loudoun lunatics.

### **Profound implications**

Formally, the decision taken in Richmond merely permits localities to establish their own rules for committee membership, even if such rules are based on unconstitutional procedures and lies—as in the case of the Loudoun party. Politically, the implications are much more profound, and the LaRouche wing of the party is beginning to mobilize to reverse the atrocity.

In a May 5 statement, after I had finally received the formal ruling, I put it this way:

“This action will not go unchallenged, since what is at stake is the ability of individuals like myself to campaign for LaRouche's indispensable ideas on economic policy and on the defeat of judicial corruption. Fowler's temporary legal success against LaRouche in 1996, taken over the objection of over 100 leading Democrats nationwide and nearly 600,000 votes for LaRouche in 27 Presidential primaries, helped sink the chances of the Democrats retaking Congress; if this move in Virginia were successful, the consequences would be equally disastrous for the party, the Commonwealth, and the nation.

“It's time that Virginia Democrats—especially those who have left the party in disgust—realized that they have to deal with a Fifth Column that is committed to the destruction of the party and nation. This Fifth Column has guaranteed so far that the party ignores the fundamental issues of our time, especially the worldwide financial collapse now in progress. Unless the casino economy, which is sucking the blood out of populations internationally and here, is declared bankrupt and replaced with a system like LaRouche's New Bretton Woods, we are headed into a New Dark Age. Unless citizens rally to destroy the political lynch mob in the Department of Justice and 'private' media and other associations who carried out the witch-hunt against LaRouche, and are now assaulting the Presidency, our republic will be destroyed.

“With such stakes, we have no choice but to fight to overturn this immoral ruling, and remove from power those who would destroy their party and their country on behalf of the institutions who hate LaRouche because he stands for policies that foster man's development as made in the image of God. Virginians must reject the McCarthyism and Mississippi-style tactics shown by the Loudoun Committee's current leadership and its high-level supporters, for the sake of the highest principles of our nation.”

### **The front lines**

The immediate battleground against Democratic Party treachery lies in the 10th District caucuses. The Virginia party, rather than hold a primary, which would have drawn voters to debate national issues and embolden them to defeat Wolf and his Hunt Country backers, opted for a complex system of caucuses. Each city or county within northern Virginia's 10th CD, will hold caucuses to elect delegates to a district convention, which will then choose whether Cornell Brooks or myself will represent the Democratic Party against Frank Wolf. Not only has the party not advised its membership that the caucuses are taking place, but each caucus takes place on a different day, at a single site, for only a few hours—not what one would characterize as a “get out the vote” mobilization. Three caucuses have already occurred, drawing a grand total of 155 people. While the “insider favorite” Brooks has won all three, getting 19 out of a final total of 200 delegates to the District nominating convention, his totals, and percentages, are going down with each caucus. In Rappahannock County, he won 60-2, in Front Royal 34-10, and in Manassas City 30-18.

Given the almost underground nature of the election, I have chosen to run some high-profile radio ads identifying what's at stake—the need for LaRouche's New Bretton Woods in the face of the financial blowout, and the urgency of defending against the treasonous assault on the Presidency. The ads also announce that caucuses will be occurring—something which the Democratic Party leaderships are only publicizing with one tiny ad in the local newspaper of each jurisdiction.

In the first caucus, the local leadership went into flight forward, calling delegates pledged to me and intimidating four of the five into withdrawing. This led my campaign to send a letter to the Virginia Democratic Party, warning of further action in the LaRouche suit against Fowler, which names the Virginia party as co-defendant. While the next two caucuses appeared to be run fairly, the fourth one—Prince William County, where 27 delegates are at stake—has occasioned a complaint by my campaign to the Department of Justice, since the election procedure is being held in an obscure office far outside the 10th Congressional District.

“What if they held an election, and nobody came?” asks one of my ads, as well as a leaflet announcing the caucuses: “It's time Democrats in the 10th CD took their party seriously. Thousands of you didn't vote in the last election, out of disillusionment or disgust. This time, there *is* a candidate running who is telling the truth. . . .” The Virginia Democratic Party practice of backroom candidate choice takes full advantage of the relative apathy among the population. Only a tiny handful of thinkers, still, are prepared to come out of virtual reality, to recognize and fight the disaster which the cancerous financial bubble, International Monetary Fund conditions, and police-state prosecutions represent.