



## FORGOTTEN FOUNDER, DRUNKEN PROPHET

On February 24, Bill Kauffman will speak on his new book "Forgotten founder, drunken prophet: the life of Luther Martin." A man of tremendous abilities and human failings, if Luther Martin were a work of fiction the character would be written off as too unbelievable. One can only imagine the treatment he would have received if the National Enquirer and People Magazine had been around during the colonial era.

**Luther Martin** served as Attorney General of Maryland for over 30 years; defended Supreme Court Justice Samuel Chase in his impeachment trial in 1805; Aaron Burr when he stood trial for treason in 1807; and represented Maryland in *McCulloch V. Maryland*, where he was opposed by Daniel Webster and William Pinckney. Yet, when he died at the age of 78 in 1826, in Aaron Burr's home in New York City, he was living on the charity of the State of Maryland (Resolution No. 60, passed February 23, 1822 required Maryland lawyers to pay a five dollar yearly assessment for the benefit of Luther Martin). He was buried in an unmarked grave in St. John's Churchyard.

**Bill Kauffman** has described himself as "a blend of Catholic Worker, Old Right libertarian, Yorker transcendentalist, and delirious localist." He has also described himself as a "Jeffersonian," an "anarchist," a "cheerful enemy of the state," a "reactionary Friend of the Library," and a "peace-loving football fan."

**Place:** The Library's George William Brown Room (Mitchell Courthouse Room 504), Fayette and Calvert Streets, entrance on Lexington Street between St. Paul and Calvert Streets, followed by a wine and cheese reception in the Bar Library (Room 618, Mitchell Courthouse)

**Time:** 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 24, 2010, with a wine & cheese reception immediately following in the Main Reading Room of the Bar Library.

**Invitees:** Members of the Library Company of the Baltimore Bar, judges, employees of Baltimore City and its courts, government lawyers, public interest lawyers, law librarians, law and college faculty and students. Others may attend on payment of a \$20 admission charge or upon application for Bar Library membership.

**R.S.V.P.:** If you would like to attend telephone the Library at 410-727-0280 or reply by e-mail to [jwbennett@barlib.org](mailto:jwbennett@barlib.org).