

LIBERTY CORP
Form 8-K
February 03, 2004

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20549

FORM 8-K
CURRENT REPORT
PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of report (Date of earliest event reported) February 3, 2004

The Liberty Corporation

(Exact name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

South Carolina

1-5846

57-0507055

(State or Other Jurisdiction
of Incorporation)

(Commission File
Number)

(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

135 South Main Street, Greenville, SC

29601

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (864) 241-5400

n/a

(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

ITEM 9. REGULATION FD DISCLOSURE

[LIBERTY CORPORATION LETTERHEAD]

For further information: Howard Schrott, 864-241-5400

**LIBERTY CORPORATION INCREASES REGULAR DIVIDEND, DECLARES SPECIAL
DIVIDEND AND EXTENDS STOCK PURCHASE AUTHORIZATION**

Greenville, SC (February 3, 2004) The board of directors of The Liberty Corporation (NYSE:LC) today voted to increase the quarterly cash dividend to \$.25 per share on common stock. The dividend is payable on April 2, 2004, to shareholders of record on March 15, 2004. Liberty currently has 18,933,400 common shares outstanding.

In addition, the board of directors authorized the payment of a one-time, special cash dividend of \$4.00 per share on common stock, which will also be payable on April 2, 2004, to shareholders of record on March 15, 2004.

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The board of directors also extended to February 28, 2005, the company's authorization to purchase from time to time up to 4,000,000 shares of stock in the open market or directly negotiated transactions. During 2003 the Company repurchased 625,600 shares of its common stock.

It was announced that the company's annual meeting of shareholders will be held on May 4, 2004, at 10:30 a.m. Eastern Time at The Westin Poinsett located at 120 South Main Street in Greenville. Shareholders of record as of March 15, 2004, are entitled to vote on business introduced at the annual meeting.

A major group broadcaster, Liberty owns fifteen network-affiliated television stations, including eight NBC affiliates (WAVE-TV, Louisville, KY; WIS-TV, Columbia, SC; WLBT-TV, Jackson, MS; WFIE-TV, Evansville, IN; WSFA-TV, Montgomery, AL; KCBD-TV, Lubbock, TX; WALB-TV, Albany, GA and KPLC-TV, Lake Charles, LA); five ABC affiliates (KLTN-TV, Tyler, TX; KTRE-TV, the satellite affiliate of KLTN in Lufkin, TX; WLOX-TV, Biloxi, MS; WWAY-TV, Wilmington, NC and KAIT-TV, Jonesboro, AR); and two CBS affiliates (WTOL-TV, Toledo, OH and KGBT-TV, Harlingen, TX).

For further information about Liberty, visit the corporate website, <http://www.libertycorp.com/>

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The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 provides a "safe harbor" for forward-looking statements. Certain information contained herein or in any other written or oral statements made by, or on behalf of the Company, is or may be viewed as forward-looking. The words "expect," "believe," "anticipate" or similar expressions identify forward-looking statements. Although the Company has used appropriate care in developing any such forward-looking information, forward-looking information involves risks and uncertainties that could significantly impact actual results. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, the following: changes in national and local markets for television advertising; changes in general economic conditions, including the performance of financial markets and interest rates; competitive, regulatory, or tax changes that affect the cost of or demand for the Company's products; and adverse litigation results. The Company undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future developments, or otherwise.

-END-

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SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

THE LIBERTY CORPORATION

By: /s/ Martha Williams

Name: Martha Williams

Title: Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary

February 3, 2004