



NEW JERSEY LIBERTARIAN

NEW JERSEY LIBERTARIAN PARTY, P.O. BOX 56, TENNENT, N.J. 07763

* * * JANUARY 1984 * * *

COUNTER -

1984

COUNTER-1984: NJLP STATE CONVENTION 3/23-24!

1984 LP Presidential nominee David Bergland will headline the roster of speakers at the NJ Libertarian Party's State Convention, to be held March 23-24 at the Town & Campus, Rt. 82 (Morris Ave.), Union.

The theme of COUNTER-1984 will be strategies to advance the cause of liberty in the face of politicians and bureaucrats who seek more control over our personal and economic lives -- the Police State which comes to mind when one hears the title of George Orwell's book, 1984 (frighteningly, of the 137 predictions made by Orwell in his book, more than 100 have been adopted in America!).

The convention will kick off Friday night, March 23, with a cocktail party where delegates can meet the speakers.

NJLP State Chair John Schafer will deliver the Keynote Speech, "Libertarianism in NJ: What Can Be Done," after coffee & danish.

A morning Business Session will follow, after which 1983 NYC FLP Mayoral nominee Judith Jones will speak on "Women & Minorities in Politics Today."

Free-market economist Alan Reynolds is slated to give the Luncheon Speech, "Reaganomics: What Went Wrong." The delicious hot & cold buffet will feature 21 different items to please the palate.

After lunch, Dr. Alfred Steever of the Constitutional Freedom Committee, one of the most effective anti-tax groups in the US, will be putting on a workshop on "Using the Constitution to Advance Liberty."

An afternoon Business Session will follow, after which NJ's two elected Libertarians,

Kingwood Township Committeeman Richard Siano and Sayreville School Board President Randall Corman, will participate in a panel: "In the Belly of the Beast."

Morrmouth County Assistant Prosecutor Russell Malta will speak on "The Juvenile Courts."

Bergland will deliver the Banquet Address, which is as yet untitled, after a complete prime rib dinner (flounder for those who prefer).

Various libertarian groups will offer their wares at tables set up in the Karoline Room -- site of the Breakfast and all non-food events -- all day Saturday.

"I'm pleased to be able to bring in our 1984 convention for only \$5 over the price of our last Presidential-year convention in 1980," Convention Chair Bill George said. "I'm excited at the prospect of using the facility at the Town & Campus. One look and I had to think to myself, 'This is ideal for an NJLP convention.'"

Two positions are available for the Registration Desk and two others for the Bergland table, with FREE registration for the entire convention offered as payment.

Also, others are needed to introduce the speakers, with FREE admission for that event offered.

Interested? Call Bill George at 201-233-4082 after 7 p.m.

A convention registration form will be included in the next NJ LIBERTARIAN.

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

by John S. Schafer

Happy New Year and welcome to 1984! Not everything that George Orwell foretold in his novel by that name has as yet come true, but enough has come true to make free humans everywhere shudder.

Instead of three totalitarian states lobbing bombs at one another, as Orwell predicted, we find countless terrorist movements dynamiting innocent victims in country after country. As a Polish Pope led the faithful of Italy in prayer, he was shot by a Turk hired by Yuri Andropov, head of the Soviet KGB, via the Bulgarian secret police.

Do you feel safe when you step into a shopping mall in New Jersey? The Iranian ambassador to the U.N. recently warned that you may soon have reason to feel anxious.

Where do we find the really dangerous enemies of freedom today? Not in the bureaucracies, classrooms and police stations of the West, although we Libertarians consider these to be troublesome enough. The really dangerous enemies of freedom are those who do not care about changing minds, only about blowing out brains, or drugging consciences into stupors of compliance.

They do not even own their own bodies, but instead have pledged their minds, lives and very souls to some insane cause. We Libertarians sign a pledge of non-violence and follow legal means to seek political office. We are U.S. citizens and active participants in what is still a relatively free republic.

I ask you to consider the life-or-death threats that we, our children, and grandchildren will face in the years to follow 1984. I urge you to contemplate what you would do to neutralize these very real threats. We Libertarians live for peace. Let us so prepare and conduct ourselves, that we need never face the ultimate nightmare of dying for peace.

"The only way to end terrorism is to provide hope of relief for long-standing injustice."

Esler Heller

Redemption of a Soul

The execution of Richard Sullivan on November 30, 1983 by the State of Florida provided us an occasion for reflection on the perversity of the law and the resilience of the human spirit. Countless caring people used the imminence of the execution to campaign publicly and privately for the end of the vengeful practice that the state reserves to itself. Their reasons were varied, but their goal admirable. It is clear that Mr. Sullivan, whether guilty or not, had a long time to reflect on his behavior in his final hours. I think he died with dignity. He cried before the press, and demonstrated as few convicts before him that death is not welcomed with either joy or relief by a feeling person. In this he served the purpose of crime deterrence. How many people understand that a lesser display of humanity would have foiled the purposes of his killers? He also professed his innocence of the killing he was accused. And he accepted the sacraments of a church before his death. In this he served the cause of those who hate this barbaric practice of revenge, because the claim is made that sometimes the innocent are accused and convicted. Who can claim that government is infallible in any function it assumes? Mr. Sullivan's last words heard were "God bless us all." I hope the nation heard the forgiveness in that plea.

--Jonathan Steele

"Society boasts that in its creation of civil, criminal, and other legal laws and statutes it attempts to establish justice and correct evil. But society has demonstrated by the laws it has created that it is not fair and just to all and that it is attempting merely to PUNISH evil rather than to correct it."

H. Spencer Lewis, FRC
1st Imperator of the Rosicrucian Order in America (AMORC)

LEWIS AT NJLP HOLIDAY DINNER

Jim Lewis, the Libertarian Party's candidate for Vice-President, was speaker and guest of honor at the NJLP's Holiday Dinner on December 2nd at Pfenninger's Restaurant in Flemington. Approximately 45 people attended and \$845 was collected for the Bergland/Lewis campaign.

The event was a great success due largely to NJLP Chairman John Schafer's planning and hard work. John's expertise also shined during the quick NJLP General Meeting. The only business was a motion to adjourn, and it passed unanimously!

Lewis, a 50 year old resident of Old Saybrook, CT, said he joined the LP in 1980 and ran for U.S. Senate in 1982. During his campaign for the Senate Jim participated in 6 1/2 hours of debates with the major candidates, and he received 8,000 votes (0.8%).

Jim believes that more exposure does not necessarily mean more votes. He feels that the LP is faced with a "monumental sales challenge" and he studied videotapes of his debates to learn how to improve his presentation of libertarian ideas. Lewis said that our message must be positive and upbeat --instead of talking about abolishing all social programs, we should talk about how we will eliminate the need for them.

Lewis believes there is a real "sense of urgency" facing us and that we're fooling ourselves if we don't think so. The IRS is an agency out of control that even Congress is afraid of. As a party the LP should zero in on the needs of individuals. Short concise libertarian literature should be used to reach people espousing causes libertarians support. Lewis said we should not be trying to sell libertarian philosophy, we should be dealing with specifics in order to bring people to the philosophy of freedom.

Lewis concluded with a quote from Henry David Thoreau: "There are thousands hacking at the branches of evil, but only a few are attacking it's roots." Lewis

said that libertarians are among those few who are attacking the roots of evil now.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 15, 1984-- NYC FLP annual convention.

January 21-- NJLP Steering Committee meeting at Schafer's at 3 PM.

February 10-- CLS special seminar by Dr. Murray Rothbard on "Economic Thought from the Greeks through the 18th Century: A Reappraisal." Tuition is \$100 for the 10 consecutive Friday evenings. Admission is limited. For info. and an application contact CLS at 212/533-6600.

February 18-- NJLP State Committee meeting 3:00 PM at Schafer's (tentative).

March 23-24, 1984-- NJLP annual convention at the Town & Campus Restaurant in Union, NJ. Info. to come in a future New Jersey Libertarian.

Second Thursday of each month-- Constitutional Freedom Committee meeting, 8 PM, Ollie's Restaurant, Route 9 and Tilton Rd., Northfield, NJ. Guest anti-tax speaker at each meeting. Call 609/927-2320 after 5 PM for details.

NJLP QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS

by Dan Maiullo

A total of 32 people took the time to respond, and the forms trickled in over the past five months. I intentionally left the questions open-ended, which made compiling the results more difficult than I had expected. Libertarians, it seems, are quite verbose. Each respondent had a unique way of answering the questions, so I condensed the answers into a few general types to make these re-

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QUESTIONNAIRE...

sults more manageable than 32 dissertations on NJLP policy. This process necessarily lost alot of the individuality of the responses, but I did my best to remain faithful to the essence of the answers.

In compiling the answers, I tried to stick to plain language. This was not always possible, however, because the answers were not always directed at the questions they were supposedly answering. I made my best guess rather than mark down "no answer" in such cases.

Here are the results. I leave the job of interpretation to you.

County:

Monmouth	6	Camden	2	Hudson	2
Middlesex	2	Bergen	4	Morris	3
Burlington	1	Mercer	2	Ocean	3
Somerset	2	Union	3	Essex	1
Passaic	1				

Political self description now:

Limited-gov't libertarian 27
Anarchist 4
Other 1 (Erisian)

Philosophy before joining NJLP:

Libertarian 16
Conservative or Republican 9
Liberal 3
Objectivist 1
Independent 1
Anarchist 1
Right-wing individualism 1

When and why did you join the NJLP?

'72--4	'76--2	'80--5
'73--2	'77--2	'81--2
'74--0	'78--2	'82--3
'75--2	'79--3	'83--2

No answer--3

I'm a libertarian. 7

Disappointment with Republicans, Reagan, etc. 4

Moved to N.J. 2

To become active, get involved, & join a group with my ideas. 9

Lib. political campaign. 3

Cato Institute seminar. 1

No answer. 6

What is the function of the NJLP in your life right now?

Minimal or none. 11

Provides information. 6

Fills a need to support what I believe in, central to my life, & an avenue to venting my frustration. 6

Platform for my views. 4

Social events, moral support, & hope. 5

What should the function of the NJLP be?

Run candidates, political action. 12

Education of the public. 9

Conduct social events; provide moral support. 3

Education and run candidates. 5

More activity generally. 1

No answer. 2

Do you feel the NJLP is an effective political force in NJ?

No. 24

Yes. 1

Not very/somewhat effective. 4

Effective as it can be considering our resources. 1

Don't know. 2

If not, how long do you think it should take the NJLP to become such a force?

Depends upon leadership, membership, money, internal harmony. 7

Depends upon the public. 3

Maybe never, a very long time. 2

Quickly, as soon as possible. 2

2-4 years. 2

5 years. 3

5-10 years. 1

10 years. 2

10-30 years. 1

20-30 years. 1

Don't know. 8

What image do you think the NJLP has in the minds of most people?

No image, vague image. 20

Crackpots, odd ideas, extremist. 6

Incompetent, idealistic, ineffective. 2

Conservative; elitist; Republican dissidents. 2

No answer. 2

QUESTIONNAIRE...

Do you feel the NJLP has an anarchist image that damages its chances for political success, or do you think the NJLP appears too moderate?

Neither 20
Anarchist 3
Too moderate 4
Don't know 1
No answer 4

Do you feel the NJLP should emphasize any particular issues and its positions on those issues? If so, which issues?

Taxes 8
Virtues of limited gov't, reduced federal spending 7
No particular issue 3
Freedom; personal freedom 2
Miscellaneous 11
No answer 1

(Note: For this question many respondents gave multiple answers. To equalize the effect of each respondent on the results, I took only the first particular issue given. The "miscellaneous" includes 11 completely different answers.)

Should the NJLP focus on running candidates for public office, or should it focus on educational activities, or should it have no focus?

Both 12
Run candidates to educate 8
Education (inc. running candidates) 3
Run candidates (to win) 7
Neither--stress social activities 1
Any focus is fine 1

Assuming the NJLP runs candidates, should those candidates concentrate on winning elections or on consistently promoting libertarian principles?

Principles 15
Win elections 4
Both 11
Depends on kind of candidacy 2

Do you feel your County Committee (if you have one) helps you in any way? If yes, explain.

No 11
No answer 11

Don't know 4

There is none 5

Yes 1. Monmouth w/ meetings, friends, help in campaigns.

What function should the County Committees have in conducting NJLP activities?

Run campaigns, campaign assistance. 5

Local arm of LP, local organizing. 6

All power to the counties. 3

Screen local candidates. 2

Whatever action they will perform. 2

Information distribution. 1

Don't know. 3

No answer. 10

Do you feel the County Committees should play a greater role, or should the Steering and State Committees coordinate most NJLP activities around the state?

More local direction. 8

Central direction. 9

Each level has its function. 3

The County should do as much as its volunteers are willing to do. 1

Don't know. 4

No answer. 7

(Note: Most of those who indicated that there should be central direction of NJLP affairs noted that they say this only because of the current lack of party members and activity.)

What particular strategies do you think the NJLP would be welladvised to employ in promoting libertarianism?

Too many wonderful suggestions came in to list them here. And I hesitate to injure the eloquence of the respondents by abbreviating their ideas. However, some of the comments do merit repetition.

"Excellent questionnaire! Very thought provoking and demanding of careful responses."

"YOU SHOULD, for your mental health, articulate your opinion."

"It's a tough fight. Leaves me tired and bummed at the end of the day. The compensation is having libby friends, opening new people's eyes, knowing not doing anything will allow evil to triumph--and getting a good night's sleep for the next day's battles."

"I would like to donate to the NJLP. Please tell me how. As a general rule, the newsletter should provide this info."

"Get rid of dead wood (including me ...)"

"Have 'get-acquainted' parties and socials. Conduct a membership drive with prizes. Pass a pregnant rabbit to members who fail to get a new member."

"Stop having 'social events' and concentrate on spreading libertarian ideas to the uninformed and running effective election campaigns."

"The fighting and feuding between party factions should cease."

"There are many opportunities for actually DOING like a libertarian instead of just talking."

I read with interest Len Flynn's article on the debasement of the penny. I knew of the plan to do so but I was not aware that it had been done. Sure enough I saw a 1983 penny in half and the inside was zinc. The government isn't saving much since the price of zinc is now about 70% of the price of copper. When the scheme was proposed the zinc price was probably about a third that of copper.

I got out a small balance and found that the old penny weighed 3.1 grams and the new one 2.5 grams. These weights fit very closely with the relative densities of the two metals. At 3.1 grams per penny it figures to 146 of them to make a pound. It does seem certain that the current low rate of inflation is temporary, for the elements of the next wave are already in the works. However, while the price of copper has several times in the last decade approached \$1.50/lb., the current price is only 69¢. It is going to take a mighty high wave of inflation to carry the price enough over the \$1.46 break even point to pay off melting the pennies down. It is of interest to carry the arithmetic a little further and find that a 20 ton truck load, which is the minimum the copper works accepts, will contain 5,840,000 pennies!

Steve Enterline

October 20, 1983—Somerset Messenger-Gazette—

Friedlander offers alternative choice

Libertarian candidate Stephen Friedlander is running for state Assembly in the 16th District to offer the voters what he calls "an alternative voice to the Democratic and Republican parties."

Friedlander, a Hillsborough resident for five years, is employed by AT&T Communications in Bedminster and Piscataway in the field of cost and rate analysis. He holds a doctorate from the University of Colorado and has taught college-level economics.

In a press release issued early in his campaign, Friedlander attacked both the majority parties for hiking taxes.

"Last year's budget plan was a clear example of how the Republicans, who wanted to increase the sales tax, and the Democrats, who wanted to increase the income tax, got together and gave us an increase in both taxes.

"If I were an assemblyman, I would have voted against both tax increases, and instead would have shown the people of New Jersey that we can reduce the state budget," he said.

"The government is simply involved in too many activities," he continued. "The Libertarian alternative is to replace government services, such as transportation, parks, education and sport facilities, with private enterprise."

In a recent mailing to district residents, Friedlander outlined his stand on several major issues. A brief summary of his views on some of these topics follows:

- Education: The Libertarian candidate favors tax credits for families who send their children to non-public schools, but opposes government subsidies for non-public schools. He also opposes a mandatory "moment of silence" in schools.

- Subsidies: He is against state-provided loans, subsidies or special tax favors for housing, home mortgages, solar energy, the arts, libraries, museums,

stadiums and new industry.

- Economy: Friedlander supports lower taxes and reduced regulation as the "best way to promote a healthy economy." He favors across-the-board tax cuts for all New Jerseyans and opposes special tax favors for certain industries and interest groups.

- Farmland preservation: He is against spending state funds for "development rights" that pay farmers to keep their land agricultural. Instead, he said, individuals who want to maintain their area's rural character should get together with their neighbors and purchase these development rights themselves.

- Victimless crimes: Friedlander feels law enforcement should concentrate more on protecting people and property, and less on crimes "involving actions that are frowned upon but do not violate anyone else's rights," citing prostitution, drug addiction and gambling as examples.

...and Libertarianism

By Daniel Maiullo

Aside from the fact that writing this gives me great personal satisfaction, I want to explain what libertarianism is and is not, because it is a philosophy held by a large number of people, and because this number is constantly growing.

The Libertarian Party in the United States, founded in 1971, is now the third largest political party in the country. This party, as well as the Libertarian Party in Canada, shares much of its philosophy with the liberal parties of Europe. The libertarian movement is a growing, worldwide philosophical movement based on certain moral principles. It is not just another American political party. Its relevance to the formation of public policy and to the possibilities of change in legal-political systems all over the world cannot be denied, and so I think that more people should know what it is.

First, no two libertarians agree on everything. What I am writing is my impression of libertarianism, some of which other libertarians may disagree with.

Libertarianism is based on the idea that it is good to accomplish goals and solve problems cooperatively, and it is bad to do these things by initiating force, coercion or fraud. Coercion is the threat of the use of force. Force is murder, restraint, theft, and their various manifestations. Fraud is lying or withholding truths that the other person expects to be told. Some will object to these definitions, but any further discussion on this is outside the scope of what I am trying to communicate here.

Please note that libertarians are not opposed to force, coercion or fraud, but to the initiation of force, coercion or fraud. So what is initiation? Libertarians use it in its most commonsense meaning, that is, when a person starts some process in motion, he or she has initiated that process. Of course, many of our actions are in response to circumstances and others' actions, but libertarians proceed on the premise that individuals have free will and that therefore their actions are not merely reactions in the Skinnerian sense. People make decisions on how to respond, and they decide whether to respond fraudulently and coercively, or to respond truthfully and cooperatively. Who initiated what is not a question that can be answered in the abstract, so I will not try it here. But I can give examples:

A thief grabs your purse or wallet, and you punch him in the nose to get it back. The thief initiated the force, and libertarians would say that you are justified in using force to defend yourself and your rights to your property.

A legislative body resolves to tax the sale of cigarettes to pay for food and shelter for the homeless. The legislators have initiated theft upon the buyers of cigarettes. It is hard to imagine what force cigarette smokers have initiated that justifies legislative response. Libertarians would say this is wrong. Despite the nobility and selflessness of the goal to feed and shelter the homeless, it is wrong to use force to attain that goal.

Applying this philosophy to major issues of our time, libertarians firmly support one side or another of most of them. On some, such as racism, there is no libertarian position. Just as the philosophy is color-blind, it is blind to whether or not an individual is racist. On other issues, such as the nuclear freeze, libertarians are divided. Although almost all of them agree that governments should not possess any weapons, there is dispute as to how to reach that condition.

Recognizing that government exists through taxation and that taxation is theft, libertarians condemn almost everything the government does. A minority are outright anarchists. (Although libertarian philosophy *might* lead inexorably to advocacy of anarchy, libertarianism and anarchy are not the same thing.) Libertarians are not opposed to the functions performed by government, only to the means governments employ to accomplish their goals. Thus, they oppose taxation, the draft, welfare, social security, public education, military and economic intervention abroad, and restrictions on immigration, trade, narcotics, gambling and prostitution.

Most of the attacks on libertarianism are so-called "practical" arguments. Who will take care of the roads? Who will punish the criminals? How do we defend against the Russians? And everyone's favorite: What about the poor? My only answer is that these questions do not really attack libertarian philosophy. They merely point out situations and problems that merit attention. Libertarians are not apathetic to these problems, they just feel that traditional solutions 1) are immoral, and 2) are probably not as effective as cooperative solutions would be. I am not an expert on libertarian answers to difficult social and economic problems, but there are a number of volumes written by libertarians who claim to be experts. The nearest, most complete source of these materials is Laissez Faire Books near Washington Square Park in Manhattan.

Rutgers Law Record

November 1983

NEW JERSEY LIBERTARIAN PARTY

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip _____

Telephone: (h) (_____) (b) (_____) _____

Occupation: _____

☐ I am eligible to vote in _____ County.

☐ I am registered to vote in NJ.

☐ Please do not include my name if the NJLP list is rented to other Libertarian organizations.

"I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals."

Signature _____ Date _____

(Signature indicating acceptance of above statement required for membership.)

NJLP Dues

- ☐ \$250.00
☐ 150.00
☐ 35.00
☐ 15.00
☐ 5.00

Membership Category

- Lifetime Sustaining
 Lifetime
 Sustaining
 Regular
 Student (School: _____)

A subscription to the members' newsletter, the **NJ Libertarian** is included with the above dues.

- ☐ Monthly pledge for each of the next 12 months:
☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$10 ☐ \$5 ☐ Other

- ☐ \$10 Libertarian National Committee 1 year dues.

- ☐ **NJ Libertarian** Subscription only, \$10.

- ☐ I am not the first member at this mailing address, and do not wish to receive a copy of the newsletter. (\$10 may be deducted from Regular membership dues only.)

Make checks payable to "NJ Libertarian Party"
 and mail with card to PO Box 686, Far Hills, NJ 07931.

NJ LIBERTARIAN

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 Vice-Chair: Bill George 201/233-4082
 Secretary: Len Flynn 201/928-0758
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Members-at-Large: Sid Pope 201/868-3314
 Dan Maiullo 201/751-2824
 Les Heller 609/758-2082

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 Hunterdon County Sandy Siano 201/996-2469
 Monmouth County Lee Gesner 201/431-4491
 Somerset/Middlesex Steve Friedlander 201/874-8492

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Inserts \$10/sheet

These rates only apply to ads submitted camera-ready. Extra will be charged for any necessary extra preparation.

Material must be received by the 23rd of the month to be in the following issue.

News poll

Last week we noted John Anderson, a 1980 presidential candidate, is planning to form a political party to field a 1984 presidential candidate. We asked readers if they think a third major party is good for the political system. In a 3-2 vote, with one "perhaps," respondents said they do. Here are the responses:

Yes. Actually a third party would be a second party since there's no difference between the "Republicrats" and "Demopublicans!" If voters want a real choice between the establishment's socialist parties "A" and "B," they should support the Libertarian Party and its candidate Dave Bergland in '84.

MARK RICHARDS
 West Milford

PATERSON EVENING NEWS
 November 17, 1983

New Jersey Libertarian Party
 P.O. Box 56
 Tennent, NJ 07763

TO:

**VOTE
 LIBERTARIAN**

Mailed January 11, 1984