

**VOLUME XXVI, Issue 12** 

# Year End Expanded Issue

December, 2000



Victor Kaplan is joined by Mark Edgerton at Victor's OPH booth at Rutger's. Victor is founder of the Rutger's Libertarian Club.

## **Paff Finds Loophole for Libertarians**

If you only read one of the stories in this month's *NJL*, make sure it's activist John Paff's "Using Faulkner Act Initiatives to Seize the Reins of Local Government" on page 11. John's tireless efforts to turn libertarian theory and principles into action is never more apparent than in this instructive story on how to get Libertarian initives on the ballot, despite the Republicrat make-up of local government.

### **Edgerton Campaign Manager Named**

Bob Heitner has been named campaign manager for the Edgerton for Governor campaign. Bob will provide additional structure to the campaign, allowing Mark to concentrate on meeting people and the media.

Campaign plans, budgets and positions to be filled are being detailed. Additional information will be available in the next issue of the New Jersey Libertarian. Bob Heitner can be reached at rheitner@juno.com. For upcoming events in the Edgerton Campaign, see page 13.

### 2000 Election Educates Candidates, Campaigns

Members of the New Jersey Libertarian Party won't recall November 7th's election with much satisfaction. In a race where alternative parties were overshadowed by the antics of the Republicrats, Libertarian candidates had to fight enormous bankrolls and media saturation.

Although we didn't elect a Libertarian candidate, the vote reflected dissatisfaction with the status quo. NJLP candidates and support teams commented unanimously on the lessons we learned during the campaigns and the galvanization of members and county organizations bodes well for elections to come.

The *New Jersey Libertarian* would like to officially thank all our candidates and campaign teams, and joins our membership in appreciating the time and sacrifices made in the 2000 campaigns. We know that the process is often a discouraging one. However, our profile was raised, we appeared on ballots and met many New Jersey voters, and feel that some long term results of this hard work in the cause of freedom will become apparent in the future. For in depth election coverage, see Pat Bontempo's story on page 3.

## NJL Recognizes "NJL Patrons, 2000"

Thanking some special folks for a good year, Page 12.

### State Board Loses Bontempo, Gains Elwell

Citing time restraints due to his work with Libertarians of Monmouth County, Pat Bontempo has resigned his At Large position on the State Board. Lou Elwell was elected to fill the position at the November General Meeting. See recap on page 10.

#### Significant Savings Kick Off 2001

By opting for electronic delivery of the *New Jersey Libertarian*, .5% of our membership has already saved us over \$200 a year in production and mailing costs. That \$200 is now available for outreach efforts and campaign support. To find out how you can steer your dues away from newsletter costs and towards aggressive efforts in the cause of Liberty, see page 5.

# You're Invited!

Liberty Coffeehouse Sponsored by Libertarians of Monmouth County

# Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup> 7 PM

Featuring Singer and Songwriter

Tracey Lockwood



Libertarians of Monmouth County will hold a coffeehouse on **Friday**, **Dec. 8** at the **Emeralds and Pearls Cafe, 535 Bangs Ave.**, **Asbury Park** starting at 7 p.m. The featured performer will be singer/songwriter **Tracey Lockwood**, who is also one of the NJLP's public officeholders. There will be a \$5 cover to help raise money for continued LMC work and those attending will be able to order on their own from the cafe menu.

Those attending are asked to bring a donation of a canned goods item or paper product for the food drive LMC is conducting for The Center, Monmouth County's leading volunteer AIDS service organization. A simple donation of tuna fish, peanut butter or toilet paper will go far to help. The donation will be made by LMC member Dave Duchai who is a member of the Center's Board of Directors.

The coffeehouse will not only be a fun evening, it will also be a great opportunity for folks interested in the LP to learn more about the party and its local activities on an informal, one-on-one basis. All are welcome and no reservation will be necessary. To learn more about Monmouth activities visit **www.MonmouthLP.org**.



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#### Editor, Deb Sackett

#### Contributors: Lou Elwell, Pat Bontempo, John Paff

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Commentary and advertising may be submitted to the editor by the 20<sup>th</sup> of every month. Contact us at:

> New Jersey Libertarian c/o Deb Sackett, Editor 69 Malaga Lake Boulevard Malaga, NJ 08328 Editor@njlp.org 856 694 3419

Beware Of "The Regulators" As The New Jersey Libertarian Party Sheds Light Upon Them Paid advertisement

## **Election 2000 Report**

By Pat Bontempo

#### **Unofficial Results**

As I write this the 2000 presidential race is far from over; so too the race in New Jersey's 12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. In addition I unfortunately still have only unofficial returns, but I suspect there will be little change in Libertarian Party results.

Harry Browne apparently finished fourth in NJ, ahead of Pat Buchannan, in his presidential bid with, according to CNN.com, 7,133 votes or about .23%. This was, however, better than his fifth place finish nationwide. Emerson Ellett came in fifth with 7,013 votes (.24%) behind the Reform and Green Party candidates.

While the dust hasn't settled in the 12<sup>th</sup> CD, it looks like Worth Winslow came in fourth with 1,200 votes (.41%). In the 7<sup>th</sup> CD it appears Darren Young finished fourth with 931 votes (.40%). Both ended behind the Green Party candidates but ahead of other alternative parties.

In the race for the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders Len Flynn received 3,126 votes finishing third in a three-way race with 1.36% of the total. I don't have any results for Tom Abrams in his Princeton borough council run.

#### Ellett Campaign Recap

I have to start with a big thank you to everyone, most of all Emerson Ellett himself who worked tirelessly all year, and special thanks should go to many, such as Ken Bank for his work as campaign treasurer and Robert Hull for his work on the web site.

And at the risk of oversight, I want to single out Danny Maiullo, the nominating petition coordinator; Don Jamison and Joe Saturnia who handled data bases; the folks up and down our state who hosted events and put out signs; and everyone who donated to the campaign.

In all, we raised \$26,251 for the campaign. Half of this (\$13,536) went to air the Ellett version of the Battered Voter Syndrome ad, which ran daily from Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> to Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>. This was a total of 198 one-minute spots, or over three hours of paid airtime.

A little over 60% of it was on News12NJ. I'm pleased to report the LNC contributed \$5,000 in the form of a coordinated expense, which was used for News12NJ ads. It should be noted we only received the money because of what we were able to raise on our own.

The ad also ran on CNN, CNBC, FOX News Channel, FOX Family, the History Channel, Lifetime and the Food Channel on the constituent portions of the Cablevision and Comcast cable systems. We also had three spots on KYW3, the Philadelphia CBS broadcast affiliate.

It should be noted this was in addition to free airtime obtained from Monmouth Cablevision, News12NJ, the New Jersey Network and Cablevision of Nyack, plus radio stations WIFI in NJ and WNYC in New York.

Another \$4,120 went to our four billboards in Bergen, Middlesex, Morris and Ocean Counties; \$3,077 for 1,500 lawn signs; \$230 on buttons, and \$225 on bumper stickers. Print advertising was limited to about \$600 for our monthly ad in the *NJL* and \$725 for advertising in *The Patriot*.

Emerson made numerous personal appearances such as candidate forums sponsored by the Chambers of Commerce of Eastern Monmouth, Northern Monmouth, and Sussex counties; Brookdale College; the Weymouth Civic Association; the League of Women Voters of Berkeley Heights; the Dwight Englewood School, and the Third Statewide Disabilities Convention at Georgian Court College.

This was in addition to Meet the Candidate gatherings in Gloucester, Ocean, Sussex, and Middlesex Counties; events sponsored by the Hunterdon, Ocean, Middlesex and Monmouth county organizations; the Monmouth and Burlington County Fairs; and the leafleting of 10 college campuses from Ramapo to Stockton.

There were numerous other appearances such as his address in March to the Coalition of New Jersey Sportsmen in Jamesburg, an appearance at the Trenton Computer Fair in Middlesex County and the repeated leafleting of commuters in Hoboken.

We're in the process of closing down the campaign committee, and it appears at this time there will be a small amount of money left over. Whatever remains will be passed on to the NJLP Federal Fund to replenish that account. A total of \$800 had been contributed to the campaign from that fund.

"You mean to tell me that those old ladies in Palm Beach can play 15 Bingo Cards simultaneously – but can't punch a ballot?" Anonymous

#### They have to go!

In the days following the election, we made a dedicated effort to remove our campaign lawn signs from state roadways as quickly as possible. No doubt, some were overlooked. If you see a Browne or Ellett sign still standing, please remove it. Be sure to dispose of both properly. There is no need to retain either the cardboard sign or the metal wicket.

The basis of a democratic state is liberty. - Aristotle

#### Libertarian Lou on the Loose By Lou Elwell

#### **ISN'T DEREGULATION WONDERFUL?**

The deregulation of the telephone industry has given consumers lower prices, many more choices and superior service. Since "Ma Bell" was broken up into a much smaller AT&T and the "Baby Bells", long distance telephone rates have dropped dramatically. A daytime call in the early 1980's from New Jersey to California costing over 30 cents per minute can now be made for less than a nickel. Inflation adjusted, that's a decrease of well over 90%. Lower rates are just the most quantifiable benefit. I really appreciate the freedom to choose my telephone provider. I recently switched my cell phone service from Verizon Communications (formed by the merger of Bell Atlantic and GTE) to AT&T since Verizon's coverage in the southern parts of New Jersey that I frequent was not that great.

However, after three months of usage, AT&T realized that I live in New Jersey! I guess inefficient companies move slowly, as my home address was clearly printed on the service application and it was where AT&T was sending the bill. To qualify for the particular rate plan I was on, AT&T apparently requires a New York residential address -- AT&T would not accept my New York office address that the AT&T salesman stated was acceptable. AT&T said I could keep the service plan with a New Jersey address if I just agreed to pay \$20 extra per month.

A daytime call in the early 1980's from NJ to CA costing over 30 cents per minute can now be made for less than a nickel.

After sometimes rocky transition periods, the free market asserts itself and consumers benefit.

> Lou Elwell is the NJLP State Board's newest At Large Member, and is Secretary of Libertarians of Monmouth County. He is often published in area papers, including the Asbury Park Press. He and wife Janis author Shore Liberty, bi-monthly newsletter of Libertarians of Monmouth County. Comments can be sent to: LibertarianLou @aol.com

Needless to say, I declined to pay an extra \$20 per month after being misled by their salesman and using the service for three months without it being an issue. So, I switched again to Voice Stream, which offers dramatically lower prices than either Verizon or AT&T, and so far, the service has been excellent.

If AT&T still had a monopoly, I would not have had the freedom to switch suppliers, a free market would not be offering lower rates and I would have had to continue using the services of a company that misled me.

The process of eliminating AT&T's monopoly continues. Service by service - long distance, pay phones, toll free numbers, regional toll calls, etc. - has been opened to competition with the same effects - more choices, better service and lower prices. After sometimes rocky transition periods, the free market asserts itself and consumers benefit.

Verizon is now asking the Board of Public Utilities to raise its rates on basic phone service to bring the rates to a market price - their market price, and most importantly to deregulate the market for basic phone service. There is much to object to - the amount of the rate increase, the additional services such as Caller ID and call waiting that are automatically included even if you don't want them, and the general lack of choice in service plans that Verizon will offer. The lack of a low cost, basic telephone service option is especially troubling. It reminds me of the famous Henry Ford quote about the Model T that customers can have any color they want as long as it is black. Verizon demonstrates its lack of concern for its customers. It is also horrendous for public relations and exacerbates anti-business sentiments of those who don't understand how good deregulation could be for consumers. However bad Verizon's proposal may initially seem, it is best for consumers in the long run as competitors will be able to enter the market.

Those against the Verizon rate/service plan change and deregulation proposal, which want to force Verizon to disclose their financial statements, force them to offer alternative services, and/or lower the proposed rates, just don't get it. Force or coercion is not the answer. The answer is simply a deregulated free market. In fact, the worse the Verizon service offerings, the more likely, and quicker, competitors will come out with competing plans. A free market is a self-regulating market, which will provide what consumers want, not what regulators think consumers want.

It is conceivable that cell phone service providers would aggressively compete for this segment of the market. Cell phone service providers presently have service options with lots of extra minutes for night/weekend calling because cell phones are predominantly used during business hours. The underutilized night/weekend time periods would be a perfect match for the calling patterns of the residential users most affected by the Verizon changes. Then there are other companies that may offer service that my be less conceivable, such as cable or satellite dish providers that may offer basic telephone service. Predicting the solutions a deregulated free market will come up with is uncertain; predicting the benefits of a deregulated free market is not.

One thing is certain -- deregulating local telephone service will ultimately create the same benefits already proven by allowing competition in long distance and cellular services. Free markets will always provide a greater number of choices, lower prices and superior service.

## Members Boost Budget With Ezine NJL Offers New Subscriber Reward

Just 34 NJLP members have gifted the party with over \$200 a year in production savings, as of this date.

How? They opted for e-delivery of the *New Jersey Libertarian* each month.

It's a simple process. Check out the .pdf version of the *NJL* at http://icdwebs.com/~/NJLPletters/. If you like what you see (and I think you will) drop me a line at DebSackett@aol.com. Let me know that you no longer want the hard copy delivered each month, and we'll immediately get you off the USPS mailing list and get your dues working in outreach efforts and candidate support.

In addition to the great feeling of redirecting your dues, you'll get a better newsletter. Even this month's expanded hard copy *NJL* doesn't have room for the content you'll find in the ezine. In it you'll find an updated "Libertarian Links" each month, along with more content than our typical 10 page NJL. You'll have the ease of online perusal, featuring the ability to instantly go to links mentioned in our stories. The ezine is in color, so you can see what you've been missing in black and white photos.

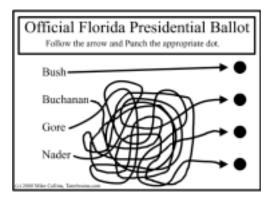
Our current format is .pdf, chosen for it's ease in printing and fast download time. You can download the viewer for free at http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html.

In the works at the moment is posting the NJL in html format online in addition to the .pdf version. What the pdf format lacks in the ability to cut and paste articles will be available in html. Most importantly, once we're posted online you won't have anything to download!

So, why not jump on board? You'll save your party money that could be spent in better ways. You'll have a better newsletter to keep you up to date and to pass along to acquaintances. It's a good deal for a good cause.

To further tempt you, the *NJL* is offering a special reward for subscribers who chose e-delivery during the month of December: a free 3-line ad in the January issue. Your ad will be featured along with other new ezine subscribers in a special boxed feature, and your fellow members will see that you've joined the ranks of those who have opted for outreach over postage and production costs. You can use the ad to plug your business, sell stuff... whatever. You can even use it just to tell us what a swell person you are for saving us some bucks that our candidates and outreach efforts badly need.

Hey, if .5% of our members can so easily save us money that shows up on the bottom line, just imagine the bucks we'll have to spend as we pass the 1% mark! Ten percent is our present goal, and you can help us reach it.



#### Announcements

The **Hunterdon County** libertarians will meet on Monday, December 4, 7:30 at Busher's Bar and Restaurant in Whitehouse. Mark Edgerton, LP candidate for NJ governor will speak at 8:30. Contact Ned Kelley (908 534 5562, kelleyned@vahoo.com) for details.

**Mercer LP** will meet on December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 PM, Lawrence Library

In an effort to keep **Ocean County** members up to date on any activities in their area, I would appreciate if they would provide me with their email addresses, if they have not already done so. I can be emailed at kennbank@aol.com. Thanks.

Ken Bank, Chair Ocean County Libertarians

"The Office of Personnel Management for the Federal Government today announced the 2001 Holiday Schedule for Federal Employees. There will be two (2) less holidays in DC next fiscal year -- Halloween and Thanksgiving have been canceled. The witch is moving to New York and she's taking the turkey with her."

-Anonymous

## Be a "Light of Liberty"

Edited by Thomas L. Knapp

Well, the political campaign season is over, and many will find a long rest from politics tempting. But the libertarian movement can't afford to sleep, to rest on its laurels, or to stop achieving. We've still got a long way to go.

It's nice to be recognized for what you do, though, and Free-Market.Net partner Advocates for Self-Government has a long history of both helping activists be effective and rewarding them for their work. The Advocates' "Lights of Liberty" program is one tool that they use to do both.

It's easy to be a "Light of Liberty." You can become one by:

\* Getting three letters to the editor -- which include the word "libertarian" or "libertarianism" – published in any nonlibertarian newspaper or magazine; or

\* Working at three "Operation Politically Homeless" booths for a minimum of two hours per booth; or

\* Delivering three speeches -- once again, they must include the word "libertarian" or "libertarianism"-- to predominantly non-libertarian groups.

Simple, huh? You may have already qualified -- the "Lights of Liberty" award operates by calendar year, so everything you've done since January, 2000 counts. If you haven't met one or more of these requirements, you have a month to do it.

"Lights of Liberty" recipients get some perqs:

\* A parchment certificate -- wow your friends and break the ice at parties with it!

\* Your name in lights! Well, in "The Libertarian Communicator" (the Advocates' print magazine) and in an ad in the "Libertarian Party News," anyway.

\* A press release sent to local, state and national libertarian organizations to show them how great you are and encourage them to find more people like you.

\* A one-year subscription to "The Libertarian Communicator." \* A coupon for 20% off any order of merchandise from the Advocates' catalog.

\* Entry in a lottery -- lots of neat prizes, the coolest of which is an autographed collection of every campaign book by every Libertarian presidential candidate from 1972 (John Hospers) to 2000 (Harry Browne).

If you qualify in more than one category, you get extra entries in the lottery, cooler certificates, etc. Who ever said that activists aren't appreciated?

I have a confession to make ... I'm not a "Light of Liberty"triathlete yet. I've only manned two OPH booths, and only made two live speeches to crowds that weren't dominated by libertarians this year. Looking through my files, it looks like I may have met the newspaper requirement -- I'll have to check. But hey, I want three stars next to my name. I want those campaign books. And I've got 45 days to get them. So do you.

Editor's Note: Our own NJLP member, Ken Bank, is a light of Liberty. Thanks, Ken!!

Who said activists aren't appreciated? ...Lights of Liberty get some perqs.



"One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors." -Plato

Lights of Liberty"

http://www.selfgov.org/lights/index.html

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## **NJLP Members In Public Office**

## **Elected Officials:**

**William Krouse**, Franklin Township (Warren County) Board of Education

<u>Christian Joest</u>, Blairstown Township (Warren County) Board of Education

## **Appointed Officials:**

Paul Anderson, Vice Chairman, Chester Borough Zoning Board of Adjustment, Chester Borough Planning Board, and Historic Preservation Committee Tony Federici, Community Dispute Resolution Committee, Vernon Township Ken Hetrick, Administrator, Chatham Township Joseph Higgins, Woodcliff Lake Borough Emergency Management Coordinator Paul Horuzy, Commissioner, Sussex County **Municipal Utilities Authority** Ned Kelley, Hunterdon County Local Advisory Committee Alcoholism on and **Drug Abuse** Tracey Lockwood, Secretary, City of Clifton Advisory Committee for Individuals with Disabilities; Cable TV Committee, City of Clifton John Paff, Member, Franklin Township (Somerset **County)** Attorney Ethics Committee Hal Shute, West Amwell Township Open Space Committee and West Amwell Zoning Board of Adjustment Bill Thawley, Cape May Mayor's Advisory Council and Transportation Committee Ed Wiessmann, Chairman, Sparta Township Community Dispute Resolution Committee; Member, Vernon Township Community Dispute Resolution Committee Ronald Wishart, Member, Manalapan Township **Planning Board** 

Thanks, folks!

## **County Organizations**

The NJLP has affiliated county organizations for advocacy, activism and discussion at the county level. Feel free to contact these organizations through any of the individuals listed. If you do not see your county listed, please contact Chair Ed Wiessmann for information on activism in your

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Bergen	Contact Tom Wright timetrial@worldnet.att.net	
Essex/Morris	Chair Fred Maywald, 973 761 1793	
Gloucester	Contact Deb Sackett DebSackett@iconnectdirect.com	
Hudson	Chair Erik Perasson Rep Dan Mikulsky	
Hunterdon	Chair and Rep Ned Kelley, 908 534-5562 kelleyned@yahoo.com	
Mercer	Chair Chris Toto, 609 883 0697 ChrisToto@aol.com Rep Worthington Winslow	
Middlesex	Chair Barry Allen, 732 463 5405	
Monmouth	Chair Pat Bontempo, 732 775 7263 PDB10752@aol.com Rep Mike Panella, 732 442 8711 102531.3477@compuserve.com	
Ocean	Chair Ken Bank, 609 607 1881 Kennbank@aol.com Rep Chris Weimann, 732 240 6132 Cweimann@wallnet.com	
Somerset/Midd	lesex	
	Chair John Paff, 732 873 1251 Paff@pobox.com Rep Darryl Gibson, 732 748 9546 N2diy@postoffice.worldnet.att.net	
Sussex	Chair Tony Federici, 973 764 7289	
Union	Contact Joe Saturnia, 908 771 9550	

## Calendar of County Meetings

The public is invited and guests are very welcome.

Burlington/Camden County (BCLP) meeting. Call 609 273 3253
Hunterdon County, first Monday of each month at Busher's Restaurant, Rt. 22W, Whitehouse Station. Call Ned Kelley at 908 534 5562 for info.
Mercer County: Call David Trend at 609 466 2469
Middlesex/Somerset Counties: fourth Monday of each month, 7:30 PM. For meeting location call Howard Schoen at 732 572 0207.
Monmouth County, second Sunday of each month, Liberty Brunch at 11:30 AM, meeting at Noon. Call Keith Quarles at 732 280 9615 for location and details.
Morris/Essex Counties, last Tuesday of each month, 7:30 PM, call Mike Lewin at 973 884 0005.
Ocean County, contact Ken Bank at 609 607 0881
Salem County, last Saturday of each month, 2 PM, call Robert Dyson at 609 678 8034
Sussex County, call Tony Federici at 973 764 7289.

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## <u>Ellett/Abrams Campaign event in Princeton –</u> <u>Into the Belly of the Beast</u>

NJLPer's from Hunterdon and Mercer Counties as well as others from around the state converged on the liberal stronghold of Princeton on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 28th and 29th. Tom Abrams, candidate for Princeton Township Committee, organized a door to door leaflet activity. Tom's very professional piece was "piggybacked" with an Ellett flyer for delivery. Tom had prepared listings of all Independent voters in the township and maps of the dozen or so voting districts. Delivery of literature would have been a daunting task for the local candidate, but by combining resources with the county organizations, the Ellett campaign, and other LP activists, approximately 80% of all Independent voters received literature delivered to their door. On Sunday, both candidates appeared in Princeton's Palmer Square utilizing Tom's portable booth. Reaction of the cosmopolitan crowd that populates Princeton ranged from genuine interest to bemused tolerance to unconcealed scorn. Some LPer's even had the audacity to smoke right there in public, this in the town that aspires to be the first to outlaw such heinous activity. It was a lot of fun hanging libertarian propaganda on those million dollar mansions, too. Sometimes the path of greatest resistance is the one to take just for the sheer challenge of it. Tom Abrams deserves a Ayn Rand medal of honor for attacking the status quo in staid Princeton. The event serves as an excellent example of cooperation between local and statewide campaigns that should be the norm in future campaign seasons.

Delivery of literature would have been a daunting task for the local candidate, but by combining resources with the county organizations, the Ellett campaign, and other LP activists, approximately 80% of all Independent voters received literature delivered to their door.

## High Bridge - Hunterdon County Target

The Hunterdon County group and the Ellett campaign decided to run an experiment with saturation advertising in one town in the county. After analyzing voting data from the 1997 Governor's race, the town of High Bridge was chosen due to its relatively high Sabrin vote, its moderate size (population 4,000), and its relatively compact housing pattern. High Bridge is a Republican stronghold, as is most of Hunterdon. The terrain is surprisingly hilly, reminiscent of a typical Vermont town. In the week leading up to Election Day, Browne, Ellett and Winslow lawn signs were "planted" and maintained along every road to and from town. Door to door leafleting of Ellett/Winslow material similar to Princeton was accomplished with about 90% of all households reached. This was no mean feat considering the terrain, and several county activists took time off from work to get it done. On Sunday, November 5 activist Linda Richardson led fellow riders Emerson Ellett, Hal Shute and a future LP activist on a freedom ride through town on horseback. Other activists joined on foot carrying signs. After the ride, the group congregated on the sidewalk outside the Burns House, a local bar and restaurant and hailed passing motorists and pedestrians. The event culminated with a buffet in the Burns House and Emerson and Worth delivering short speeches to a good crowd at the other bar in town. As of this writing the official voting results are not in, but based on the county wide results its a safe bet that our goal of besting Corzine in High Bridge was not achieved. However, we can't blame it on lack of exposure. Our message needs work if we are to get better results, and that knowledge alone is worth the effort made at High Bridge.

A press release in the <u>Hunterdon County</u> <u>Democrat</u>...invited the other political parties to cooperate with us to "clean up the environment in Hunterdon". As expected, none of the other parties showed up.

## Campaign Sign Clean-Up

The Hunterdon group received very favorable press relating to a campaign sign clean-up day they sponsored. A press release in the Hunterdon County Democrat announced the event and invited the other political parties to cooperate with us to "clean up the environment in Hunterdon". As expected, none of the other parties showed up on Saturday, Nov. 11. Emerson Ellett made the trip from Ocean County, joining us in picking up and taking down over 100 signs from all parties, excluding those on personal property. A photo of the group appeared in the Democrat the following week, replete with Libertarian Party banner. Bill Schetlick deserves to be singled out as the one who conceived this activity, made it happen, and got it in the paper.

# Mark Edgerton

The Winning Edge in 2001

# Libertarian Party Candidate For Governor of New Jersey Yes, we will win!



A great person once said that evil can triumph over good <u>only</u> if enough good people do nothing. Our duty is to bring the Libertarian message to the population at large, and give them a logical and effective alternative to "doing nothing". The people are thirsty for freedom and leadership. They proved it in Minnesota. If a wrestler can win in Minnesota – a Realtor certainly can win in New Jersey! I need your help! I am working diligently on our campaign **every day**. Now I ask you as a dedicated Libertarian to do something. We have a commitment from Radio 101.5 for great ads - all we need is the money to run them. Whether you commit \$10 or \$3, all I ask is a very **small monthly** contribution to the gubernatorial campaign. That ten dollars doesn't sound like much, but multiply it by all our members and the campaign would have thousands of dollars more than it does now, and we will be closer to our goal of reaching matched funding. If each of you could find a friend to do the same, we would gain a vote as well as contributions. We may need one to three million dollars to run a visible campaign trail is a long and lonely road, and it costs money to attend meetings in Minnesota and New York. When I go to the mailbox and get a letter from you, it lets me know you value my time and effort. If you would like to volunteer your time instead, please call me at 973-398-2277. If we all do "something" **every month,** together we will win!

Contributions should be made payable to "Edgerton for Governor" and may be mailed to Edgerton
for Governor, 133 Maxim Drive, Hopatcong, NJ 07843.
Also, for campaign contributions, we are required by law to ask for the following information:
Name:
Address:
Occupation:
Employer:
Employer's Address:

Visit our Web Site at www.markedgerton.com Paid for by Edgerton For Governor Campaign



## NJLP General Meeting Appoints Political Director, Elects Elwell, Commends NJL

Vice Chair Len Flynn called the meeting to order at 1:28pm at Tumulty's Pub, East Brunswick, a quorum being present.

<u>New Jersey Libertarian commended</u>. The General Meeting carried a motion to commend the editor of the New Jersey Libertarian for the fine job she has been doing. Robert Jacobs will ask that the membership form be changed to include an E-delivery option for the newsletter.

<u>2001 convention (March 24, Ramada Inn, E. Windsor)</u>. Doug Bandow and Sharon Harris are confirmed speakers. There may be a speaker on medical marijuana also.

<u>Bylaws committee</u>. The committee will investigate and report to the next State Board meeting whether delivery of the newsletter electronically and by URL constitute written notice to the membership.

<u>Council of Alternative Political Parties (CAPP) lawsuit.</u> The State's appeal of the decision allowing people to register as alternative party voters is pending. Len Flynn will find an attorney to assist Indiana attorney Robin Stewart regarding a potential suit against ELEC. The NJLP authorized an expenditure up to \$200 to challenge ELEC's rule requiring disclosure on political messages.

<u>Political Director.</u> Bill Schletlick was appointed Political Director for a term to expire at the next convention. The director's duties are to recruit and train candidates, and to develop an overall election strategy subject to the Steering Committee's approval

Steering Committee vacancy. Lou Elwell was elected to fill the vacancy resulting from Pat Bontempo's resignation.

Petitions for governor. Dan Karlan volunteered to distribute petitions for governor.

Election report. Pat Bontempo commented on the Presidential, U.S. Senate and Freeholder races.

County caucuses. Somerset County elected John Paff representative to the State Board.

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Using Faulkner Act Initiatives To Seize The Reins Of Local Government *By John Paff* 

Imagine that we could elect a Libertarian to the council of a major New Jersey city such as Newark, New Brunswick or Atlantic City. That Libertarian council member could introduce all sorts of neat Libertarian ordinances that would, among other things, privatize municipal services, repeal loitering and juvenile curfew ordinances, remove obstacles to free enterprise and force deprioritization of police investigation into drug possession offenses.

Unfortunately, at this point in our history, electing a Libertarian to a large city's council is a formidable if not impossible task. Fortunately, we don't need a Libertarian council member to put our ordinance proposals on the agenda.

Under state law, we already have the power to formally introduce Libertarian ordinances to the councils of about 150 New Jersey municipalities--including the three cities named above. And, if those councils vote down our proposals or choose to ignore us, our ordinances will automatically be placed as public questions on the next election ballot.

Were you aware that we have this power?

The law that allows us to do this is called the Optional Municipal Charter Law, also known as the Faulkner Act. This law gives municipalities the option of changing the structure of their local government. Any municipality that opts for a Faulkner<sup>1</sup> form of government is required, as part of the Faulkner package, to honor and act upon "initiatives" presented by the voters.

So, suppose you live in Piscataway, are irked by the town's cat-licensing ordinance and want to repeal it. The first thing you'd need to do is find out whether Piscataway has adopted a Faulkner form of government. After consulting the "Municipal Government" table in the most recent edition of Fitzgerald's <u>Legislative Manual</u> (at your local library) you'll find that Piscataway has indeed adopted a Faulkner form of government. Accordingly, the Piscataway clerk and council must honor your petition to repeal the cat-licensing ordinance if you can get the requisite number of signatures.

How many signatures is that? According to the Faulkner Act, you have to get either 10% or 15% "of the total votes<sup>1</sup> cast in the municipality at the last election at which members of the General Assembly were elected." If you go to the Middlesex County Clerk's office, like I did, you'll find that in November 1999 (the last election where members of the General Assembly were elected) 4,633 Piscataway ballots were cast. (This is out of 27,744 currently registered voters in a town with a 1998 population of 51,911.) So, you'd need either 464 or 695 signatures on your petition, depending on whether you wanted to get 10% or 15%. That's doable.

Now what? You'd draw up a petition on your word processor calling for repeal of the cat-licensing ordinance (being very careful to follow the Faulkner Act's technical requirements) and start collecting signatures. After obtaining the appropriate number of signatures, you'd file your petition with the township clerk. Assuming the form of the petition was valid and number of signatures sufficient, the clerk would treat the petition as if it was an ordinance introduced by the council. A public hearing would be held and the council would be given an opportunity to vote on repealing the cat-licensing ordinance. If the council were to vote to retain the ordinance, or not vote on it at all, the clerk must place the question on the ballot at an upcoming election. If you submitted a petition with 15% of the 1999 voters, the clerk would hold a special election for the question. If your petition had at least 10% but less than 15% of the voters on it, then the cat-license repeal question would be placed on the next municipal or general election ballot. If more people vote for repeal than against it, the ordinance is repealed and the town council isn't allowed to alter that result for at least three years. Citizen initiatives are a powerful tool for Libertarians. Because of the low voter turnout in "off year" General Assembly elections (particularly in years like 1999 when there was no gubernatorial election), the number of signatures needed is surprisingly low. Believe it or not, New Brunswick, which had a 1998 population of 41,768, cast only 2,320 ballots in the 1999 election. Therefore, only 232 signatures are needed to put a Libertarian ordinance on the ballot there. In smaller Faulkner towns, like Mine Hill, Morris County, where the population is only 3,435, the number of signatures needed is likely to be less than fifty--perhaps even less than twenty-five. Continued on Page 13

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# Do we know how to reach you?

In our increasingly *e* and @ society, email is sometimes the most convenient way for you to hear from us. If you haven't already done so, please email JTOUSSAINT@aol.com with your name and your preferred email address. Jack Toussaint is our membership secretary, and will guard your address fiercely.

# New Jersey Libertarian Recognizes NJL Patrons, 2000

The New Jersey Libertarian has enjoyed a good year. Member feedback has acknowledged timely and consistent delivery, improved layout and informative content.

None of this would have been possible without the support of members who assisted a new editor with their time, their donations of software and expertise, and month after month of articles, commentary and advice. The New Jersey Libertarian acknowledges, with gratitude, the contributions of the following members:

# David Arndt Software Donor

Pat Bontempo Mentor, Contributor

Lou Elwell Contributor, Software Donor, Leadership in outsourcing and bulk rate transition

Mike Pierone Web space donor, cartoonist

Chris Toto Production and Distribution

Jack Toussaint Technical Training and Advice

Special thanks also to those members who participated in the tiresome process of our old production system.

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## Libertarian Links

www.njlp.org. The homepage of the NJLP www.monmouthlp.org. Homepage of Libertarians of Monmouth County. www.cjnj.org. Citizens for Justice in NJ's homepage, including John Paff's Bartender List. www.politicsnj.com. The New Jersey Political scene. Great site, and they even ran columns by Lou Elwell and Deb Sackett! www.freemarket.net. The starting point for libertarianism on the web. www.cato.org. The premier libertarian think tank. www.reason.com. Homepage of the Reason Foundation and Reason magazine. www.lp.org. Homepage of the National Libertarian Party. www.self-gov.org. Homepage of Advocates for Self Government. www.laissezfaire.org. Homepage of Laissez-Faire books. www.ij.org. Libertarian organization committed to achieving justice through action in the courts. www.drcnet.org. The central homepage dedicated to the reform of American drug laws. www.guntruths.com. Defending second amendment rights through common sense and truth. www.friedmanfoundation.org. Nobel Laureate Milton Friedman's foundation to free children from the government monopoly on schools. www.atr.org. The homepage of Americans for tax reform. www.atr.org. The homepage of the Future of Freedom Foundation.

**Sign up!** Many of the sites above provide free email updates. Also, Wallnet offers superb services like *Announce* and *LibertyTalk* mailing lists. Sign up at njlp.org.



## Faulkner Act... Continued from Page 11

It's fun to think up ordinances that we could propose and how the council and voters would react to them. Could you imagine your town council having to seriously consider an ordinance directing your local police department to assign a lower priority to arresting marijuana users than it does to citing parking offenders? Would your local police chief be quoted in the papers as calling the ordinance "irresponsible" and would the local council run for cover? Would the proposal generate interest and recruitment opportunities at your local high school or college campus? If you want to really shake things up, this is the way to do it.

Less drastic, but also powerful, would be repeal of your town's juvenile curfew ordinance. I think the middle and high school kids, and many of their parents, could be recruited on that one. Can you imagine a couple dozen sixteen-year-olds addressing the town council at the public hearing? A media field day.

Or, perhaps you'd rather focus on economic freedom issues. Your town might have an ordinance that arbitrarily limits the number of taxicabs that can operate in town. New Brunswick and Trenton have such ordinances, and taxi service there is predictably shoddy. What argument could the council advance in support of retaining this protectionist law?

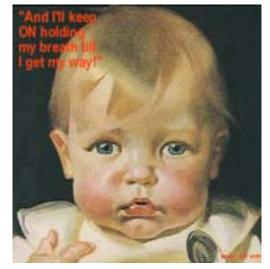
Deciding upon an ordinance to enact or repeal is a relatively easy task for a fledgling local party. Gathering the petition signatures is a good party-building activity, the process is relatively straightforward and success is measurable. Submitting the completed petition to the municipal clerk is a good photo opportunity and a peg for newspaper stories.

As the public hearing approaches and recalcitrant council members dig in their heels and battle for the status quo, people will begin to regard Libertarians as being legitimate players in the local political arena. As the election approaches, local newspapers will editorialize about the ordinance, thus giving additional attention and credibility to the local party and the individual Libertarians that comprise it. After the election, win or lose, the local Libertarian Party and its leaders will probably have gained enough recognition to credibly run candidates in the next municipal race.

In sum, I believe that we are missing an opportunity if we don't use the Faulkner Act to advance freedom at the municipal level. Citizen initiatives give us the power to get the politicians talking and the press writing about the issues we define. The initiative also gives us something concrete to offer our constituents. Finally, it gives us a roadmap for party building--a straightforward and measurable method by which we can work toward a concrete goal. Because of the low voter turnout in "off year" General Assembly elections, the number of signatures needed is surprisingly low... In smaller Faulkner towns, the number...needed is likely to be less than fifty – perhaps less than twentyfive.

## From Al's Baby Book

(maybe this explains something?)



#### *Edgerton Campaign – Upcoming Events* By Robert Heitner, Campaign Manager

December 4th - Mark will be in court in Morristown at 10:15 AM on the lawsuit by third parties in New Jersey to remove the built in advantages the Republicans and Democrats have under current laws and procedures.

December 4th Evening - Mark will meet with Hunterdon County Republicans in Whitehouse, New Jersey.

December 8th 7 PM - Coffehouse in Asbury Park, Mark will meet with Monmouth County Libertarians.

December 9th 1 -5 PM - Mark will speak at Rutgers University in Camden. Mark will talk about revitalizing Camden's depressed economy and how to rebuild urban centers.

Mark has also taped 3 shows of the "Third Point of View" which will air on channel 71 of some cable systems in the near future.



# Calendar of Upcoming NJLP Events

Fri, Dec 8<sup>th</sup>, 7 PM Liberty Coffeehouse Emeralds and Pearls Café 535 Bangs Ave., Asbury Park Sponsored by LMC

> Sun, Dec 17<sup>th</sup>, 1 PM NJLP State Board Meeting Tumulty's Pub

> Sun, Jan 21st, 1 PM NJLP Steering Committee Meeting Stefanelli Residence Tinton Falls

Sun, Feb 18<sup>th</sup>, 1 PM NJLP State Board Meeting Tumulty's Pub, East Brunswick



Vic Kaplan manning his OPH booth at Rutgers, where he is founder of the Libertarian Club.



New Jersey				
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