



NEW JERSEY LIBERTARIAN

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

* * * NOVEMBER 1986 * * *

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 4-- NJLP General Meeting and Zeldin campaign celebration at 8 PM at Zeldin's home at 10 Lincoln Dr., Laurel Spring. Everyone welcome. Call 609/783-4306 (Jerry) for directions.

Every Wednesday-- Libertarian Discussion Club, 6:30 PM, Patti's Restaurant, 37 Bartlett St., New Brunswick. For directions call 201/249-7649 (Rick).

NJLP STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

by Len Flynn

The NJLP Steering Committee met on October 8, 1986 at Patty's Restaurant in New Brunswick. Present were Duprey, Friedlander, Hoegberg, Flynn, Swirsky, and Peters. Brazil was absent.

From 7:00 to 8:05 PM the committee heard from John Weber and Bill Marchioni, who explained their "wavebeaker" syndicated radio program. They suggested that their promotional effort might be particularly suited to spreading libertarianism to college students, thereby building for the future. The committee referred John and Bill to national LP for further action.

Rich Duprey reported on his 10/3/86 meeting in Trenton with Steven Demicco, research assistant for the majority of the state legislature. The 1 1/2 hour discussion included Ed Martone of the ACLU. Results of the meeting appeared largely negative; Mr. Demicco was concerned that allowing people to register as Libertarians would "jeopardize the two party system"!

Two volunteers for chairman of the 1987 NJLP annual convention have arisen: Mike Pierone and Jerry Zeldin. Based on Jerry's success last year, the committee unanimously chose him as convention chair. The convention location was fixed as no further south than New Brunswick and the per person pre-convention charge will not exceed \$35.

Political Action Committees (PAC's) were next discussed. The Commerce and Industry Association of New Jersey has a Private Enterprise PAC (PENPAC) for "winning" candidates only. A motion was approved to establish LIBPAC, an NJLP PAC, now for 1987 NJLP campaigns. Steve Friedlander will chair LIBPAC and contributions should be sent to 300-2B Gemini Drive; Somerville, NJ 08876.

Rich Duprey reported that the NJLP newspaper the Garden State Libertarian will be out at the end of October. Typesetting has been volunteered in exchange for a sustaining NJLP membership.

Rich proposed that premiums for initial memberships beyond the basic membership be approved. The committee unanimously moved to allocate up to \$60. to expend for decals or books, etc. for this purpose.

The Steering Committee adjourned the meeting at 9:05 PM. A general meeting will be held on November 4 in conjunction with the election evening celebration at NJLP Congressional candidate Jerry Zeldin's home in Laurel Spring, NJ.

Vote Libertarian

If you have no Libertarian candidates to vote for, write in "NO ONE" or "NONE OF THE ABOVE".

NJLP PHONE: 201/937-9674

The following is an excerpt from an article by Dave Walter in the October 1986 issue of Individual Liberty called "7 Challenges for the Libertarian Movement."

Challenge #7: Commitment instead of involvement.

We all know the story about commitment vs involvement: for our breakfast eggs and bacon the chicken is involved, but the pig is committed. I'm not suggesting we can or should be martyrs to the cause of liberty, but I do suggest that mere involvement falls far short of what the movement needs.

Whenever this topic comes up, I'm reminded of a true story of commitment to the cause of the American Revolution that was rendered by a teenage patriot. His name was Daniel Bedinger, a 14-year-old Virginia farm boy when his two older brothers marched off to join Gen. Washington. His parents refused to allow him to enlist but when he was 15 he ran away to join his brothers at the front. He walked from Virginia to New York City. (How many libertarians won't drive 10 miles to participate in National Tax Protest Day?)

Joining the Army, Daniel was in the lines at Fort Washington on Nov. 26, 1776 when the British and Hessians moved out to strike at Washington's forces. It's recorded that young Daniel fired his heavy musket 27 times that afternoon as elite Hessian troops stormed the fort, each time shouting at them, "There, take that you bastards!" (How many libertarians cringe at the thought even of asking a friend to attend a libertarian lecture?) He saw his brother wounded. He saw his shots and those of his sharpshooting friends cut a bloody swath through the enemy. Finally, after being driven back 5 times, the Hessians captured the fort and took many of the surviving rebels, Daniel included.

He was locked up aboard a prison ship in New York harbor, one of the infamous cesspools of filth and starvation the British maintained for prisoners. If you agreed to join the British Army you could be released. Daniel said no, and endured misery and putrid food until enough British soldiers could be captured to effect an exchange. (How many libertarians get upset because a convention banquet costs \$30 each and is only "rubber chicken"?) Of the 79 men held with Daniel, 52 died in captivity! ("Sorry, I can't give out literature today. It's too cold/too hot.")

Now one would think such an experience would wash out the stars from Daniel's eyes. Lesser men would have dragged themselves home, glad to be alive and who cares if George III still rules. Not Daniel. He rejoined Washington's army and was commissioned an officer for his actions in New York. Less than eight months later, Daniel Bedinger fought at Brandywine. Captured again, this time he spent two years in prison, in conditions only slightly better than inside that ship.

Finally released, one could certainly expect Daniel to trudge home for good, convinced of the futility of battling the British Empire. ("Well, the heck with it. We've failed to get ballot status twice in a row now.") Perhaps he did go home to recuperate, but only for a while. For history records that on Jan. 17, 1781, Lt. Daniel Bedinger, now a wizened 20-year-old, was with his troops at the Battle of the Cowpens in South Carolina where Gen. Daniel Morgan smashed Tarleton's redcoats and started them on the road to Yorktown and ultimate victory for the Americans. One can imagine how proud and joyful a committed Daniel Bedinger and his men were on that day.

So, what of us? Like Daniel Bedinger, we will never have a postage stamp honoring us, no Longfellow will write poems about our courage, no obelisk will arise to commemorate our achievements. Most libertarians will never become famous, or have a TV show appear on their life, or have kids put their picture on bedroom walls.

But if it hadn't been for Daniel Bedinger and thousands of ordinary (some "ordinary"!) Americans like him, the Revolution would have been lost and Jefferson and Henry and Washington and the rest would have met a traitor's fate. He won for us the liberties we are called upon to defend once more.

I think you get the message: we don't all have to have the talents of a Rothbard or Rand, a Bergland or Clark, a Fritz or Jacob to be an important and necessary part of the fight for freedom. For every one of them, there have to be thousands of us lesser Bedingers fully committed to the cause. Like Bedinger, we too are engaged in battling a mighty empire dedicated to enriching those in power and impoverishing those who wish to lead peaceful lives free of political interference.

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From The Southern Libertarian
Messenger, August 1986:

"Booms and depressions do not spring from economic freedom and the individual enterprise system. On the contrary, they inevitably result from government disturbances of a peaceful market society."

Hans Sennholz

A welfare state is what happens when you let a government of the people and for the people buy the people.

Deregulation flies

Editor, The Record:

The Record has consistently published articles and editorials about the supposed dangers deregulation has brought to the airline industry. And in at least two instances, it has used an article written by John J. Nance, the author of "Blind Trust: How Deregulation Has Jeopardized Airline Safety and What You Can Do About It."

Nance is a pilot who has been capitalizing on the spate of airplane disasters by telling the flying public that deregulation is at fault. What Nance (and seemingly The Record) refuse to acknowledge is that air-traffic control and safety inspection are the two areas of the airline industry that have never been deregulated.

Nance, however, is correct in saying that air-traffic control and safety inspection are the root cause of many of the accidents and near accidents that proliferate today. What he is incorrect in saying is that deregulation is the cause. If we look into the areas that have been deregulated, we see that the consumer has benefited: low airfares, reduction of unnecessary services, an expanding industry, etc. Yet looking into those

areas still regulated, we see the number of near misses climbing, airplanes flying that shouldn't be, and overworked air-traffic controllers.

The message is clear: Deregulation has succeeded where regulation has failed. It has been the free market, and not some government agency, that has benefited the consumer. The time has come to continue the work started and make the airline industry *laissez faire!*

RICHARD L. DUPREY
Waldwick

*Mr. Duprey is chairman of the
New Jersey Libertarian Party.*

The Record

October 2, 1986



Private mail carriers for efficient service

DEAR EDITOR:

I am writing in response to a recent Readers' Forum letter headlined "Private mailers are opposed." I must say I am not at all surprised that a postal worker is against private mailers. I am surprised that of all justifications to use, the gentleman who wrote the letter selected the possibility of a strike!

I'd like to remind him that legal agreements did not prevent the air traffic controllers from pursuing that course. Also, since private mailers would be many and varied, a strike by United Parcel Service (UPS), for example, would not impede delivery of mail by its competitors, whereas a strike by the postal workers, who have no competition, would be much worse. However, I'm sure much of the urgent mail would simply be sent by way of UPS, Federal Express, Purolator and other private delivery services.

I have often heard it said that privatizing the Postal Service could severely damage service to rural areas (which I personally doubt), but why then don't we at least

Times-Herald Record
(Middletown, NY)
September 11, 1986

Duped over dirt

During the past month or so, as the radon issue developed, I've held back from writing on this issue. Since I live neither in Vernon nor Warwick, I thought perhaps I had no real vested interest in how this controversy is finally resolved. Yet, I do have an interest in what happens, since things like this tend to develop precedents for the rest of the country.

With that in mind, here goes! You residents of Vernon and Warwick are being victimized by the anti-nuclear movement in this country. They are your adversaries, and they are using you for their own leftist, anti-technological goals. Ironically, it was the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), which you view as your foe, who created the anti-radon hysteria which now has you in its grip! The environmental bubbleheads at DEP got the people in Montclair and West Orange all worked up over this non-issue of radon. Naturally, these people, after being lied to like you, have demanded that the state "do something" — so they did, and ended with drums of supposedly contaminated dirt that they had no place to store! Obviously, they can't dump it back in places from where they dug it; however, there is no reason why any town should object to taking all or some of this soil, since there is nothing wrong with it! Despite what the "experts" have told you, radon is nothing to get upset over. It occurs naturally in the soil, just as other minerals do. My hometown of West Milford is right in the center of the "Reading Prong," an area that is heavily laden with radon soil. Yet I do not recall seeing people, trees or animals "glowing," as some of the juvenile posters I've seen on Route 94 would seem to suggest! In fact, tests for radon in West Milford have proved inconclusive; one homeowner tested his residence eight different times and got six different readings!

This is a mineral-rich area whose history is filled with past mining for iron ore, zinc and limestone. If our forebears tapped into this soil a century or more ago, why wasn't the horrible radon released then to cause the environmental disaster you have all been fooled into expecting? The bottom line on this is that your national anti-nuclear and anti-radon leaders want constant crisis situations so that government will move in and spend more of your money and assume more controls over your economy. In short, you are being used to promote a socialized economy in which all technological advancements and economic decisions will be made by an all-powerful state. In closing, let me say that you'll be better off with some more harmless dirt in your valley than with the future that your "leading activists" have planned for you!

MARK RICHARDS
West Milford, N.J.

limit the service to those areas we are afraid could not be made commercially profitable?

As far as his references to law enforcement are concerned, I believe this can and should be a separate issue, though I do urge him to read a recent article in "Insight" about "misdirection" of mail by postal workers to the IRS. It is a common mistake for people to get excited about "improving" government institutions, unfortunately the truth is that "efficient government" is a contradiction in terms.

What we really need is LESS government.

Michael V. Pierone,
Vernon

The Star Ledger
October 26, 1986

LIBERTY ENLIGHTENING THE WORLD

Free Vermont
Summer 1986

There's been a lot of hoopla about the Statue of Liberty which many people are calling a "national symbol" or a celebration of the recurring waves of immigrants who have enriched this nation.

But in fact, as Richard Maybury wrote in the Wall Street Journal more than a year ago, both ideas miss the real meaning of this statue.

The connection between the statue and the immigrants is tenuous and misleading, at best. The statue was delivered to the United States in 1884, eight years before the Ellis Island immigration center was opened. It did not in fact become associated with immigrants until 1903 when Emma Lazarus' poem - "Give me your tired, your poor..." - was attached as an afterthought.

And the French who gave the statue to this country never intended it to become a "national symbol." No. They intended as a symbol of something far larger than that. As the French Envoy Jules Jusserand reminded Americans many years ago, "The statue was raised not to a man, famous and useful as he may have been, not to a nation, great though she may be. It was raised to an idea, an idea greater than any man or nation, greater than France or the United States, the idea of Liberty!"

Perhaps the most important fact that is being largely ignored today is the proper name of this famous statue. No, it's not the "Statue of Liberty." The correct name, given to it by its creator, Frederic Auguste Bartholdi, is "Liberty Enlightening the World." It could have been erected anywhere in the world and, if fact, Bartholdi first planned to erect it at Suez, Egypt.

According to Maybury, "The most important word in the name is 'Enlightening.' The statue carries an up-raised torch to symbolize the conviction that when the principles of liberty are understood and protected, the result is a prosperous civilization. Liberty is the source of prosperity.

"So what are these principles of

which Liberty Enlightening the World is supposed to remind us? After all, shouldn't someone associated with the restoration project be explaining them?

"I've been reading the restoration literature for a year now, and I have yet to find any explanation of what the principles of liberty represented by the statue are.

"They are the inalienable national rights of the individual. One of American's founders, Samuel Adams, enumerated them just prior to the

American Revolution. 'The natural rights of the colonists are these,' he wrote, 'first, a right to life; second, to liberty; third, to property; together with the right to support and defend them in the best manner they can.'

"These are the principles our forefathers were fighting and dying for in the American Revolution, and they are the principles that began to spread around the world after the Revolution. One of the first places where they began to take hold was France.

"During the 1800s, many French scholars came to realize that as the principles of liberty became better understood and protected, prosperity became more widespread. Liberty enlightens the world. In an 1865 speech, Edouard de Laboulaye, a careful student of American history and constitutional law, called for the creation of a giant monument to liberty.

"The French artist Bartholdi was sitting at Laboulaye's table listening to the speech. He was so moved he decided to create this 150-foot iron and copper statue to symbolize the principles and benefits of liberty. At the statue's feet lie her chains of bondage, broken and cast aside.

"In 1886, the statue was formally dedicated. The gift was the French people's way of saying, thank you for helping to teach us the principles of liberty."

As Maybury suggested while the reconstruction project was still underway, the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island Foundation might

accomplish much more if, in addition to restoring the statue, it also "helped restore and explain the principles the statue was intended to represent."

Paterson News

September 15, 1986

Letters**The NRA is right**

Editor:

Once again, the the wake of the tragedy in Edmond, Oklahoma, your paper, like the rest of the liberal lying press in this country, has jumped on the anti-gun bandwagon.

In your Aug. 23 editorial, you rehash the usual anti-NRA and anti-Second Amendment falsehoods and cliches. The NRA is correct when it says, "Guns don't kill, people do;" or would your paper have us believe that the two .45-caliber handguns used in this recent mass murder somehow magically loaded themselves, walked down to the post office by themselves, aimed themselves and pulled their own triggers?

I would also suggest that it's you who misinterpret the Constitution, not the NRA or other freedom-loving gun groups. When the Founding Fathers of our Constitutional Republic wrote or spoke of "The Militia," they meant citizen-soldiers who would turn out with their own weapons (not armory-issued ones that would otherwise be locked up at a center location) to restore domestic order or repel foreign invasion. All one has to do is read the Federalist Papers or the diaries and memoirs of the Madisons, Washingtons, Franklins and Hamiltons to know what their intentions were during that Early American period.

Instead of railing against guns and their owners, why doesn't your paper attack gutless judges and the gang of conniving shyster lawyers who have turned our criminal justice system into a criminal's haven?

Suppose someone suggested that your argument be applied to the First Amendment, as well. Would you really want Congress and state legislators to move against "unrestricted availability" of newspapers, magazines, books and films. I would hope not!

Mark Richards

West Milford

The paraphernalia of nationalism is quite new. Even flag-worship is new. In the late nineteenth century "Old Glory" was indeed a popular emblem, so popular that merchants used it to hawk corsets, cough drops, and player pianos. There was nothing sacred then about the flag, precisely because the cult of the nation did not yet exist. The elaborate etiquette that now surrounds the national regalia was not concocted until 1923, the handiwork of the War Department and the newly formed American Legion. The object of the flag code was to transform the country's banner into a semi-holy talisman and so give the abstraction called the nation a semblance of life. No doubt the War Department half succeeded. When certain anti-Vietnam War protesters wanted to enrage their fellow citizens they burned American flags, proving how caught up in the flag cult, one way or another, most Americans had become.

I can still remember my own terrifying introduction to the more recondite aspects of twentieth-century flag-worship. It occurred at a Boy Scout meeting in April, 1946, when the scoutmaster asked the assembled tenderfoots what we were supposed to do when the family's flag had grown tattered and unseemly. Throw it in the garbage, yelled one young heathen with no future in scouting. If you did that, the scoutmaster replied in hushed and portentous tones, you would be arrested and sent to prison. Fear and awe swept over us at the thought that an ordinary little flag—*private property* your father might have bought at a Woolworth's — could bring down upon you the majestic wrath of the all-seeing American Government, a thunderbolt, as it were, from Mount Olympus. The scoutmaster was exaggerating, but not by much. What he did not tell us, however, was that the law you broke by rudely disposing of a tattered flag did not originate in the misty, immemorial past. It had been enacted by Congress just four years before, in 1942.

Walter Karp ***REPUBLICAN VIRTUE****Harper magazine (July 1979)**

*Walter Karp is a political writer and the author of **The Politics of War**, which is available for purchase from **LAISSEZ FAIRE BOOKS**, 532 Broadway, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10012, and you can order toll-free by phone with a **Visa** or **Mastercard** by dialing 1-800-238-2200, Extension 500.

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"I know no safe depository of the ultimate powers of society, but the people themselves, and if we think them not enlightened enough to exercise their control with a wholesome discretion, the remedy is not to take it away from them, but to inform their discretion by education."

Thomas Jefferson

From The Southern Libertarian Messenger, July 1986

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