



New Jersey Libertarian

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July 2007

NJLP Picnic on July 21

Hear candidates speak and have fun at Polanka Park in South River

Come and enjoy our summer picnic! There is no admission charge: the facility, the charcoal pit, and the soda are all complementary. Bring your own side dishes, and perhaps add enough extra to share with your fellow Libertarians. Alcoholic beverages are not provided, but are welcome. There is a playground for the children and horseshoe pits for the adults.

Polanka Park is a beautiful wooded picnic area complete with full kitchen, refrigeration, charcoal grills, gazebo, covered dance area, clean restrooms, and much more. Bring a friend! See directions and map at the end of this article.

Long, boring meeting? – Not!

The general membership meeting is set for 2:00 PM, and it promises to be short. NJLP Chair Lou Jasikoff has called for a Steering Committee meeting at 10:00 AM to handle current party business and to hear reports about ongoing campaigns and party activities. All such committee meetings are open to our members, so if you wish to watch “your membership dollars at work” you are welcome to come in the morning. If there are particular new business matters that deserve attention, then the morning meeting should provide time to formulate action items for the members to decide at the afternoon General Meeting.

Special Guests and Candidates

Did you know that there are seven people seeking the Libertarian Party nomination for President in 2008? And were you aware that ten NJLP members have successfully filed nominating petitions to run for state legislative office this year?

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Representatives of the campaigns and hopefully many candidates themselves are expected to attend the afternoon session and the picnic. You can ask the candidates directly about any issues while you relax with them at the picnic. (See page 2 article.)

More questions? Contact Lou Jasikoff at (973) 752-9164.

Directions to Polanka Park, South River

The Polish War Veterans Picnic Grounds is located less than a mile off Route 18 in South River, NJ (near East Brunswick).



From the Garden State Parkway – Southbound

- 1 a. Take Exit 124 - Toward Sayreville/South River

Northbound

1. a. Take Exit 125 - Toward Route 35/Sayreville/South Amboy
 - b. Turn Left to take the Chevalier Avenue ramp
 - c. Turn Left onto Main Street extension.
2. Turn slight Right onto CR-670/ West Main Street
3. Turn Right onto McArthur Avenue
4. Turn Right onto CR-535/Veterans Memorial Bridge
5. Turn Right onto CR-677/ Reid Street
6. Turn Right onto William Street

From the Turnpike

1. Take Exit 9, Route 18 /US-1/New Brunswick/Shore Resorts.
2. Take the Rt. 18 South ramp toward South River/East Brunswick.
3. Merge onto NJ-18 South.
4. Continue with directions below.

From Route 18

1. Take the Edgeboro Road ramp toward Old Bridge Turnpike
2. Turn left onto Edgeboro Road
3. Turn Right onto Brick Plant Road
4. Turn Right onto William Street

NJLP Candidates on the Ballot

Ten NJLP candidates have succeeded in gathering and submitting sufficient petition signatures to be on the ballot for the November 6, 2007 general election.

Jim Miller **District 10 Senate**

Jim and his supporters gathered 123 signatures from 10th District residents to enable him to run against incumbent Senator Andrew Ciesta. Jim is known for his efforts to help his late wife Cheryl who suffered from multiple sclerosis and benefitted from medical marijuana to alleviate her symptoms. However, she was never allowed to obtain marijuana legally despite her and her husband's best efforts to enact legal reforms, nor could they gain help to implement the 1981 state law on the books ("CDS Therapeutic Research Act") to permit N.J. residents access to federal controlled substances. Senator Ciesta is a recognized supporter of drug prohibition, and he steadfastly refused to meet with Jim and Cheryl for 7 years.

Jim works as a self-employed carpenter. He is 55 years old and lives in Toms River. He attended North Carolina State University and met Cheryl in 1983. They were married in 1984 and she died in 2003. Jim is writing a book to tell their moving story. Its tentative title is "Till Death Do Us Part."

Ken Kaplan **District 26 Assembly**

Ken gathered and filed 135 signatures to qualify for the November ballot. The district covers 12 municipalities in Morris County plus three in Passaic County. Ken writes: I am President of the Commercial Division at Edgerton Realty Corp., where I have been associated for 6 years as a broker/salesperson, following a 22 year tenure at Archie Schwartz Company. I also have experience in retail business and law. A graduate of Brandeis University and NYU Law School, I was admitted to the New Jersey Bar in 1972 and remain a member in good standing.

Born in Newark, I grew up in West Orange, and have lived in Rockaway and Livingston before moving to my current residence in Parsippany. Thus, I have a life-long familiarity with New Jersey's people and places. My 25 year old son, David, is a mechanical engineer and my 21 year old daughter, Kimberly, is college senior majoring in broadcast journalism. My community involvement includes membership in the Livingston Lions Club, where I am a past president.

I have been a member of the Libertarian Party since 1973, and I have run for office numerous times. Most notably I ran for N.J. Governor in 1993, when I came in 4th in a field of 19 candidates. The total vote cast for "other" candidates exceeded Whitman's margin over Florio, so the votes I received definitely counted!

Darren Young and Jeff Hetrick **District 21 Assembly**

Darren and Jeff filed 146 signatures to get on the November ballot. District 21 contains the Union County municipalities of Berkeley Heights, Cranford, Garwood, Mountainside, New Providence, Roselle Park, Springfield, Summit, and Westfield; Millburn in Essex County; Chatham, Harding, Long Hill, and Madison in Morris County; and the Somerset County towns of Warren and Watchung.

Darren Young is 46 years old and lives in Summit with his wife Jane and two children. Darren has a B.A. in math from Rutgers College and has worked as a software developer for 24 years. He is currently employed with FMI in Carteret. He's been a member of the LP since 1995. He served as the NJLP candidate for county Freeholder in 1997, and he ran for Congress in 1998, 2000, 2002, and 2006. He debated Bob Franks in 1998, and Mike Ferguson on live TV in both 2002 and 2006. He also appeared on *Comcast Newsmakers*. Darren says there's "lots of energy this year, I'm very excited about the campaigns."

Jeff Hetrick tells us that his "fundamental reason for running this November is to let everyone know that there are people who want to stand up for your personal freedoms and rights." He wants government officials to understand that not everyone agrees with their choices and that as they pass more and more legislature, all they really accomplish is the limiting of people to make their own decisions. This process creates more bureaucracy, more corruption, unneeded and unenforceable laws, higher taxes, and more wasted dollars. He hopes that by running he can at least increase awareness that there is a problem, there is something that needs to be done, and it can be done.

Jeff is 29 years old and a highest honors graduate of Rutgers University and NJIT. He currently works as an ISO management representative for a small chemical company here in New Jersey, so he's well aware of the vast amounts of paperwork and the need to try to streamline everything in order to make any system run smoothly. He currently reside in Mountainside with his wife Jennifer, and he has lived all of his adult life in the surrounding area.

Sean Colon and Dolores Makrogiannis **District 22 Assembly**

Sean and Dolores filed 161 signatures for ballot qualification. District 22 contains parts of Somerset, Middlesex, and Union counties and consists of 11 municipalities.

Sean is 23 years old. He was born in Paterson and raised in West Orange, where he lived until he went to college at the age of 18. Sean now resides in Scotch Plains. He has a B.A. in International Relations from Tufts University, and also graduated from US Army Airborne School. He is Director of Business Development at Allied Old English Inc., a food manufacturing and brand management company in Port Reading, NJ. He brings his considerable talent and enthusiasm to the NJLP to serve both as a candidate and as our party Secretary.

His campaign committee is Vote Colon for Assembly and Sean says he needs support staff in "everything from website design to envelope stuffers." To help call: 908-834-2718 or e-mail: Info@votecolon.com. His campaign website is: www.votecolon.com.

Dolores Makrogiannis is Darren Young's sister and has an A.A. degree from Union County College and a B.A. in humanities from Thomas Edison College. She lives in Scotch Plains and works as a Documentation/Administrative Specialist for Kytogenics Pharmaceuticals in Chatham. She's been an LP member since 1997 and has helped on Darren's campaigns and the Murray Sabrin for Governor campaign.

Jason Scheurer and Ray Cragle District 14 Assembly

Jason and Ray worked diligently to collect 204 signatures to qualify in this important district. They are eligible to seek to qualify for the Fair and Clean Election (FACE) state program, a special new "public financing" scheme only in place in three districts (out of 40 total). Jason, Ray, and NJLP Chair Lou Jasikoff attended a FACE seminar sponsored by the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (NJELEC) to learn about the requirements for the program. (See Ray's article about FACE following.)

Ray Cragle is a self-employed computer expert who joined the NJLP "back in the previous millennium," during which he helped collect ballot petition signatures for the Grindlinger for Senate campaign, both Harry Brown presidential campaigns, and others. More recently, he petitioned for Len Flynn for U.S. Senate in 2006, serving on the State Board as Mercer County Representative, and as an At-large Member of the Steering Committee. Ray ran in 2003 as the Libertarian candidate in the fourteenth district for State Senate, receiving 2.5 percent of the vote.

Ray sees two key campaign issues: pay for public employees and the medical cartel. Here's a quote from Ray: "don't worry about inheritance tax, there won't be any inheritance - they are determined to take it all."

Jason Schuerer is a 38 year old single resident of West Windsor who is employed as a private money manager for a select group

of families and individuals. Jason's campaign has already collected \$2,500 in "seed money" by July 12. His campaign must obtain 400 contributors of \$10 each from district 14 residents by August 17, 2007 to get space on the sample ballot for a 250 word statement under the FACE program. The campaign website will be jasonforassembly.com and it will contain contribution forms and instructions to assure FACE qualification for donations. Jason sees making car insurance more affordable, state welfare for illegal immigrants, and real fiscal accounting as three issues he can pursue.

Derek DeMarco and Paul Tahan District 40 Assembly

Derek and Paul had 139 petition signatures to gain ballot access. The 40th District includes portions of Bergen, Essex, and Passaic Counties. There are 12 towns in this district, which consist of middle to upper class suburban communities.

Derek writes: The 2007 general election campaign is upon us! As a libertarian candidate for the General Assembly, with the support of fellow New Jersey Libertarians and everybody who believes in the moral, economic, and social virtues of liberty, I am ready to challenge the anti liberty policies and regulations, which both Democrats and Republicans have established in Trenton.

This summer I will be formulating my campaign strategy on the issues the people in the 40th District are most concerned about, which include property tax reform, possible eminent domain abuse stemming from the Highlands Act, and environmental concerns of high level toxic chemicals in our communities. I am currently in the process of creating a website and I will be making youtube.com videos on these issues. My print campaign will be through the letters to the editor and purchasing advertisement in the local papers.

I have started reviewing the 2008 budget, which did not include a tax hike for the first time in five years. I wonder why? Maybe, it is because all of the 120 legislative seats up for election and the state shut down last July, highlighted the spending and budgetary problems that continue to plague Trenton politics. Contact Derek at: DerekDeMarco2007@cs.com

Paul Tahan writes: I have lived in Wayne, NJ for all of my life. I went to Wayne Hills High School and attended college immediately afterwards. I received a B.A. from the Department of American and International Studies for Literature at Ramapo College of New Jersey; as a result I am committed to research. I look forward to addressing local problems by seeking competent experts in appropriate fields. I adhere to the statement of principles put forward by the Libertarian party, most importantly the protection of personal freedoms, property rights and civil liberties as outlined in the constitution. Contact Paul at: paul.tahan@gmail.com

Note from Lou Jasikoff to all NJLP Candidates

For those of you who don't know, I have quit my job and will be working on Jason Scheurer's and Ray Cragle's campaign full time through November. Our goal is to win, yes win, and at the same time build the party and organization. My time will also be freed up to help your campaigns also. I have said it before and still believe it, that this is our time, and you are the candidates that can make a difference.

April Summers is a longtime friend, an elected Texas official, and a New York City advertising and marketing person who will be helping me put this all together. As luck would have it April has the summer off from her job in NYC and has volunteered to help us on the campaign trail. Her expertise in marketing and advertising strategies, planning, and the fact she ran her own campaign against a longtime entrenched city council member in Texas **and won** will be a great help to me and hopefully you. I look forward to having her meet all of you soon.

We will be running a very professional, organized campaign in the 14th District and the offshoot effect should be able to help other candidates and the party as a whole. Call if you need me.

Fair and Clean Elections

by Ray Cragle

The Fair and Clean Elections Pilot Project involves Districts 14, 24, and 37 in 2007. All the incumbent legislators for District 24 are Republican, in 37 all are Democrats, and 14 has a mix. Two Libertarians in the 14th district Assembly are the only alternative party candidates. Each district has three power party candidates.

Participation in the Fair and Clean experiment is voluntary. The candidate must sign a declaration of intent. Currently (July 8) Everybody has signed except for the District 37 Democrats. Once aboard the program, the candidate may accept only two kinds of campaign contributions, which must be accompanied by special forms.

"Seed money" up to \$500 per contributor, may come from any registered voter in the state. A candidate may collect up to a total of \$10,000 in seed money. This is intended to cover expenses while attempting to raise "qualifying contributions."

Qualifying contributions are exactly \$10 per contributor, and must come from registered voters in the candidate's district. The candidate has until the end of September to become "certified" by collecting 400 valid contributions. Power party candidates for assembly cannot be certified, if the running mate has not also qualified. If certification is achieved by August 17, the candidate will appear on the ballot with a "Fair and Clean" notation and will be allowed a printed statement up to 250 words.

Upon becoming certified, the candidate receives funds from the Fair and Clean fund. The 400 contributor mark means \$46,000 for a power party candidate and \$21,000 for the Libertarian. The candidate may continue collecting qualifying contributions up to a total of 800 and receive more money from the fund for each one. The Libertarians would get \$52.50, their power party opponents would get \$1,200.94 per additional donation, and the power party candidates in districts 24 and 27 would get \$115.00 per additional donation. Additional complex arrangements provide "rescue" money for the candidate whose opponent spends excessive amounts or receives certain types of unreasonable advertising support. Candidates agree to restrict their spending and obligations to the approved contributions and fund money. Funds not spent are to be returned to the fund. Currently, no candidates are shown as certified except the District 14 Republicans, who are rumored to have collected all 800 qualifying contributions.

Candidates commit to two October debates which are to be open to candidates regardless of whether they declared intent or are certified. The Fair and Clean candidates are required to come to an agreement about who will sponsor the debates, and they must participate.

John Paff's NJLP Open Government Initiatives

Jefferson Twp Agrees to Identify Hit-and-Run Cop

LAKE HOPATCONG – After being threatened with a lawsuit by John Paff, the Open Government Advocate for the New Jersey Libertarian Party (NJLP), Jefferson Township municipal attorney Howard A. Vex has agreed to release records identifying a township employee—most likely an off-duty police officer—who sometime before March 2006 backed into and knocked over a light post at the Milton Inn but failed to report the accident. The officer/employee, who will be named

shortly, was apparently disciplined, given a summons and required to make restitution.

The matter arose after Paff, who routinely audits municipalities' compliance with the Open Public Records Act and Open Public Meetings Act, received minutes from Jefferson Township Council's March 1, 2006 executive session (i.e. nonpublic) meeting. The minutes revealed that the officer/employee was involved in the hit and run accident, but his name was redacted (i.e. blacked out). After his May 23, 2007 request for

unredacted minutes was denied, Paff sent Township Clerk Lydia Magnotti a civil lawsuit and told her that he would file it with the court unless the Township produced minutes showing the officer/employee's name.

On July 2, 2007, Magnotti informed Paff that Vex authorized release of the unredacted minutes, and that they will be sent after Paff pays a 75 cents copying fee. (The lawsuit and all relevant correspondence are on-line at www.lpcnj.org/OGTF/Jefferson.pdf.)

"It's troubling that it took a threat of a lawsuit to pry these records out of the township's hands," said Paff. "The public is entitled to information about public officials, including police officers, even if—perhaps especially if—the information might embarrass Township officials."

NJLP chairman Lou Jasikoff wondered if Jefferson would have been so reluctant to provide the information had the hit-and-run accident been caused by a private citizen instead of a police officer. "If I had knocked over that light post and left the scene, it probably would have been reported in the next day's paper," he remarked.

Glassboro Officials Promise Sunshine on Gov't

Friday, June 15, 2007 – According to an article in South Jersey News by Stephanie Brown, Glassboro Borough officials have agreed to provide the public with a more detailed description of the topics discussed during the council's closed sessions after

Somerset County resident John Paff, an open government representative for the New Jersey Libertarian Party, claimed that the council violated the Open Public Meetings Act, also known as the Sunshine Act, by vaguely informing the public of the topics it would discuss behind closed doors.

Paff, who has sued local governments across New Jersey on open government issues, said the council's resolutions authorizing closed sessions were generic and gave the public no real sense of what the council was discussing out of public view. Each time the council excluded the public from a meeting, he said the public was informed only that "possible/pending litigation, personnel matters, possible purchase of real estate and/or contractual negotiations" would be discussed. "They might as well just say, 'Ladies and gentlemen, we're going to go into closed session,' and that's it," Paff said.

Borough Solicitor Timothy Scaffidi said the council has nothing to hide and that the policy change should not be taken as an admission that its former procedure violated the Sunshine Act. "There's no legal finding that we did something wrong, but the borough has no problem with being more specific," said Scaffidi. He said the borough's procedure for entering into a closed session has been the same since at least 1991 when he became borough solicitor.

"I don't think we have that big of a disagreement," Scaffidi said. "It's just people are creatures of habit." Now, instead of a broad, catch all description, he said the borough will tell the public the specific type of matter the council will discuss in closed session.



NJLP State Fund

The NJLP's state and local candidates will work hard, but they cannot do it without your contributions, both money and time. Please fill out this form with your check to help the freedom fight continue.

Please help our candidates help YOU. Your generous contributions are greatly appreciated.

I wish to support Libertarian Party candidates running for local, county, and state offices.

Enclosed is my contribution of \$300 \$150 \$50 \$10 Other: \$ _____

Make checks payable to "NJLP State Fund."

Send checks to:

N.J. Libertarian Party
P.O. Box 56
Tennent, NJ 07763

NOTE: We respect your privacy and will keep the identity and amount of our supporters' donations confidential to the extent permitted by law. Annual individual contributions to continuing political committees like the NJLP State Fund are limited to \$7,200, but only annual donations over \$300 must be publicly disclosed. Anonymous donations of any amount are prohibited.

Contributions are not tax deductible.

For example, a resolution could likely say "police union contract discussion." Paff also complained that the council appeared to be discussing matters in private that should be discussed in public and that the minutes of its closed sessions were not comprehensive enough.

Scaffidi said he, borough officials and Paff will meet to discuss those complaints.

Open Public Meetings Act Suit Filed Against Toms River Township

On June 22, 2007, Atlantic Highlands attorney Walter M. Luers representing John Paff filed suit against Toms River Township (Ocean County, New Jersey) for various violations of the Open Public Meetings Act and the Open Public Records Act. The filed lawsuit, which was received on July 3 from the Superior Court, is available online at: <http://www.lpcnj.org/OGTF/TomsRiver.pdf>

Medford TWP Sued for "Sunshine Law" Violation

MOUNT HOLLY On Friday, July 6, 2007, the Medford Township Council was served with a lawsuit charging that it doesn't give the public detailed enough reasons before excluding them from its meetings. The suit, which was filed on June 13, 2007, claims that the Council vaguely describes the topics that it will discuss in closed or executive session as

"Litigation" or "Attorney Client Privilege" and that this lack of detail violates the Senator Byron M. Baer Open Public Meetings Act.

A copy of the lawsuit is on-line at: <http://www.lpcnj.org/OGTF/Medford.pdf>

The plaintiff in the lawsuit, Franklin Township (Somerset County) resident, John Paff, is the Open Government Advocate for the New Jersey Libertarian Party (NJLP). In 2004, he asked the Council to describe its privately discussed topics in more detail, i.e. to inform the public that it was going to privately discuss "Smith v. Township, docket no. BUR L 11111 07" instead of simply informing them that "litigation" would be discussed. In an August 24, 2004 telephone conversation, Township Solicitor Richard W. Hunt rebuffed Paff's request and said that the Medford Council would not change its procedure.

"One has to wonder why the Council is being so stingy with public information," Paff said. Paff has successfully sued other government bodies on the same issue. (Documentation from Paff v. Perth Amboy City Council, and Paff v. Monroe Township Board of Education is available upon request.) Paff and the NJLP believe that increased governmental transparency helps to identify governmental wrongdoing. "Libertarians believe that inefficiency, favoritism and corruption are intrinsic to governmental bodies," he said. "The public doesn't stand a chance unless it knows what the politicians are doing."



NJLP State Fund



Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____

Occupation: * _____

Employer's name & address: * _____

** Required by state election law for campaign contributions*

Newspapers Publish NJLP Members' Letters to the Editor

Published in the StarLedge on July 4, 2007, this letter responded to a June 24, 2007 "On Politics" article by Tom Moran about Newark Mayor Cory Booker's frustration with drug prohibition laws.

Prohibition Fails

Tom Moran quotes Newark Mayor Cory Booker as saying the following concerning the city's homicide rate: "The drug war is causing crime. It is chewing up young black men. And it is killing Newark." In the same article, Police Director Garry McCarthy says of the crime rate, "It is really mind boggling. I do not have an answer."

While I agree that New Jersey drug laws must be reformed (for instance, offering nonviolent offenders treatment and eliminating barriers to employment), Booker's proposal does not go far enough. What is needed is the realization and admission by those in the public sphere that the drug war is a failure. Like prohibition in the 1920s, the drug war has spawned high crime and murder rates and other forms of violence. As long as there is a prohibition on narcotics, we will continue to have high crime rates in Newark and other cities.

The drug war is not hurting only African American males. It is hurting all regardless of race, ethnicity, creed or sexual orientation. It is time to scrap the drug war entirely.

– Alex Pugliese, Kenilworth

From the Saturday, June 30, 2007 Herald News:

Democratic Party a Fraud

In the 1800s, the Democratic Party was a party that believed in economic and individual liberty. It believed in individualism, states rights and non intervention in foreign affairs, was strongly for limited government, against high taxation and believed in the value and worth of every human life. The leaders most emulated were Thomas Jefferson and Andrew Jackson.

In the early 20th century, led by Woodrow Wilson, the Democratic Party began to change. The party began to take the position that government was the cure all to society's ills. They began to believe in big government as the instrument to remedy that. This view was later reinforced by Franklin D. Roosevelt and the New Deal.

When I look at the modern Democratic Party, I am saddened. I believe if Jefferson were alive today, he would sue the Democrats for consumer fraud. The modern Democratic Party believes in stifling freedom through force of government.

The Democratic Party's belief in group rights, in a "living and breathing" constitution, in government run health care, in abortion, in oppressive regulations on businesses and the economy, in burdensome taxation, in political correctness and in income redistribution, to name a few, has caused many to leave in droves.

Their belief in imposing orthodoxy and stifling dissent on their individual members has alienated many. It alienated Joe Lieberman, the late Robert P. Casey Sr. of Pennsylvania, and Zell Miller, former governor, U.S. Senator from Georgia, not to mention many others.

While Democrats may enjoy election victories of late, while they may claim to have the issues "on their side," it is only temporary. Until the party of Jefferson and Jackson can shed its big government views and attract people who dissent and have different views, Democrats will not have much of a future.

This will require looking within, but I doubt they can do that. Introspection, you see, is a task that Democrats avoid like a plague.

– Alex Pugliese, Kenilworth

From the West Milford AIM 5-25-07 and Suburban Tribune 5-23-07:

'American Mythology Day'

Every year around Memorial Day, we see references to America being a "democracy" that our armed forces have had to make the supreme sacrifice for, in order to preserve that "democracy." The recent letter by Charles "Chuck" Robbins, state commander of the American Legion in Trenton, is an example of this.

I wonder if Mr. Robbins realizes that the word "democracy" appears nowhere in the Declaration of Independence or the Constitution of the United States. Since he is no doubt a product of the government-run public school system, my guess is that he is unaware that the word "democracy" appears nowhere in America's founding documents.

If one takes the time to do a little historical research into this subject, you will find that the founders feared democracy because it led to unrestrained government that would undermine individual liberty.

This is why they created a republic in which government was granted only very specific and limited powers that could not be expanded no matter how much the "majority," inflamed by political demagogues, demanded it.

Sadly, over the years, both the Republicans and Democrats have tried to convert our limited government republic into a democracy in which the American simpletons have voted for their own enslavement! Memorial Day might better be called “American Mythology Day” since we are asked to believe that we are supposed to be a “democracy” and that it was necessary for American lives to be sacrificed on the battlefields of Europe, Asia and now the Middle East.

None of this had to be, if we had adhered to the wisdom of our founders who gave us a republic of limited powers and who also warned us about “entangling alliances” abroad.

Not all Americans swallow this line of historical “make-believe” that the government and its allies in the media are constantly telling us. The Future of Freedom Foundation (fff.org), a libertarian organization that this writer supports, will be holding a conference in the Washington D.C. area between June 1 and 4 to discuss, explore and debunk the “official” version of history. If you can’t make the conference, you can still go online to see what it’s all about. If you aren’t afraid to think for yourself, I would advise you to check it out.

A true patriot thinks; they don’t blindly follow!

– Mark Richards, West Milford

NJLP Meeting Reports

By Sean Colon

April Meeting

The NJLP Steering Committee held its initial meeting following the NJLP Convention on April 22, 2007 at Tumulty’s Pub in New Brunswick. The meeting began at 1:30 PM. In Attendance were committee members Jason Scheurer, Lou Jasikoff, Lou Stefanelli, Ken Kaplan, Ken Chazotte, and Kevin Ferrizzi. Other attendees were Joseph Dunsay, Len Flynn, Jay Boucher, Ray Babecki, Frank Warren and Brenda Bell. Bob Hull was absent.

The committee agreed that fundraising is a priority for the party. A general fundraising letter will go to all NJLP members on our list. Lou Jasikoff will head this project.

Committee members reviewed and approved the draft fundraising letter prepared by Lou for Operation Full Slate.

A motion to spend up to \$500 for Lou’s letter was approved, and he promised that if the letter does not raise the money he will recoup the loss. Any money going to candidates would be general advertising promoting the NJLP.

The NJLP picnic was set for July 14 [later changed to 7-21-07]. George Phillis will be a speaker. Jeff Pawlowski will be providing the facilities.

The Walk Across the State event is set for May 20th beginning with a State Board meeting at Seaside Heights at 10:00 AM.

Jim Miller, Steve Apels, and Richard Bellush were voted in as nominees for NJLP candidacy in their districts. Jay Boucher will get information from Glen Davis who may be a State Senate candidate in District 22. The deadline for petitions is the Primary date June 5. Frank mentioned that many signatures were lost in 2004, because the signatures of the circulators of the petitions could not be located.

The committee members noted that to handle disbursement of funds to recoup costs one should refer to the NJLP Bylaws under Business Rules to see the Expense Reimbursement Policy. [Rule 6.e.]

The newsletter currently costs more than we make in dues. Newsletter issues received online and with more advertising would help with costs. Lou Jasikoff concluded we need to get some advertising.

Mail is sent to the Tennent P.O. box and collected weekly by Len Flynn. He will hold it for Lou Jasikoff to pick up.

The NJLP website needs an upgrade possibly even “redoing the whole site.” NJLP webmaster Bob Hull should be in direct contact with Lou Jasikoff and the site should have regular updates.

Key NJ campaign issues for this year:

- Eminent domain
- Government corruption
- Property taxes
- Car insurance.
- Legalization of medical marijuana
- Tuition based school system
- Ethics
- Separation of school and state
- Restoration of personal rights

Party issues needing follow-up include:

- Newsletter
- Update database
- Getting counties going again
- Benefit for members
- Internal party mechanisms
- “Sound bites”

The meeting concluded at 3:30 PM.

Future Meetings & Events

Saturday, July 21 - NJLP Steering Committee meeting
10:00 AM at Polanka Park, South River followed by
Annual Picnic and General Membership Meeting at
2:00 PM including County Caucuses

May Meeting

The NJLP State Board met on May 20, 2007 in the parking lot of Captain Hook's Restaurant in Seaside Heights at 12:30 PM just prior to the start of the march to Trenton. In attendance were Lou Jasikoff, Sean Colon, Ken Kaplan, Ken Chazotte, and Jason Scheurer. All County Representatives to the State Board were absent as were Lou Stefanelli, Bob Hull, and Kevin Ferrizzi. In the absence of a State Board quorum, a Steering Committee meeting was started and it was ended immediately afterwards via a motion to adjourn by Ken Chazotte that was seconded and passed.

(Editor's note: It should be noted that the meeting attendees and others had spent several hours in the morning preparing signs for the afternoon march.)

From the Past - Nov-Dec 1976 *NJL*

Front page article by NJLP member Cal Beatty entitled "The Future"

1976 was really the LP's first serious political effort. Compared with 1972, the party ran 25 times as many candidates nationally (almost 600 vs. <25); was on the ballot in 15 times as many states (31 vs. 2); raised 10 times as much money (roughly \$300,000 vs. <\$30,000); and received almost 60 times as many votes for President (almost 175,000 vs. <5,000 including write-ins).

Now look at New Jersey. In 1972 we didn't have an NJLP to get John Hospers and Toni Nathan on the ballot for President and Vice President. But we did succeed in running our first statewide candidate in 1973 with John Goodson for Governor, receiving 3000 votes and raising \$1000 in the process. Goodson was also one of less than five candidates for the NJLP. Turn to 1976. Compared with 1973 we ran five times as many

candidates (20 vs. 4); raised maybe five times as much money (\$5,000 including NJCFM [New Jersey Citizens for MacBride] for \$2,200 plus U.S. Senate candidate Hannibal Cundari and the local candidates versus \$1,000) and received 6 times as many votes for the statewide candidate (Cundari with 19,910 versus Goodson's 3,000) not to mention the sum of the votes for all 20 candidates including MacBride's 9,999. Most encouraging, it seems, was the apparently higher vote for the local candidates such as the Freeholders. ...

So in the context of 1976 versus 1972, the Libertarian Party has come quite a distance. ... Beatty then asks the key and always cogent question: What can we do to take our case forward?

Page 5: From the Chair

NJLP Chair Ken Kaplan writes: "It is with great optimism that I view the results of the recent election. We are now THE third party in New Jersey. Our chances are excellent of solidifying our claim to that position, affecting governmental policy, and actually electing one or more candidates ..."

Ken gives four suggestions: (1) we must not compromise libertarian principles, because presenting our ideas in their most favorable light is good politics, (2) we must not allow personality conflicts, differences on strategy, or differing priorities to divide us, we are all libertarians and we should respect each other's individualism, (3) we must expand our membership greatly so we have campaign workers and Election Day volunteers for candidates and (4) please consider running for office yourself.

It's 2007 and the fight for freedom goes on. Ken's suggestions from three decades ago still seem quite appropriate for our party today. And Ken is currently our candidate running for State Assembly in District 26.

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