



# NEW JERSEY LIBERTARIAN

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

\* \* \* SEPTEMBER 1986 \* \* \*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**September--** NJLP Steering Committee meeting, CANCELLED. Next meeting to be held in October, date to be announced.

**September 10--** Laissez Faire Supper Club presents Walter Block on "Objectivism vs. Libertarianism" with commentary by Roy Childs. Thomas Street Inn, 8 Thomas St., NYC (just west of Broadway, near City Hall). Cash bar--6 PM, Dinner--7 PM, Program--8 PM. Dinner & program: \$15, program only: \$7. Reservations are necessary. Call 212/925-8992.

**October 12--** Ramapo College Master Lecture Series will present Murray Rothbard. Program sponsored by the Foundation for Free Enterprise. Call FFE at 201/487-4600 for information.

**October 25--** The Free Press Association holds First National Journalism Conference (co-sponsored by Laissez Faire Books) in conjunction with the Fifth Annual Mencken Awards Ceremony. Speakers include Nat Hentoff, Alan Bock, Martin Morse Wooster, Jeff Rigenbach and Kay Nolte Smith. Summit Hotel, Lexington Ave. and 51st St., NYC. Conference: \$60; Banquet only: \$35; Conference only: \$30 (all prices slightly higher at door). For reservations call the FPA 614/236-1908 or write FPA, Box 15548, Columbus, OH 43215.

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

NJLP PHONE: 201/937-9674

## NJLP STATE COMMITTEE MEETING

By Len Flynn

The NJLP State Committee met on August 13 at Patti's Restaurant in New Brunswick. Present were Duprey, Hoegberg, Flynn, and Peters. Absent were Friedlander, Brazil, Swirsky, Zeldin, Meinshausen, Kerr, Fallon, and Polombo.

Rich Duprey opened the meeting at 7:45 PM with a report on the effort to permit voter registration as Libertarians. The next step will be to meet with the leadership of the legislature.

Two motions were unanimously approved by the committee. First, the Essex County LP organization with Nick Polombo as Chair was approved. Second, October 1 was set as the final application date for the NJLP volunteer for 1987 state convention chair. The final selection of convention chair will be made at the next LP meeting after 10/1.

Rich then discussed the status of the Garden State Libertarian newspaper. The NJLP can afford to switch to a bimonthly paper for an estimated \$100 per issue, if the printing cost is \$500 and we have \$400 in advertising. Volunteer printers and people to get advertising are needed.

Mike Pierone was appointed Advertising Manager for the GSL. Members willing to help gain advertisers or advertise themselves should call Mike at 201/827-5226. Mike was also appointed County Organizer for Sussex County by Chairman Duprey.

NJLP members were asked to check their local phone books to be sure the NJLP phone is listed in each one's white pages under "Libertarian

See MEETING...Pg. 2

## MEETING...

Party, New Jersey." If you find the NJLP number (201/937-9674) missing or wrong, please contact Rich Duprey, Rick Hoegberg, or Len Flynn with the information so we can correct the listing and/or get refunds from the (government monopoly) phone company. Discussion ceased at 9:00 p.m. and all went home.

## ALASKA PRIMARY

Former Libertarian Party member Dick Randolph came in third for the nomination for governor in the Republican Primary on August 27th. There were nine candidates in the election and the winner garnered 23,211 votes (31%). Randolph's vote total was 16,061.

## Commentary on Liberty

by Dave Walter

Two different approaches to funding rail lines have been in the news lately. New Jersey officials are going to use some \$90 million of your tax dollars to rehabilitate the rail line to Atlantic City so that Amtrak can whisk gamblers to the eleven highly-profitable and privately owned casinos there. In Washington, D.C., however, a group of private investors is considering building a trolley line linking Dulles Airport with Washington's subway system. The 16-mile line would cost about \$300 million and would be one of the first privately financed transit lines in half a century. The Dept. of Transportation is encouraging this venture. The Dulles line investors hope to tie the transit system into real estate ventures that will more than pay for the line itself. With the real estate and casino tie-ins possible in Atlantic City and environs, there is absolutely no reason (except taxpayer apathy) for spending taxpayer funds for that project.

A big Philly boo to Sen. John Stauffer, majority leader of the Pennsylvania Senate. Stauffer is a prime backer of the bill that requires all state and local public works to use steel made in the USA. Stauffer also helped to extend the law so that it covered motor vehicles too. However, the hypocritical Sen. Stauffer himself drives a 1985 Audi which sells for \$25,000. With a helping subsidy from the taxpayers who have to pay more for public projects, the Audi only costs him \$25 per month. The royally unrepentant Stauffer snirks, "I'm driving a fine automobile, which happens to be made in Germany. It's a free market and I'm a free citizen like everyone else." But by the time Stauffer gets done with us, the politicians will be the only free citizens left.

(Dave Walter, an accountant who lives in Warminster, PA, is a director of the Society for Individual Liberty)

Pennsylvania Liberty  
December 1985

\* \* \* \* \*

Frederick Douglas said it well, back in 1857:

"Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did, and it never will. Find out what the people will submit to, and you have found out the exact amount of injustice and wrong which will be imposed upon them; and these will continue until they are resisted with either words or blows, or with both."

"The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppress."

Constitutional Revival

May 1986

### STUPIDITY A CRIME?

Please do not get the impression that I approve of drugs. I do not. I do not approve of alcohol or tobacco either. I tolerate them, because they (and their use) are not criminal in and of themselves.

To me it is stupid to allow any of them to take control of our lives. But, stupidity is not a crime, else we would all be in jail most of the time.

You are not living in a free country if you are not free to be (and act) stupid.

Andrew Melechinsky  
From: Constitutional Revival  
29 Fairfield Rd.  
Enfield, CT 06082  
July, 1986

## SELECTIVE SERVICE RESISTANCE UPDATE

Here are some interesting figures about draft registration. The SS and the General Accounting Office estimate there have been some 7.5 million violations of Selective Service regulations, broken down thus: non-registration, 500,000; incomplete registration forms, 1,000,000; failure to notify change of address, 6,000,000.

Meanwhile, there have been twenty indictments for failure to register, nineteen of those involving people who publicized their nonregistration or reported it to the government in defiance. Five indictments were withdrawn by the prosecution, three of them when the victim agreed to register.

Of these, fourteen have been convicted, including four who pleaded guilty. One of them is pending appeal. Eight served time in prison; the most was the six months spent by Ben Sasway, who is out on parole. Only one is currently in prison--Dan Rutt, serving four months in a "halfway house."

The worst fine was the maximum \$10,000 imposed on Rusty Martin, who was also sentenced to three years' probation and forced to register, attend two citizenship naturalization rituals.

From: Individual Liberty  
August 1986

## GREEK MYTHOLOGY

"The most common way of avoiding military service in the first place is to get an official certificate of insanity before the service is to begin. This involves some complicity among psychiatrists or medical doctors. This form of resistance is so widespread that 10 percent of all Greek youth are now officially insane!"

-- from "Solidarity with Resisters and CO's" by Matt Meyer in the April/May 1986 issue of The Nonviolent Activist.

**THE MORE THINGS CHANGE:** "The budget should be balanced, the Treasury should be refilled, public debt should be reduced, the arrogance of officialdom should be tempered and controlled and the assistance to foreign lands should be curtailed, lest Rome become bankrupt."

— Cicero, circa 63 B.C.

## A RICE TO THE SUBSIDY TROUGH

Do government subsidies distort the economy? Butte County, in northern California, offers us some suggestive evidence in the case of rice farming. It seems that last year there were 75 new rice farm operations in the county; this year there are expected to be another 60. A robust local farm economy? Guess again.

What caught the eyes of some local journalists was the fact that during this expansion little or new land was being put into production -- understandably, since rice prices have plummeted, and well-established farmers are having a hard go of it. So what's happening? In the words of a local administrator of government rice subsidies, these new "farmers" are "farming the program."

One local farmer, who had applied for and received the maximum \$50,000 subsidy in 1983 decided that he would subdivide his farm and lease it to 11 other people in 1984, including members of his family, his employees, and his attorney, each of whom was now entitled to receive \$50,000. And for 1985 the number of operating units on his farm has jumped to 20, each claiming to be an individually financed, formed and operated farm, and each eligible for \$50,000 in subsidies, amounting to a cool one million dollars. Maybe in a free market rice farmers would spend more time sowing rice than reaping subsidies.

(Reprinted courtesy of National Taxpayers Union, 325 Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003)

Free Vermont  
January 1986

## NEWS NOTE

Ed Martone was recently appointed Executive Director of the American Civil Liberties Union-New Jersey. Mr. Martone is currently working with the NJLP to change voter registration laws to allow people to register as Libertarians.

Virginia Liberty  
June/July 1986

# State ensnares us with seat-belt law

By Richard L. Duprey

When New Jersey's seat-belt law went into effect in March 1985, Libertarians across the state decried this encroachment of state power into an area of personal safety. We said, in effect, that government had no right to question an individual's personal behavior, so long as his actions harm no one but himself.

We pointed out that seat belts can, at times, cause injury to those

wearing them — when a car is on fire or submerged in water, and in roadside accidents, when a person is held in his seat to receive the full force of the crash.

As New Jersey had followed New York, it didn't take long for other states to go along. And with the threat of federal blackmail hanging over their heads, it's a wonder that even more state governments didn't enact mandatory seat-belt laws, too.

Yet now that the first year has passed, we should review the results to see if the law achieved its desired end. Even the most casual study of the statistics show a horrifying trend: After a four-year decline in the number of auto-traffic deaths, we've had our first increase in fatalities. We've seen an increase in the number of drivers and front-seat passengers who are killed — the very people required by law to buckle up.

There has even been an increase in the number of fatalities involving pedestrians. While the exact correlation between that statistic and the seat-belt law is still murky, at least one commentator has suggested that the use of seat belts gives drivers a false sense of security, leading to increased carelessness.

The Department of Transportation and our state representatives will tell you that there are other factors involved in the increase in traffic deaths. But those factors existed in the four years prior to the seat-belt law.

Libertarians argue against any government program that, despite good intentions, produces the exact opposite of its desired result. Welfare programs have given us more poverty; minimum-wage laws cause black teen-age unemployment; and the seat-belt law increases traffic fatalities. Government's only proper function is to protect our rights and freedoms from infringement by other individuals, not to be their greatest violator.

If it can be proven that the wearing of a seat belt contributed to the cause of injury or death, can the governor and legislators who voted for the law be sued for damages? Outrageous? No more so than government forcing us to perform an action that is potentially dangerous.

Where in the Constitutions of the United States or New Jersey does it say that government has the power to jeopardize our lives in such a manner? Believe me, there is no such article.

Government has assumed the mantle of personal-safety director. It has deemed people to be too stupid to look after their own welfare. Only our enlightened public "servants" (read "masters") can save us from ourselves.

There is little doubt among Libertarians that in the majority of cases a seat belt will save an individual from greater harm or injury. But there are those instances when a belt can cause harm. How can government decide for us that we must play Russian roulette with our lives?

There are at least two groups now working for the repeal of the seat-belt law, Motorists Opposed to Bureaucracy and Intrusive Law Enforcement (MOBILE) and Citizens Against Unreasonable Seat-Belt Enforcement (The CAUSE). Together with the New Jersey Libertarian Party, they are circulating petitions to have this repressive law repealed.

Government's only true function is to protect our rights and freedoms, not to make us more moral people. The seat-belt law has caused enough deaths already, it's time it was repealed.

*Richard L. Duprey is chairman of the New Jersey Libertarian Party.*

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August 11, 1986

The following letter was sent in by NJLP member Len Salesky. He adds: "I consider the voucher system as an intermediate step and not the final solution to the education problem and taxation to support it. It is a step in the right direction."

*"A general state education is a mere contrivance for moulding people to be exactly alike. It establishes a despotism over the mind, leading by natural tendency to one over the body."*

John Stuart Mill

## For education vouchers

# Give schools back to the public

To the Editor:

In answer to Tony Auth's cartoon and Ellen Goodman's column of July 18, I don't believe anyone is suggesting that our public schools become "a roof covering a thousand religious tutors," as Ms. Goodman says. The original Tower of Babel would indeed be Mozartian in harmony by comparison.

What most people are saying, however, is that in the land of the free and the arsenal of excellence, the education of our children is being concentrated more and more in the monolithic public school system whose achievement has been described by a national commission of educators as a condition that, were it created by a foreign power, we would consider an act of war.

Indeed, in many respects our public schools contradict some of our most cherished ideals.

America stands for freedom; our public schools stand for compulsion through economic pressure. Parents who cannot afford to bear the double burden of paying school taxes for public schools and tuitions for a school of their choice are forced to send

their children to public schools.

America stands for competitiveness that begets excellence and efficiency; public schools stand for a monopoly of ideas, and economic inefficiency and waste go inevitably with monolithic systems.

The public school lobby, especially the National Education Association, has been brainwashing us that the public school is the American school, the melting pot school, the value-neutral school that does not offend any point of view, hence the only school to be supported by everybody's tax dollars.

However, America is not a molten, faceless mass. The melting pot analogy reflects only a small aspect of our composite. America, rather, is a mosaic in which each component retains its own brilliance while cemented to the others by love of freedom.

The time has come to reconsider our ideas in education and to discard mediocrity. It's time the education tax dollar followed the consumer in the form of education vouchers, rather than the institutions that sell education. If all parents had the ability to pay

for the education of their children at a school of their choice, we would soon see schools shape up to attract the vouchers. The schools that provide the best education will flourish, the mediocre schools will eventually close down. That's the American way.

With this single change we would not only get off the Tower of Babel but also improve academic quality and, with the efficiency that goes with competition, reduce the taxpayers' burden. This change would also permit freedom of choice in values and philosophy, thus eliminating problems with school prayer and impermissible entanglement of church and state.

Also, the entire problem of discrimination, particularly racial discrimination, will melt away when all parents have both the right and the financial capability to choose the school they deem best for their children.

Let's give it a try. The only risk we run is the loss of mediocrity and of insensitivity to our values.

Armand Della Porta  
Judge

Court of Common Pleas  
Philadelphia.

The Philadelphia Inquirer

July 28, 1986

Burning Issues

July 1986

In Montclair, N.J., police have arrested a burglary victim for possession of marijuana. Montclair police responded to a burglary report and apprehended the burglar, Paul F. Bicknell. Then they found marijuana in the apartment of the victim, William W. Dresdner, and had the place raided by the Vice Control Unit. Dresdner was released on \$10,000.00 bail pending trial; the burglar was released on \$5,000.00 bail.

"Textbooks shall promote citizenship, emphasize patriotism and respect for recognized authority. Textbook content shall not encourage life-styles deviating from generally accepted standards of society."

Texas State Board of Education, 1982

# NJLP STEERING COMMITTEE

# NJ LIBERTARIAN

State Chair: Rich Duprey 201/445-6098  
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 Carl Peters 609/737-2342

Editor: Ginny Flynn

201/591-1328

## **\*\*ADVERTISING RATES\*\***

## **STATE COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES**

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## **COUNTY ORGANIZERS**

Sussex County Mike Pierone 201/827-5226

Material must be received by the 27th of the month to be in the following issue.

## **NEW JERSEY LIBERTARIAN PARTY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL**

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TO:

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