

# New Jersey Libertarian

Volume XXXIII, Fall Election Issue 6

## August – October 2008

## **Scheurer for Senate Campaign Update** By Lou Jasikoff

Monday, October 13–It 's been a very hectic few weeks and we are just coming in from yet another event with Jason. Today we were at the Longhill Street Fair handing out literature and meeting the local officials. We even ran into Dick Zimmer! "Jason, thank you for staying so long. I think you've just put the Libertarian Party on the map here in Long Hill Township. If there is anything I can do for you, just name it" said Howard Kupferman.

Thank you Howard and I agree as I have heard the same from so many people we have met the last few weeks. We have done events in Trenton, New Brunswick, Whippany, Freehold, Sparta, Clark, Westville, and Philadelphia, to name just a few. I want to give a special thanks to those that gave their time, money, and effort to help organize these events: Dave Eberhart, Jay Boucher, Jeff Palowski, Kevin Ferrizzi, Walter Luers, Sean Colon, and Howard Kupferman. Anyone who has organized events before knows the time and effort it takes to put one together.

Today we will also be in Montclair for an AARP debate. There are still some open dates available for those who want us to show up at an organized event before election day. Contact me directly if you want us to come speak to a group or organization in your area.

The NJN TV debate between Lautenberg and Zimmer is scheduled to take place on Saturday, November 1, 2008 at 25 S. Stockton St, Trenton. This will be a live debate and Jason Scheurer will NOT be allowed to participate. Michael Aron News Director for NJN gave me this reason for the exclusion, "we will better serve the voters of New Jersey if only the Republican and Democratic candidates participate". When asked if they planned to have an independent forum he said "we cannot afford to have an independent forum". He went on to say even a large outcry from the public would most likely have little affect, but he would consider it. If you would like to voice your displeasure with this decision, Mr. Aron can be reached at 609-777-5000. The producer of the show Ed Rodgers can be reached on his cell at 609-306-5862.

Continued on page 2

## Honor Roll of NJLP Petitioners for Bob Barr and Wayne Allyn Root

Petitioner and signatures obtained:

Ray T. Cragle6	Jim Warble6	
Leo Lewin7	Christopher Roberge8	
Robert Jenkins11	David E. Trend 14	
Frank Warren15	William H. Howcott 16	
Walter Luers 16	Daniel Karlan17	
Louis Stefanelli 20	Kenneth R. Kaplan 20	
Emerson Ellett20	Richard J. Edgar, Jr 21	
Glenn S. Davis 22	Maria Marinaccio 23	
John Paff24	Derek DeMarco27	
Anthony Federici 27	Richard Roth29	
Joseph Siano30	George Adam Politis 31	
John M. Taylor 33	Jason M. Scheurer 50	
Len Flynn 60	Darren Young 77	
Kevin Ferrizzi 100	Paul Tahan	
Timothy F. O'Brien 275	Lou Jasikoff512	
Total Signatures1330		

## **Special Announcement:**

**NJLP** Post Election **General Meeting** at 2:00 PM at Grabbe's Seafood Restaurant in Westville, NJ. See Kevin Ferrizzi's article on page 3 for details.

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## **Campaign Update Report (cont.)**

I also want to give a special thanks to Jason. Not once has he missed or turned down an event. Whenever anyone has asked him to show up he has, and I can tell you that he has done so at a cost. For those who don't know, Jason makes his living as a private money manager, and for him to dedicate as much time as he has in these trying economic times means he deserves all the credit we can give.

We want to hear from all of you about events going on in your communities this year and ones you would like us to attend or help support. We want to be involved in as many fairs, parades, and community affairs as is possible. So let us know. Our event calendar will be posted at www.njlp.org Remember there will be a role for everyone so please get involved.

Feel free to contact me anytime and I will hopefully see all of you soon somewhere on the campaign trail. Lou's contact information is: 570-945-8542 office, 973-752-9164 cell, 570-878-7532 cell and e-mail: <a href="mailto:atiofny@aol.com">atiofny@aol.com</a>

## Scheurer for Senate Rally at Polanka Park in Sayreville

The NJL Editor took some photos of the campaign rally on Saturday September 19 at Polanka Park, the Polish war veterans' picnic grounds. Our members had a good time and Senate candidate Jason Scheurer gave an inspiring presentation according to several NJLP listeners.



Jennifer Soden and Jason Scheurer



Jay Boucher, Jeff Pawlowski, and Lou Jasikoff enjoy Polish brew



Lou Jasikoff and his hurricane rescue dog Katrina



Tony Federici, Bill Howcott, and Christine Jones



Mike Pierone and Ken Kaplan



Brenda Bell and Walter Luers

## **Future Meetings & Events**

**Sunday, November 9**– Sean Colon's NJ Libertarian meetup group, 7:00 PM at Molly Maguire's in Clark NJ. See Edgar article below.

**Saturday, November 1**—South Jersey Libertarians meet at Grabbe's Restaurant in Westville at 1:00 PM. See Ferrizzi article below.

Saturday, November 15 – NJLP Post Election General Meeting at Grabbe's Seafood Restaurant in Westville, 2:00 PM See Ferrizzi article below.

## The NJ Libertarian October Meetup

by Jay Edgar

Sean Colon's NJ Libertarian meetup group will get together on Sunday, November 9 2008, 7:00 - 9:00 PM. See his meetup page at <a href="http://libertarian.meetup.com/392/">http://libertarian.meetup.com/392/</a> for more information and to join the group.

The meeting location is Molly Maguire's at 1085 Central Ave in Clark, NJ 07066. Their phone is: (732) 388-6511. How to find Sean: "I will be wearing a Bob Barr '08 t-shirt and jeans." Contact: <a href="mailto:sean.colon@gmail.com">sean.colon@gmail.com</a>

## Two South Jersey Meetings this Month

By Kevin Ferrizzi

A regular business meeting of the New Jersey Libertarian Party will be held on Saturday November 15th at Grabbe's Seafood Restaurant located at the junction of Rts 130 and 47 in Westville (Gloucester County). The meeting will be called to order at 2 PM. Due to the numerous new contacts we have received, we will be holding the next two NJLP general meetings in south and north Jersey, respectively. We will be conducting Party business as well as preparing for next year's convention. Grabbe's is located at 19 Delsea Drive in Westville and it is close to I-295 and US-130.

From Saturday, November 1, 2008 to Saturday, March 7, 2009 the South Jersey Libertarians will meet from 1:00 - 3:00 PM on the first Saturday of every month at Grabbe's Restaurant. The meetings are called to order at 1pm. Contact: Kevin Ferrizzi (609-980-8903) at <a href="mailto:kevinferrizzi@yahoo.com">kevinferrizzi@yahoo.com</a> or Bobb Rayner at <a href="mailto:philadelphiaman@cs.com">philadelphiaman@cs.com</a>

## **Feeling Out of Touch?**

By Jay Edgar

The NJLP has several methods of party communication. Our website <a href="http://njlp.org">http://njlp.org</a> has articles of interest to NJ state residents and a calendar of our upcoming events. The site also hosts a forum where you can discuss and comment on each article on the website.

Everyone should consider subscribing to our NJLP announce list! Our announce list is for official party announcements only, subscribing won't get you a ton of junk email messages, just the occasional party announcement. Subscribe by visiting <a href="http://njlp.org/partyinfo">http://njlp.org/partyinfo</a> and enter your email address.

Other lists you may want to look into include our activists list and liberty-talk. To join activists you must be invited by the chair. It is a private email discussion list for NJLP activists only. Liberty-talk is now owned or managed by the NJLP, but quite a few NJLP members are on this list. Liberty-talk is a list used for open discussion on liberty. To join send a blank email to <a href="mailto:liberty-talk-subscribe@wallnet.com">liberty-talk-subscribe@wallnet.com</a>.

## Free State Project Turns 5

By Beverly Nappen

Readers might be interested in this online video:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=paE3XtR0\_XE

#### **NJLP Takes On the State — Twice!**

### **Nuisance Code Victory** By John Paff

TRENTON - On October 3, 2008, in response to a formal petition filed by the New Jersey Libertarian Party, the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services agreed to tell municipal health officials across the State to stop enforcing two illegal provisions in the State's model "Nuisance Code." The Nuisance Code was adopted as a "model code" in 1953 and many municipalities have adopted the provisions of the code in their municipal ordinances. But, in 1996 and 2003, the courts declared two of the Code's provisions unconstitutional. Those provisions allowed local health officers to cite citizens who permitted the following to occur on their property:

- "(a) Any matter, thing, condition or act which is or may become detrimental or a menace to the health of the inhabitants of this municipality;
- (b) Any matter, thing, condition or act which is or may become an annoyance to, or interferes with the comfort or general well-being of, the inhabitants of this municipality."

But, despite the court rulings, the Department of Health and Senior Services failed or refused to amend the model Nuisance Code despite requests by the New Jersey Libertarian Party.

On April 28, 2008 acting on the NJLP's behalf, I filed a formal petition for rule-making with the Department asking for period review of all the model codes. On October 3, 2008, the Department agreed to instruct municipal health departments

not to enforce the unconstitutional code provisions. The NJLP's petition and the Department's response are at the following link:

http://www.lpcnj.org/OGTF/NuisancePetition.pdf

#### New Jersey Secret Law Challenged By John Paff

The New Jersey Attorney General's office has created a body of secret law. Instead of issuing public, written interpretations of the law, the Office has been issuing private "Administrative Agency Advice Letters" that state agencies use when applying the law to the public. With Richard Gutman representing me, I have sued the Attorney General's office arguing that keeping this body of law secret allows the office to escape public oversight and accountability. Following is an article on the suit that appeared in the *New Jersey Law Journal*.

Decline in Attorney General Formal Opinions
Private Advice Or Secret Law? Suit seeks peek into
Attorney General's closed-door missives to agencies
By Mary Pat Gallagher New Jersey Law Journal August 15,
2008

Through the decades, the state Attorney General's Office has issued hundreds of formal advisory opinions to state agencies. The opinions had precedential effect, generally on the affected agency's interpretations of substantive law. But in recent years, their numbers have fallen off drastically, to the point where they've nearly disappeared. From a high-water mark of 116 formal opinions in 1949, the output fell to fewer than 10 a year in the 1960s. Since 1986, there have been only a dozen in all, and in 16 of the past 22 years, there were none. Three were released in 2007 - two on the ramifications of the civil unions law and the other on the constitutionality of property tax relief legislation.

The dearth of formal, public opinions is not because the attorney general has less to say. The Division of Law continues to issue hundreds of letters giving informal, nonpublic "administrative agency advice," cloaked in a blanket privilege. Now, a public interest advocate is arguing in court that these advisory opinions should be public as well.

John Paff, the chairman of the New Jersey Libertarian Party's Open Government Advocacy Project, contends that these opinions should be public because they are the "functional equivalent" of the old formal opinions. Paff filed suit on July 17 challenging the attorney general's denial of his Open Public Records Act request for a list or index of advisory opinions dating back to 2002. His position, in Paff v. Division of Law, MER-L-1800-08, is that the Division of Law bears the burden of proving they are shielded by privilege. In his brief, Paff traces the decline in formal opinions from 1949, when Attorney General Theodore Parsons began classifying opinions in three categories - formal, informal or memorandum - with only the formal opinions having precedential effect. Since then, the formal opinions have dwindled to nil, but the Division of Law has continued to

provide agencies with hundreds of informal nonpublic advice letters to guide them in the performance of their official duties. Paff estimates that 200 advice letters are issued each year, based on the numbering of those that have come to light, usually when quoted in court opinions or released by the recipient agency.

For one, a 1997 opinion by Attorney General Peter Verniero posted on the Department of Community Affairs Web site, www.state.nj.us/dca/lgs/attnygnl/agmenu.shtml, advised the Division of Local Government Services that local governments cannot use credit cards. Not posted on the DCA site is a 1991 advice letter from Attorney General Robert Del Tufo stating that municipal court judges and employees are not subject to the Local Government Ethics Law. Paff obtained a copy of the letter from the Borough of Manville when he asked for financial disclosures for a municipal judge. Until 1984, the attorney general published the formal opinions in bound volumes. In the back of those same volumes, it published the memorandum opinions from 1954 to 1974. The Attorney General's Web site links formal opinions going back to 1949. Rutgers University's Digital Legal Library site has them, too, but also lists and indexes more than 200 memorandum opinions issued from 1954 to 1964. Westlaw and LEXIS have the formal opinions and some informal ones.

On April 22, Paff filed an OPRA request for a list of "Agency Advice Letters" from Jan. 1, 2002, to the present, showing the date of each letter, the author, the recipient and the topic. A response on April 30 from Robert Sanguinetti, the Division of Law's records custodian, stated that the topics and recipients were protected by attorney-client privilege and asked whether Paff was interested in a list of just the dates and authors. Paff followed up with a June 1 request for an index of the letters. On June 5, he was told he would get nothing. "Upon further legal review, we have determined that the attorney-client privilege requires that any roster or listing of advice rendered to our clients be entirely confidential," wrote Sanguinetti.

The complaint, filed with an order to show cause, seeks access under OPRA and the common law to an unredacted roster or index of the informal opinions. A portion of the Division of Law Attorney Handbook obtained by Paff through OPRA describes how requests for advice are centrally assigned, given docket numbers and classified based on how high up the chain they will be reviewed. All requests since 1972 are indexed and most are kept in an internal electronic archive meant to be used for research in other matters. The handbook characterizes formal opinions, which have the force of law, as those that address issues "deemed to be so significant as to warrant broad circulation." Formal opinions are the only ones not presumed privileged. Informal opinions bind only the particular agency.

Paff contends that, contrary to the general trend toward open government, the attorney general "has created a body of secret law by increasingly withholding its legal interpretations from the public, thereby evading public oversight and accountability." His lawyer, Montclair solo Richard Gutman, says agencies are "carrying out government functions based on secret interpretations." The attorney general is using a

different name for what once would have been formal opinions, he says. They "used to be public without being asked; now you can't see it, even if you ask."

Former Attorney General John Degnan calls the drop in formal opinions "very surprising." He issued 65 of them during his tenure, 1978 to 1980. Now chief operating officer for Chubb & Son in Warren, Degnan calls the recent lack of formal opinions a missed opportunity for attorneys general to exert a positive influence. W. Cary Edwards, attorney general from 1986 to 1988, issued no formal opinions but stresses their importance and says attorneys general should be making greater use of them. He sees a "multiple hat" problem, with the individual lawyers who advise the agencies having a duty to

protect client confidentiality while the attorney general has a broader obligation to the public. Del Tufo, who issued six formal opinions during his tenure as attorney general from 1990 to 1994, says the aim should be transparency where possible. Though client confidentiality must be maintained, it is "incumbent on the attorney general to issue public opinions on matters of public importance," adds Del Tufo, now with Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom in New York.

The case is pending before Mercer County Assignment Judge Linda Feinberg, with an Oct. 3 hearing date. The Division of Law's response is due Aug. 29. Spokesman Lee Moore declines comment.

#### John Paff's Other Battles

#### **OPRA/OPMA** suit against Penns Grove Borough

Attorney Walter Luers and I recently sued the Borough of Penns Grove in Salem County for various violations of the Open Public Records Act and Open Public Meetings Act. An order to show cause hearing has been scheduled for November 3, 2008, 1:30 p.m., in Bridgeton. The lawsuit documents are on-line at: <a href="http://www.lpcnj.org/OGTF/PGSuit.pdf">http://www.lpcnj.org/OGTF/PGSuit.pdf</a>

#### **Confidential settlement agreements**

Lately, I've been having better luck getting government agencies to produce "confidential" settlement agreements in response to OPRA requests. For example, Paulsboro Borough in Gloucester County recently released an agreement showing that it paid a man \$39,500 to settle his lawsuit against Paulsboro Police for conducting a visual cavity search on him after a marijuana arrest. Even though the agreement was entered into on March 5, 2008, the newspapers still found that the settlement merited a news story when I told them about it. See the 10/08/08 *Gloucester County Times*, "Paulsboro to pay in strip search"

http://www.nj.com/gloucester/index.ssf?/base/news-10/1223451615253280.xml&coll=8

I think that there's value in requesting and calling attention to settlement agreements, especially when they have to do with governmental misconduct, whenever possible. Some of the underlying court documents and the settlement agreement are on-line at: <a href="http://www.lpcnj.org/OGTF/JigglingCase.pdf">http://www.lpcnj.org/OGTF/JigglingCase.pdf</a>

Press of Atlantic City reports on Atlantic County suit

## N.J. Libertarian sues 17 Atlantic County towns over access to records

By ELAINE ROSE Staff Writer, 609-272-7215 Published: Tuesday, October 07, 2008

A central New Jersey man has filed suit against 17 Atlantic County towns in an effort to make the workings of municipal governments more open to the public. John Paff, of Somerset, chairman of the New Jersey Libertarian Party's Open Government Advocacy Project, filed his suit Friday, claiming 17 of the 23 municipalities in Atlantic County did not adequately respond to his requests for minutes from closed-session meetings.

"There's too much information that's kept secret," Paff said Monday in a phone interview. "Non-compliance (with the state's Open Public Meetings Act) is so widespread, I can't just do this town-by-town anymore." Paff said he started with Atlantic County because it has a manageable number of towns and "starts with an A." He is representing himself in the lawsuit, but consults with a lawyer when needed.

Local governments do have a legitimate need to keep some matters secret, Paff said. But at the least, he said, they should let the public know which specific matter they are discussing when they go into closed sessions and make closed-session minutes available within a reasonable amount of time. Paff said he hopes the lawsuit will be a wake-up call and that the towns will be forthcoming with the information he sought. But if not, he's willing to go in front of a judge.

He held up Absecon as an example. The city sent him a Sept. 2 letter saying that they will send a cost estimate for photocopying within 30 days. As of Friday, Paff has yet to receive the estimate, his suit contends. But Absecon Administrator Terry Dolan said Monday that the city did mail a copying-costs estimate to Paff shortly after its Sept. 2 letter. The city sent a follow-up letter Friday, saying it would give Paff eight requested pages on receipt of his \$6 payment and would need 14 additional days to get a legal opinion on the release of closed-session minutes, Dolan said. "I am not sure why he would chastise Absecon for being derelict in our duties," Dolan said. "Absecon takes every request for public records extremely seriously, and we comply to the letter of the law."

The other towns named in the suit are Atlantic City, Buena Vista Township, Corbin City, Egg Harbor City, Egg Harbor Township, Folsom Borough, Galloway Township, Hamilton Township, Hammonton, Linwood, Longport, Margate, Mullica Township, Northfield, Port Republic and Somers Point.

## Sparta: Financial Disclosure Statement Noncompliance

By April 30th of each year, every municipal "local officer" in the state must file a Financial Disclosure Statement (FDS) with the municipal clerk. On July 9, 2008, I requested the FDSs filed by eight Sparta Township officials, specifically the five-member municipal council, the township manager, the township prosecutor and the township public defender.

I learned that three of those eight officials had not filed their FDSs at all and that another official's FDS, in my opinion, was not correctly and completely filled out. Accordingly, I filed complaints against those officials, which are on-line at <a href="http://www.lpcnj.org/OGTF/SpartaFDS.pdf">http://www.lpcnj.org/OGTF/SpartaFDS.pdf</a>

On August 14, 2008 the following article was published in the *Sparta Independent* concerning these complaints.

**Open government activist takes a look at Sparta** - Claims: Officials' financial disclosure statements are late, not filled out properly

Sparta - They say 'The Devil is in the details,' but for John Paff, the Chairman of the New Jersey Libertarian Party's Open Government Project, details can tell tales about a municipality's compliance with laws and regulations. Last month Paff filed complaints with the Local Finance Board in Trenton against three Sparta municipal employees and the mayor, claiming their current financial disclosure statements are either not on file or are incomplete.

Paff said he submitted an Open Public Records (OPRA) request to Township Clerk Miriam Tower on July 9 asking for the most recent financial disclosure statements filed by each of the township council members, the township manager, and the municipal prosecutors and public defenders. He said he received forms for each member of the council, except for Mayor Brian Brady. He also did not receive forms for Prosecutor Andrew A. Fraser or Public Defender Daniel A. Colfax. These forms should have been on file in the clerk's office by April 30.

Tower said she reminded Brady that he had not filed his form and he turned it in immediately. He explained it had been an inadvertent oversight on his part and added, "Sometimes mistakes happen that are unintentional. It's not that I believe that an exception should be made for me, because I don't. But in the grand scheme of things, this is very minor."

Paff contends that public officials should not be exempt from the requirement of timely submission of necessary documents and should be held accountable for proper procedures just as average citizens are. He said, "Citizens are required to turn forms in on time and there is little leniency for lateness." As of this week, financial disclosure forms for Fraser and Colfax still had not been received by the clerk's office.

Paff also filed a complaint against Township Manager Henry Underhill, claiming that although his financial disclosure

statement was received, it was not filled out according to the stated instructions. The form requests information on any source of income for the employee and spouse received for the prior calendar year in excess of \$2,000. It includes sections for fees or honorariums received in excess of \$250, gifts, reimbursements or pre-paid expenses in excess of \$400, business interests, and lists of property owned. The form states, "If none, please indicate NONE in the space provided."

Paff's complaint is that Underhill did not list his job as township manager, for which he receives \$150,096 annually, and instead of writing "none" in all of the other sections of the form, he drew a line through each.

Paff said these disclosure forms are a legal means by which citizens can get financial information about their public officials. The forms are intended to disclose any conflict of interests between an individual's municipal position and duties and any personal business involvements or holdings. He said, "When a line is drawn through a required section, I don't know what that means. Officials should follow directions and fill out forms correctly and consistently." Paff objects to what he calls a "cavalier attitude" about performing such required tasks on the part of public officials and believes forms should be filled out with care.

Tower and Underhill both believe the inclusion of Underhill's current position and salary on a form required by the township that employs him was unnecessary and perfunctory because this information is already known by the township. Paff does not agree and has also filed a complaint with the Sussex County Prosecutor, in which he contends that Underhill's "failure or refusal to disclose his \$150,096 salary from Sparta Township under Section II of the FDS (Financial Disclosure Form) constitutes an omission of material fact."

Paff also contends other omissions on Underhill's form, such as his spouse's source of income, or any New Jersey properties owned by him, constitute other violations and he asks the prosecutor to investigate these. He said in his letter to the prosecutor, "The Legislature passed the Local Government Ethics Law because the vitality and stability of representative democracy depend upon the public's confidence in the integrity of its elected and appointed representatives." (N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.2b) He adds, "Complete and accurate financial reporting is necessary to complete this goal and refusal to properly report undermines it."

Underhill said there was no intentional omission on his part and he owns no property and has no other income to report, besides his township salary. He said, "I've filled out this form the same way for several years and it's never been an issue."

Paff said he does not realistically expect anything will come of his complaint and if the Finance Board says Underhill's form is fine as it is, he said, "Then I will be so advised. But he hopes to make the point that public officials should be held to the same, if not higher standards as the citizenry, and that he and others will be watching.

## **Members Write to Newspapers**

#### **Hold onto Your Rights**

Dear Editor:

The letter by Steve Raynor (Suburban Trends 7/20) on the recent Supreme Court decision striking down Washington, D.C.'s gun laws repeats the old refrain that because the Bill of Rights was drawn up in the 1790s, that somehow it is no longer relevant in today's society.

Let's be clear about something. There is no such thing as "gun rights" and never has been; guns are inanimate objects and have no "rights." Human beings as individuals do, however, have rights and that is what the Bill of Rights, including the Second Amendment is all about, namely protecting a preexisting right. The Constitution and the Bill of Rights do not give or grant rights since what can be given by government can also be taken away by government. Our Republic's founders knew this and worded the Constitution accordingly, so that the government would be strictly limited to a few basic functions, one of which was to guarantee and protect personal liberty and not violate it.

Following Steve Raynor's logic, the First Amendment shouldn't really apply anymore either, since the writing and communication technology have changed too since the 1790s; perhaps only quill pens and parchment should be allowed since the founders could not have foreseen the Internet, cell phones, or text messaging.

We Libertarians believe that the principles of individualism and liberty are eternal and don't become dated or irrelevant with the passage of time.

Don't ever let anyone talk you into surrendering any of your rights and liberties, or you may just need a gun to get them back someday!

Mark Richards West Milford " Published in *Suburban Trends* August 8, 2008

#### **Survival Before Big Brother**

Dear Editor:

Praise is due to your columnist Dean Naddeo for his article "Independence Lost" (Dean's List, Suburban Trends 6-29). He is quite correct in pointing out how government is crushing our liberty in this particular case with the private individual use of fireworks on the Fourth of July. It is indeed ironic that on a day when we celebrate independence and individual liberty, the "non-official" setting off of fireworks is illegal.

How on Earth did any of us ever survive without Big Brother monitoring all our personal activities? When yours truly was growing up here in West Milford in the 1960s, we rode our bikes without helmets, rode in our parents' cars without seatbelts, shot at tin cans in our backyards with BB guns, and played or swam outside in the summer without layers of sunblock rubbed all over us, and we somehow lived through it!

What has happened to our country? Americans meekly accept regulation, regimentation, and control over our lives without any real resistance. Have they become so intimidated by the media and the government officials that no one wants to speak out?

No doubt some of the material used by the late comedian George Carlin would be "offensive" to some people, but one thing he did say that hit home is that the government really doesn't like people who can think on their own. I guess to many people today it's "patriotic" to be a mindless sheep who doesn't think or question instead of being one who stands up and shouts, "Enough!"

Again my compliments to Dean Naddeo on a good article: Don't be surprised if you get labeled as a Libertarian (take it as a point of pride, and not a smear).

A quote I've used before, but one that seems very appropriate, would be that of Ben Franklin, who remarked, "They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty or safety."

Mark Richards West Milford Published in *Suburban Trends* July 9, 2008

## In this Election, the Lesser of Two Evils Is Still Evil

Between the liberals who can't keep their hands off our wallets and the conservatives who can't keep their noses out of our bedrooms, American government has made a mockery of the ideals of our founding fathers. Thomas Jefferson said, "That government governs best that governs least." He might as well have been from Mars. What makes it even worse is that the aforementioned liberals and conservatives are now in cahoots, each looking the other way while their supposed "opponents" run rampant with yet more nanny state or police state initiatives.

The only party that still believes in limited government today is the Libertarian Party. People don't vote for them because of the belief it would be a wasted vote. In reality, taking into account the sameness of the two major parties (after all, we're promised even more big government this fall by both), a vote for the Republicans or Democrats is even worse than a wasted vote. It's like continuing to shop at the same two stores that

screw us over and over again – it makes them think we like it. Libertarian presidential candidate Bob Barr won't win this fall, of course, but how else will our leaders get the message that so many of us feel.

Limited government, low taxes, and personal responsibility are worthwhile American values, unless we vote that way? One has to have a longer-term outlook in the hopes of stopping this nation from sliding ever deeper into authoritarian socialism. Our children deserve a better world than that.

Peter Hill, Woodstown, N.J. Printed in the Wilmington, DE *News Journal* Tuesday, October 14, 2008

#### Voters have a third choice for president

As the Democratic Party anoints its presidential candidate, and the Republicans will soon do so, voters have a third choice -- the Libertarian Party candidate for president, Bob Barr. Libertarians stand for lowering taxes and reducing the scope

and reach of government. The most frequent objection I hear to voting for Barr from people who agree with Barr and the Libertarian Party's goals of lowering taxes and reducing government is that voting for Barr is a wasted vote. Nonsense.

For a political party to participate in the national presidential debates, it needs to poll at about 15 percent. For a political party to qualify for campaign matching funds, it must receive 5 percent of the total popular vote of the prior election. According to Zogby International, Barr is currently polling above 5 percent in many states, including 11 percent in New Hampshire, 8 percent in Georgia and Colorado, and 6 percent in Texas, and his numbers are going up. Therefore, each vote is important -- including those for third-party candidates.

Contributed by Walter M. Luers, Esq.
Oxford, NJ
Published in the Harrisburg, PA *Express Times*Saturday, August 30, 2008

### NJLP State Board (October 1, 2008)

#### **Steering Committee**

Chair Lou Jasikoff Secretary Paul Tahan

973-752-9164 973-725-2559

<u>chair@njlp.org</u> <u>secretary@njlp.org</u>

Vice Chair Sean Colon Treasurer Kevin Ferrizzi

908-380-0196 609-980-8903 <u>vicechair@njlp.org</u> <u>treasurer@njlp.org</u>

#### Members-at-large

Ken Kaplan Derek DeMarco Jason Scheurer 973-978-9722 862-221-1554 609-937-8064 atlarge1@njlp.org atlarge2@njlp.org

#### **County Representatives**

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Ken Bireta Mercer <u>LP@bireta.net</u>

Len Flynn Monmouth 732-591-1328 <u>len@drflynnconsulting.com</u>

## The New Jersey Libertarian

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This is about the last chance to contribute to our candidates and the party before the November 4, 2008 election. Here are the internet website addresses for donations to our candidates and the LP

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I wish to support the NJ Libertarian Party but don't want to visit the internet. Enclosed is my contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_\_ . Make check payable to "NJLP" and send to

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