

The New Jersey LIBERTARIAN

Dissension Threatens Libertarian Unity! (Just When You Thought We'd Have a Dull Post-Election Rest Period...) "Is This An Oath I See Before Me? or A Statement of Principle?"

*From the Libertarian Party
National Committee
Regional Representative
from Region 5, which
includes Delaware,
Maryland, New Jersey, and
Pennsylvania:*

**To the members of the New
Jersey Libertarian Party:**

In the January issue of the national LP News you will find a printing of the "Atlanta Statement". [If you don't have a copy contact your County Chair.] This document was prepared by a group of 16 LP activists to address a variety of ways to improve the future of the LP. The National Committee considered the entire document at its December 1992 meeting in Las Vegas, even though the two most controversial items were outside the scope of activity by the National Committee. Those two items—which, if they are to be considered at all, must be debated on the floor of the National Convention in Salt Lake City this summer—concern the certification for membership (the so-called "oath") and the Platform. While the votes I cast on those two measures—in what were merely beauty-pageant-type polls—were both in support, I actually had no time in advance of the meeting to consult with the affiliate chairs of this region, and therefore only could use my conscience as a

**"I certify that I do not
believe in or advocate the
initiation of force to
achieve political or social
goals."**

guide. I believe that these two issues are very important, and realize that any change to the bad will be especially difficult, because the changes made by the delegates to the Salt Lake City Convention will not be correctable until 1996. It is therefore vital that all potential delegates participate in the debate well in advance of the National Convention, so arguments are properly framed and personal attacks are avoided.

Since our meeting in Las Vegas, the debate has widened (quite apart from becoming more personal) on several fronts. On the issue of eliminating the certification, suggestions that have appeared on the various computer bulletin boards range from enhancing the "presentation" so as to include some explanatory text, to slight changes in wording, to wholesale reconstruction of the wording, in addition to the original suggestion of

scrapping the statement. In addition, several individuals have suggested applying the statement only to the "upper" tier of a two-tier membership, requiring signing of the statement only for candidates and National Committee members, and possibly also for Convention delegates (so-called voting members).

It is important, if you have thoughts on these matters, for YOU to present your ideas at our state convention on March 7. The issue of the

certification might determine the future of the Libertarian Party, so it is not inappropriate for anyone with a viewpoint on the issue to present his or her thoughts. Just as important, I hope that every member of the NJLP—and the LP—will listen carefully to all the arguments. Don't get detoured into personal attacks; stay focused on the issues and the Libertarian Party will grow stronger by virtue of the open exchange of ideas. It is YOUR party: think about what it means to you to be a member of the Party of Principle and how, if at all, that perspective will change if the certification is altered or eliminated.

As a member of the National Committee, I have no authority to change the By-law requirement of the Party: but I will not use my status to preempt discussion by other

Continued on page 2

Contents—Jan. 1992 ³

	Page
• Kill The "Oath"?	1
• Help Defeat Unconstitutional Forfeiture	2
• SCLP Seats New Chair	3
• Simon Jester Says	3
• NJLP Convention (March 7) Signup Sheet	5
• Stewart on Ostrowski on LibCandidates	6-7
• Departments	
• NJLP Leadership Listing	3
• Minutes of Steering Committee	4
• Letter From The Chair	8
• NJLP Calendar	10

Continued from page 1

members of the LP or NJLP. If asked, I will present my continually-evolving thoughts on these two topics, but I respectfully decline to use this forum to try to "steer" the discussion in a preferred direction. All I will say now is that while I am against eliminating the certification, I do not believe my vote in the National Committee meeting was an error. The proposal would have been raised in any event, and if the debate prior to the Salt Lake City convention serves to elucidate valuable ideas and perspectives, then the National Committee's decision NOT to withhold support—which might have served only to inhibit debate—will have been to everybody's benefit.

If the substance of the debate is sufficiently arousing, you should seriously consider attending the Salt Lake City Convention as a delegate from New Jersey: we will be allocated more than 20 delegates, perhaps even 22 or 23, and we will also be allocated a seat on the Platform Committee. You might even think about applying for the seat on the Platform Committee. This Party is composed of people who take ideas seriously: but besides playing an important role in the future of the LP, delegates usually have a lot of fun at these conventions.

Dan Karlan

Editorial Whine:

This issue almost got to readers on schedule, but it was delayed by late-blooming events and by copy about those events that arrived even later.

Get On The Phone To Defeat Forfeiture

Salem County Libertarian Party has been cooperating with F.E.A.R. to help bring two bills, A-1536 and S-1226 to a vote. Both bills would make the state's forfeiture laws more constitutionally correct. Under the current law, people who have been fully acquitted by a jury may still have to forfeit their property to the state.

Members of SCLP were helping to bring political pressure on Assemblyman Gary Stuhltrager, the Chairman of the Judiciary, Law and Public Safety Committee, to bring A-1536 to a hearing, without which it could expire. Stuhltrager's support for the bill is key. Opposition includes police groups, prosecutors, and the Attorney General.

SCLP has engaged in a letter and telephone campaign to Stuhltrager's office. Members and supporters were urged to call and express support for the reform legislation. The Chair of the Gloucester LP and the Acting Chair of the Cumberland LP agreed to ask their members and prospects to participate.

To add weight to the coalition, SCLPers worked with the local board member of the Coalition of NJ Sportsmen, Mr. Joe Nerz, who, in turn, spoke to the NRA's lobbyist about supporting the reform and supporting the legislation. Mr. Nerz has agreed to use his organization to pass out flyers asking for calls and letters to Stuhltrager and Senator Gormley calling for the reform. John

Paff produced three flyers and Stoxen presented them to the Steering Committee at the Jan. 9 meeting.

On Monday, Jan. 11, the hearing was held. In attendance, as well as NJN and CNN, and 11 (count them) county prosecutors, were Mike Pierone, Lou Stefanelli, John Paff (NJ coordinator for F.E.A.R.), Doug Stoxen, Carl Peters, Ken Krug, and Ben Grindlinger. With Pierone delayed by illness, Carl Peters spoke for the NJLP, but according to channel monitors, "the media ignored our presence."

"Informed observers" were of the opinion that the media favored the bill and that the Assemblymen perceived the self-interest of the prosecutors who spoke against the bill. Another hearing on February 22 will provide another opportunity for the NJLP to make its presence felt—with placards, handouts, and spokespersons.

SCLP Vice Chair Stoxen commented: "Our goal is to turn the tide of totalitarianism. If we are going to make a difference, one way is through coalitions like the one we are forming on this issue. I urge other Libertarians and others interested in this issue to help find and coordinate coalitions to support this legislation.

"Importantly, right now, I urge volunteers to phone John Paff at 908-873-1251 or to call me at 609-678-7018. If the Libertarian Party members and other supporters of the Constitution call or write the Chairmen of the Judiciary Committees and get other organizations to get their members to call and write, meaningful reform will have a chance and long term alliances may be formed. If they don't get involved, they miss an infrequent opportunity to

make a difference and they permit the enemies of freedom to win another one without a challenge."

Phone Now and Phone Often

Assemblyman Stuhltrager's address and phone number is 232 South Broad St., Woodbury, 08096, (609) 853-7868. Senator Gormley's address and phone number is 1333 Atlantic Ave., Suite 303, Atlantic City 08401, (609) 345-0013.

Other members of the Committee who should be phoned are:

Vice-Chairman (R) Lee A.

Solomon: 609-546-1312

Frank Catania (R):

201-427-9719

Harriet Derman (R) (Note: a sponsor of A-1536):

908-819-7551

Monroe Jay Lustbader (R)

(A co-sponsor of A-1536):

201-992-9112

Byron M. Baer (D):

201-343-3333

Robert L. Brown (D):

201-677-1966

LIBERTY First!

LIBERTARIAN

January, 1993

Letters to the editor, articles and commentary are welcome; send to: Don Hinkle
The New Jersey Libertarian
P.O. Box 205
Green Village, NJ 07935
phone: 201-377-2176
fax: 201-765-0092

Permission is hereby granted to reprint any of the material in this issue, except that which is copyrighted, as long as credit is given to the author, *The New Jersey Libertarian*, and the New Jersey Libertarian Party.

Editorial material to appear in the February, 1993 issue, must be received before February 10.

Subscription and advertising rates are available from the editor.

SCLP's New Chair :

Robert Dyson, founding member of the Salem County Libertarian Party, was unanimously elected to Chair at the Dec. 9 meeting. He will complete the unexpired term of Dr. Geoffrey Ellington.

Also, the party completed the documents for incorporation in the State of New Jersey. The incorporation papers were prepared with the invaluable assistance of LP sympathizer and Salem County resident, David Jenkins. Mr. Jenkins practices corporate law in Delaware. The Articles of Incorporation have been filed with NJ Department of Commerce. Following state approval of SCLP, Inc., the SCLP will file non-profit 501(c)(4) corporation status applications with the IRS before mid-January, with approval expected by March.

Doug Stoxen, Salem County State Committee Representative and SCLP Vice Chair, said, "We couldn't have gotten through the paperwork without Mr. Jenkins' help. After we're finished with our applications and we receive State and Federal approval, SCLP should be able to help other counties with their applications."

Simon Jester's Definitions:

Entry Number 1:
Government Service: To properly understand this phrase, one needs to look up the words separately and then combine them.

Government: to exercise authority over a state, district, group, etc.; control; rule
(It is useful to also define CONTROL, and RULE.)

Control: to regulate; to exercise authority over; direct; command; to curb; restrain.

Rule: an authoritative regulation for conduct, method, procedure, etc.

Service: 1. the occupation or condition of a servant. 2.a. employment., especially public employment, b. a branch of this, including the people in it 3. work done or duty performed for others

Government Service: The job at which one's work is to dutifully control, direct, exercise authority over, restrain, command, regulate, define procedures for and generally boss others around. Important to appear to be their servant while doing this.

New Jersey Libertarian Party

P.O. Box 56
 Tennent, New Jersey 07763
 (201) 670-9000

Steering Committee

Chair: Michael Pierone (201) 827-5226
Vice Chair: Len Flynn (908) 591-1328
Secretary: Emerson Ellett (908) 774-3684
Treasurer: Louis Stefanelli (201) 751-8675
Members at-large:
 Ben Grindlinger (609) 585-0165
 Spencer Layman (908) 583-2816
 John Paff (908) 873-1251
 Jerry Zeldin (609) 783-4306
Trustee: Helen Radder (908) 938-2784
Librarian: Emerson Ellett (908) 774-3684

State Committee

Bergen County: Dan Karlan (201) 444-2846
Camden/Gloucester County: John Hill (609) 468-9571
Cumberland County: Herb Rosselle (609) 825-0510
Hudson County: Larry Eden (201) 795-0173
Mercer County: Carl Peters (609) 737-7667
Monmouth County: Ted Fiolek (908) 495-8988
Morris/Essex County: George Foster (201) 763-3476
Salem County: Doug Stoxen (609) 678-7018
Somerset County: Randy Enterline (908) 359-4044
Middlesex County: Reinaldo Aviles (908) 826-4731
Sussex County: Tony Federici (201) 764-7289

County Chairs

Bergen County: Lee Altman (201) 944-2473
Camden/Gloucester County: John Hill (609) 468-9571
Mercer County: Carl Peters (609) 737-7667
Monmouth County: Helen Radder (908) 938-2784
Morris/Essex County: Jonathon Shanoian (201) 694-0664
Salem County: Robert Dyson (609) 678-8034
Somerset/Middlesex County: Ray Babecki (908) 878-7998
Sussex County: Tony Federici (201) 764-7289

Support Our Advertisers!

PRO CHILD - PRO CHOICE

The 1990 National Libertarian Party Platform on Women's Rights states: "Recognizing that each person must be the sole and absolute owner of his or her own body, we support the right of women to make a personal choice regarding the termination of pregnancy."

We, the undersigned women and mothers of the New Jersey LP, support the position of the Libertarian Party.

Ginny Flynn Rita Zeldin Jean Drake
 Helen Radder Dale Harris Diane Adler
 Claudia Montelione Diedre Maiullo Lucille Bender

Ad paid for by Helen Radder

ABORTION: In Harmony or In Conflict With the Rest of the Libertarian Party Platform?

For a copy of this new LFL publication, send SASE. Complete literature packet on abortion, aggression, and parental obligation, \$3.00. Questions welcome.

Libertarians for Life

13424 Hathaway Drive
 Wheaton, ME 20906, 301/460-4141
 Doris Gordon, National Coordinator

Minute by minute

*These are the minutes of the NJLP Steering Committee for Earthdate January 9, 1993,
Secretary Emerson Ellett recording...*

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm at the Holiday Inn in Jamesburg. Cmdr. Data objected that the chair was overstepping its stationary authority; overruled by a vote of those present: **Pierone, Flynn, Ellett, Stefanelli, Grindlinger, Layman and Zeldin.** Absent: **Paff.** Other members present were **Federici, Karlan** and **Stoxen**, and a visitor from Salem county, **Jimmy Jones.**

A. 1536, Forfeiture Reform Bill. Hearings will be held by the Assembly Judiciary Committee, Jan. 11 at 10 am in the Legislative Offices Building, Room 8, 135 W. Hanover St., Trenton. All members urged to support the bill, which would require that a defendant be convicted before his or her property could be forfeited, and that any forfeiture be proportionate to the offense; e.g., that the contents of a person's house could not be seized for, as example, allegedly "practicing psychiatry without a license," as happened recently in Monmouth county. Jimmy Jones related a conversation with a person who said that the state police, prosecutors, and lawyers have used the forfeiture statute to buy late model cars for a few hundred dollars, they being the only bidders for the forfeited property. Jones did not know whether the man would be willing to testify before the Judiciary Committee. Among those who will testify will be **Pierone.** Members are asked to contact Sen. Gormley and urge him to hold hearings on the companion bill, S. 1226; phone **Paff** for details. (See followup report on Page 2.)

Cape May County Organizer. **Stoxen** contacted **Larry Muentz**, an ex-Republican who worked 15 years for a top corporation and who now runs a B&B, and who is willing to organize his county. RESOLVED, that the NJLP recognize Muentz as organizer of Cape May County, with the privilege of collecting his share of dues. PASSED.

Member Survey. The Steering Committee received the survey forms and after analysis will present the findings. **Newsletter Bulk Mailing.**

The permit will be switched from Tennent to Green Village; the NJLP mailing address will remain at Tennant. **Recruitment.** RESOLVED, that six months after an individual membership has elapsed, the present dues-sharing arrangement be extended to the county if the county gets the individual to renew. PASSED. Explanatory statement: this will encourage the county to renew expired memberships—the revised dues-sharing procedures will be included in the next newsletter, and will be provided to county chairs and organizers. Action: **Stefanelli.**

NATCOM. The Salt Lake City convention may make major changes to the LP platform this summer, **Karlan** reported, by reducing the number of planks to as few as ten. Also, the membership certification statement may be revised or eliminated. **Karlan** and **Pierone** will meet with the Maryland LP on Jan. 23 to discuss **Karlan's** vote, as NATCOM rep, to eliminate the membership certification. The NJLP membership will be asked at our March convention to approve

the following change to Sect. 3.a) of the bylaws: strike "who certifies in writing that he or she opposes the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals", and insert "who otherwise qualifies as a member according to the national LP bylaws." The bylaw change, if approved, will keep our membership terms congruent with National's.

Upcoming meetings. The State committee will meet on Feb. 7 at 1 pm in the Holiday Inn in Jamesburg.

NJLP phone. The toll-free and local lines are both operational. **Pierone** generously offered an XT computer to speed the processing of incoming calls. RESOLVED, that the NJLP spend up to \$50 for a development kit for the voice mail card. PASSED.

Libertarian voter registration. **Layman** has found an attorney who will research the question, which will be turned over to Rutgers during the fall semester.

Reorganization of the party structure. **Pierone** contended that the NJLP is more of a political organization than a marketing organization, in that we are structured along county lines. Why shouldn't there be competing county organizations, so that dissenters could have their say? As it is now, some people come to one or two meetings, never to be heard from again. These people should be allowed to form county organizations of their own, he argued. Just as there are competing shoe stores within the same town, there should be competing libertarian groups within the party, such as Lib-

ertarians for Life. **Flynn** mentioned the once-flourishing Supper Club; also, that he or she who has an idea is usually put in charge of implementing it; if the project fails, it is not due to the suppression of dissenters. **Ellett** mentioned that in Monmouth county, members, ex-members and prospects are surveyed as to what they think should be done. Thus, it was felt that there is room for competing groups within the NJLP; any definite proposals, will be considered. Action: Members with suggestions should contact **Pierone.**

Campus recruitment. **Karlan** volunteered to be coordinator. He will contact **Joe Knight**, the NATCOM-endorsed recruiter, who has worked on many campuses.

Liability insurance. County fairs may require \$.5 million insurance of all exhibitors, including OPH booths. **Karlan** will find out whether the LP has an umbrella policy we could tap into.

Announcements.

Joe Clark. **Stefanelli** and **Pierone** met with the well-known former principal of East Side High School, **Pater-son.** He might join the NJLP and has been invited to address our convention on March 7.

Convention. In addition to **Joe Clark**, **Irv Homer**, the radio personality in south Jersey, has been invited to speak. There will also be panels on auto insurance and either forfeiture or health insurance reform, or both.

Library. New additions include an autographed copy of **Mary Ruwart's** *Healing Our World* and the NRA's video *Fundamentals of Gun Safety.*

THE 1993 NJLP CONVENTION-March 7

Morning Program - FREE!!

9:30 am to 12 noon

N J Libertarian Party Member Meeting

Election of Officers, Candidates and
National Convention Delegates

See meeting notice on page 10 for details

.....

Alternate Morning Program— FREE!!

10 am to 12 noon

LIBERTARIANISM...WHAT'S THAT?

Find out for yourself Everyone welcome!

Afternoon Program

2 pm to 5 pm

Keynote Speaker—

Joe Clark

nationally renowned H.S. Principal profiled in the movie
"Lean on Me"

Plus

Auto Insurance Panel

featuring

Assemblyman E. Scott Garrett

and presentations on

The Dangers of Forfeiture

and

Time for Term Limits?

Dinner Program

6 pm to 9 pm

Sumptuous Three Course Dinner
followed by address on

Health Care Reform

featuring

Terree P. Wasley

author of "What has Government Done to Our
Health Care?"

March 7, 1993

at the

Holiday Inn
109 9th Avenue
Runnemede, NJ

How to get there:

Exit 3 on NJ Turnpike...Take Black Horse Pike
(168) South...turn left on 9th Ave... Holiday Inn
is on left.

Guest Rooms - \$48/night

Call 609-939-4200 for reservations.

SAVE ME A PLACE AT THE '93 CONVENTION!

# of Reserv.	Program	Price (based on Postmark)		Total
		before 2/26	after 2/25	
_____	Afternoon Program	\$20	\$25	_____
_____	Dinner* Program	30	35	_____
_____	Afternoon/Dinner* Combination	45	55	_____
_____	Student** Afternoon	10	10	_____

**LIBERTY
RULES!**

* Dinner Preference: _____ Breast of Capon _____ Veal Parm.

**Student = Anyone under 22 or with current College ID.

Amount
Enclosed _____

NAMES: _____

Newsletr ID
or Phone # _____

Make check payable to NJLP and send to NJLP, c/o L.M. Stefanelli, 49 Carmer Avenue, Belleville, NJ, 07109.

Ostrowski: On Libertarian Candidates

by Laura Stewart

The New York City Libertarian Party convened December 6 at the Ukrainian Village East restaurant. James Ostrowski (the Libertarian attorney who gave a talk about the Drug War to the NJLP a few years ago) was first speaker. In New York, his talk was on "The State of the Union, the State of the State, and the State of the Party".

Factions

Ostrowski began by pointing out the folly of those who leave the Libertarian Party to align themselves with paleo-conservatives, Libertarian Republicans, "the Crane faction" and so on. He admitted to being "briefly seduced" by such groups, but decried their support of people who violate libertarian principles; "as the campaign wore on and Pat [Buchanan] began to defend protectionism and nativism and the same old right-wing social agenda, this foreign car driver and second-generation Irishman lost interest." However, rumor [which your reporter can not substantiate] says Ostrowski actually lost interest when one of these groups stopped funding his efforts against the Drug War. Be that as it may, he now calls for "all good libertarians to check out of the Republican Roach Motel and return home to the spanking clean Libertarian Party."

He predicted that in 1996 "the Crane faction will support Bill Weld of Massachusetts, while the Rothbard faction will support Buchanan, if he runs, or a similar paleocon-type if he doesn't. ... [N]either faction will succeed in electing a president who will shift the nation in a libertarian direction. First, both

factions have a knack for picking losers. Second both factions have a knack for picking non-libertarian losers."

History

"...America is in a state of slow but steady decline due to the myriad ill effects of big government... It is not a cyclical recession; it is a structural recession. The growth of government seems to have finally reached the point where it is causing an actual contraction of wealth and a worsening of social health. The continuous and steady growth of government since the Civil War did not necessarily mean a decline in the overall health and wealth of society, since the free market was able to produce wealth faster than the state was able to destroy it. This was true even after the New Deal. The last straw for this arrangement was the Great Society. In the early Seventies, with the Great Society in operation for 10 years, government had grown so large that its ability to destroy wealth came quite close to the market's ability to create it.... The nation's reaction to this stagnation was of course the election of a new president who would cut big government and restore economic growth. From Central Casting came the greatest actor ever to play president: Ronald Reagan.

Ostrowski weighed the positive psychological impact of Reagan's tax cut for the wealthy against the negative impact of increased taxes for everyone else, the launching of the War on Drugs, increased foreign adventurism, and bigger government. "No major programs were cut, causing the enormous debt we face today. The basic economic malaise of the American economy was not cured, and this failure made the current structural recession inevitable."

Predictions

"Bill Clinton will ... raise taxes, socialize medicine, make

Washington D.C. a state, increase regulation across the board, pass a gay civil rights bill, a public works job program, and absurd environmental laws. He will increase inflation and spending, boost the debt to 6 trillion dollars, and when all is said and done, four years from now he will be more unpopular than Jimmy Carter. Whomever the Republicans put up against him in '96 will win hands down. It could be Weld, it could be Kemp.... My guess is it will be Weld because he's smarter and younger and, oh yes, he will have Ed Crane's vote.... Weld will come in in 1996, just like Reagan came in in 1980, with a fresh gust of outside-Washington air, with new ideas for lighting the fires of the economy. Many of them no doubt good ideas. He'll convince the public that something tangible is being done to reverse America's decline. He will no doubt succeed, as Reagan did, in causing a temporary economic boom that will carry him into a second term in the year 2000. But inevitably, because he is not a libertarian but a moderate tinkerer, nothing will be done to reverse the slow, inexorable growth of big government in all its guises."

Ostrowski went on to predict that things would fall apart late in the second term, leading to a Democratic victory by a "conservative-to-moderate governor from a Western state" in 2004; that in 12 years we'll have gotten nowhere—we'll just be "12 years older and at least 12 percent poorer".

Analysis

His warnings about Weld:

1. Weld is not a libertarian or anything close to it, despite what some people claim. "I'm a libertarian. And I'm a lawyer. And I can tell you that no libertarian lawyer would serve as a U.S. Attorney as Weld did in Boston. U.S. Attorneys are the centurions of big government, commanding a small army of arrogant young lawyers whose

main job is prosecuting and jailing taxpayers, drug users, and innocent businessmen entangled in the federal regulatory spiderweb."

2. Weld is merely a safety valve; "Think of Big Government as a pressure cooker and the public as the water being boiled alive by taxes and regulation. In the 1980's the safety valve was Ronald Reagan. His rhetoric and partial tax cut let off enough steam to prevent the pot from exploding. In 1996, the safety valve will be Bill Weld. As long as there is a safety valve for public outrage, the pressure cooker of Big Government will continue to boil us down." Weld is a "tinkerer", and tinkering cannot reverse the trend toward ever larger government.

Why Governments Grow

Although it may be old hat to some, I found Ostrowski's analysis of the causes of big government the most fascinating part of his talk...

Ostrowski explained: "Both history and theory prove that the parasite of government tends to grow and grow until it is so large and destructive that it destroys the host society that had sustained it. The reason for this is simple. Government has the legal and physical power to redistribute to itself and its allies the wealth and liberty of the public. Like all people, politicians and their clients have unlimited wants and desires. But unlike most people, politicians have free access to our life, liberty and property whenever they need it to satisfy their desires.

"Government expansion plants the seeds for future growth. As Ludwig von Mises explains, 'the failures of the interventionist policies do not in the least impair the popularity of the implied doctrine. They are so interpreted as to strengthen, not to lessen, the prestige of these teachings.'"

Continued on page 7

"We see this phenomenon at work in the health care field. After 60 years of intense government intervention into the market economy, the average person cannot afford decent health care. The government created a sluggish economy by taxing, inflating, and regulating away all signs of economic vitality, draining the pocketbooks of the middle and working classes to the point where paying health insurance premiums is quite painful or impossible. Government has also bureaucratized the medical industry, greatly increasing its costs. These developments have been, as von Mises predicted, interpreted as proof of the need for further intervention into the health care market. A demand for governmentally-provided health care has been created. ... The government creates its own demand.

"... all government intervention is essentially alike. Whether that intervention is economic, personal, or foreign, all government intervention involves the use of force to transfer resources from one group to another, causing negative consequences for the victimized group. The negative consequences make further intervention likely.

"The poverty caused by economic intervention not only strengthens leftist calls for greater welfare spending, but also rightist calls for greater social controls. As Hans-Herman Hoppe has argued, government causes poverty; poverty increases time preference (the rate at which an individual prefers to consume goods now rather than later—"instant gratification"); increased time preference leads to actions which bring immediate satisfaction at the expense of long-term welfare, such as drug use, promiscuous sex leading to illegitimate births, crime, and gambling. Welfare programs in turn encourage still more self-destructive behavior by softening the

negative consequences. Increases in these behaviors in turn lead to conservative calls for more and tougher social control of these actions, usually by the criminal law. Social controls such as drug laws, by creating destructive black markets, cause further poverty and stimulate even further calls for welfare spending.

"Finally, these factors also make foreign intervention more likely. Poverty and social decay at home encourage the state to engage in foreign adventurism to distract attention from domestic problems and to rebuild national morale by targeting a foreign scapegoat. Foreign adventurism in turn, by harming the domestic economy and providing successful examples of the forceful use of state power, stimulates support for more right-wing and left-wing domestic intervention. Economic, social, and foreign intervention reinforce each other by causing problems that increase the demand for even further economic, social, and foreign intervention.

"Also, support for intervention in one area—by reinforcing the general principle that government should be used to fulfill one's desires—tends to legitimize intervention in the other two policy areas. Economic intervention, usually favored by liberals, redistributes property from one group to another. Cultural intervention—for example, regulating personal behavior—redistributes liberty from one group to another. Since each mechanism uses government force to take something of value from one group and give it to another, they are two sides of the same coin.

"Ostensibly, what we see in the political arena is liberals fighting conservatives to stop infringement of civil liberties and conservatives fighting liberals to stop infringement of economic liberties. In actuality, each group reinforces the principle of coercion relied upon by the other. The result is that we get infringement of both civil

and economic liberties. Foreign intervention such as the Gulf War exemplifies the same principle: the use of government force to favor one group over another.

"Since all intervention is fundamentally alike, the peacenik in foreign policy who favors domestic economic intervention is a hypocrite. The liberal who opposes cultural intervention but favors economic intervention is a hypocrite. The conservative who opposes economic intervention but favors military and cultural warfare is a hypocrite. In fact, both the left and the right provide direct evidence for the closer relationship between all three forms of intervention. The liberal calls his economic intervention a 'war on poverty', reflecting the fact that many of the original poverty warriors had served in World War II. The conservative calls his cultural intervention a 'war on drugs', a term which captures the truly violent essence of drug prohibition. Conversely, our military interventions are paid for by taxation and are usually followed by economic 'warfare' as in the Marshall Plan and cultural 'warfare' as in the Americanization of Japan.

"It is the unity of government intervention that dooms all libertarian efforts to intervene in today's major party politics. Neither Buchanan nor Weld are pure libertarians in any of these areas. While they may tinker away in quasi-libertarian style on selected issues, they will be increasing intervention into other areas, thus completely negating the admittedly sparse benefits of tinkering.

"Political realities usually prevent quasi-libertarian politicians from pushing libertarian issue agendas. The real reason Bush reneged on his promise of 'no new taxes' was his desire to have Democratic support for the Gulf War. That is, his desire for foreign intervention outweighed his desire to prevent liberals from engaging in economic intervention. To close the circle, John Sununu once defended

Bush's pathetic performance on taxes by noting that he was good on the abortion issue. In other words, Sununu cared more about intervening into our personal lives than he cared about preventing intervention into our economic lives." Of course, Ostrowski overlooked the fact that about all Bush has done that Sununu would call "good on abortion" is to prevent some federal funding, a goal which even most pro-abortion-choice libertarians share.

Ostrowski pointed out that "liberals play the same game. All throughout the Reagan/Bush drug war, Democratic liberals in Congress were silent. Why? They knew that pro-legalization speeches would be unpopular and might lose them control of Congress. Without Congress, they would no longer be able to tax and spend and regulate. They cared more about intervening into our economic lives than they did about stopping conservatives from intervening into our private lives.

"We can thus formulate an important new law of politics: **liberals and conservatives will always care more about intervening where they want to than they will care about stopping the intervention they in theory oppose.** Lesson: you can't trust a conservative and you can't trust a liberal to advance liberty. When push comes to shove each will pick power over principle, and power over you.

"Because government has an inherent tendency to expand and its very expansion creates a public demand for further expansion, policy tinkering has not, will not and can not reverse this trend. All tinkering can do is preserve the system that rules us, by occasionally blowing off public steam.

"Only fundamental change, only radical change, can permanently reverse the growth of Big Government, and the decline of America that Big Government is causing. And only the Libertarian Party is proposing fundamental and radical change."

Letter from the Chair

by NJLP Chair Mike Pierone

IT'S appropriate that we take time to ask ourselves why we are in the Libertarian party. Note, that I said "Libertarian PARTY", not why are we libertarians. I have watched with interest a number of people who are small "I" libertarians make a choice to leave the Libertarian party, either to be Republicans, or to join "United We Stand" or to simply express their impatience with the pace of change. Some of you, no doubt, are asking yourselves the same question right now, and may even be considering leaving the party. As it stands right now, our growth is relatively rapid, but our membership numbers do not reflect it because we are losing nearly as many members monthly as we are gaining. I believe that leaving the party is a big mistake, and I want to take this opportunity, drawing from my own personal experience, to tell you why.

When I first joined the party it was 1980, and Ed Clark was the presidential candidate. At that time the vice-presidential candidate was independently wealthy and had agreed to put his personal wealth to work selling Libertarianism in the form of their candidacy. It was a great time to be a Libertarian, the party was just beginning to make its presence known in a big way and there was this feeling of optimism that with ideas as good as gold, and the resources to market them, it would not be long before Libertarians would succeed in reversing the tide. Unfortunately, it didn't work out that way, and I was one of many people, who after joining the party,

became relatively inactive after I realized that Libertarians would not be electing a President or Congressman any time soon.

I had some rather unrealistic expectations. I thought that the party of principle was also going to be the party of competence automatically; that all I had to do was send in my membership fee and pretty soon I would be free. Not having any real interest or desire to be a politician myself, naturally I didn't want to PERSONALLY get involved, I would simply send in my money and the people who DID have an interest would go and do the dirty work for me.

What I didn't realize was that virtually NO Libertarian has any interest in being a politician, that is part of the reason they ARE Libertarians. That everybody would like to have somebody else do the hard work, that part of the reason things weren't happening is because people like myself were sitting back and paying their annual membership fee and waiting for someone else to win their liberty for them. Of course I knew that at one time the membership fee was "our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor" but I guess I thought I could have my liberty for the greatly discounted price of \$25.00 per annum. Don't get me wrong, I appreciate that not everyone is going to get personally involved, and as an organization we are grateful to receive whatever level of support people are willing to give. But nonetheless, if we are to succeed, it will be because we have enough people who are willing to pay the

original undiscounted price.

Some of you are saying things like, "Well, I am all for Libertarianism, but I don't care about labels, what is wrong with working with the Republicans, or the Perot organization?" or you might be saying, "I can't afford to wait for the Libertarian party to succeed, I want results NOW!" I sympathize with your feelings. I recently joined the Republican Liberty Caucus, because I truly don't care what label Liberty comes riding in on. I will work with any organization that is headed our way, and I recognize that the marketplace provides many choices, and alternatives, and I don't claim to have the ability to foresee under which label the battle for Liberty will eventually be won. However, I am not ever going to leave the Libertarian party, so long as the Libertarian party remains committed to Liberty, and I will not run as a Republican, because I do not believe that we can afford to give up on the Libertarian party.

It is possible that someday one of the older parties will co-opt our ideas, and it won't be necessary for the Libertarian party to actually win seats in government. But I am not holding my breath. Often I hear the analogy that the Socialists never succeeded in electing many people to office and yet our government is now largely socialist. This is supposed to mean that it isn't important that you elect people to office if you can only get your ideas implemented. True enough, but does anyone stop to think that government by its very nature tends to be socialist? That it wasn't the efforts of

the socialist party that succeeded so much as government merely running its natural course of taking power whenever possible? Total government control of the lives of the citizens is the norm throughout history! I wouldn't be in too much of a hurry to give credit to the Socialists for government doing what it has always done.

Lets take a look at another scenario. In the former U.S.S.R. the communist party is now so discredited that it is illegal! Is it not possible that as socialism runs its course in our own country, that being a Democrat or Republican will carry its own degree of shame? I personally think that as things "go to hell in a handbasket" being a member of the incumbent/bipartisan party will become an automatic disqualification in the minds of the voters. Those who have always consistently fought for liberty and made no compromise with force will have the right to claim leadership when the time is right. Those who sold out may have quite a time explaining their motives.

Will the next 20 years be like the last 20 years? I know that some of you have been in the movement that long, and 20 years is a long time to be waiting for change. But there is no reason to believe that the next 20 years will be anything like the last 20. We're not talking about changing a diaper here, this is a process that takes, and deserves, some time and attention. Still, I believe that the Libertarian party is about to emerge from the shadows.

Continued on next page

Continued from page 5

I now have real hope that Joe Clark may join our party. For those of you who don't immediately recognize his name, he was the principal of East Side High in Paterson: he challenged the bureaucracy and turned the school around. If you haven't seen the movie, *Lean On Me*, go to your video store and rent it; it is inspirational.

But if not Joe Clark, it is only a matter of time before we attract someone else who has the integrity, credi-

bility and media contacts. Signs of change are everywhere, if only you have eyes to see it. Who would have thought that "*Little House On the Prairie*" would even get on television, never mind become the major hit series that it did? (Based on the writing of Laura Ingalls Wilder, mother to Rose Wilder Lane of "*The Discovery of Freedom*") Want to see a great biting satire of government at all levels? Just watch "*The Simpsons*" every Thursday night. I would require my children to watch if

it weren't already their favorite show. Libertarian Gene Burns is on WOR Radio 710 AM weekdays from 3 pm to 6 pm nationally, while Irv Homer does a marvelous job locally for us on WWDB in Philadelphia.

Finally, labels are not important, but symbols ARE. We are the symbol of Liberty. We must strive to be the symbol of individual initiative and personal responsibility. We must never be ashamed to be Libertarian. We must not judge our chances for success based on

what others expect of us. I recently learned this from Joe Clark, through his example in East Side High. Our success is directly related to our OWN actions, not to what the media says, or what the government does, or what the laws are, or the prevailing attitudes of the masses, or ANYTHING outside of us. We are our assets, nothing else. We have taken as our symbol the Statue of Liberty, I am proud that she is our symbol. May we someday be as good a symbol.

Intellectual
AMMUNITION
On State and Local Issues
Concise reviews of the latest research from over 70 think tanks. For a **free sample** and subscription information, send \$1.50 postage/handling to The Heartland Institute, 634 South Wabash, Second Floor, Chicago, Illinois 60605.

ENLIST IN AMERICA'S SECOND REVOLUTION!

"Taxes & Tyranny: Perfect Together"
"Fair Taxation is an Oxymoron"

T-shirts available in M, L, and XL; black or white \$8.00 each, add \$3.50 S&H for 1 shirt, \$2.50 each additional shirt

The T-Party Collection™
P.O. Box 476 • Leonia • NJ 07605



NEW JERSEY LIBERTARIAN PARTY
P.O. Box 56
TENNENT • NJ • 07763
800-201-NJLP

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Telephone _____

Occupation & Employer* _____

*Optional

☐ I want to become a member of the Libertarian Party! Enclosed is \$40. I am entitled to all the benefits of membership, including a full year's subscription to both the national *LP News* and the state *New Jersey Libertarian*. As a member, I certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force to achieve political or social goals.

X _____
(Signature required for membership only)

☐ Enclosed is \$25. I want to see if the LP is right for me. I am entitled to 12 issues of the national *Libertarian Party News* and 4 issues of the state *New Jersey Libertarian*.

☐ Enclosed is \$1. Please send me a sample issue of the *New Jersey Libertarian* and a full information packet.

Donation

☐ Enclosed is my additional contribution of \$_____ to help the NJLP in its effort to expand individual liberty.

Send to a Friend

☐ I have a friend who might be interested in the NJLP. Please send a complimentary copy of *The New Jersey Libertarian* to : _____

☐ Please remove my name if the NJLP's mailing list is rented.

February						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S

Calendar

Calendar is a new running department. In months when the newsletter appears on schedule (ahem), this valuable feature will allow members and other readers to participate in various libertarian functions.

Members should submit their notices well in advance of each month's publication date.

Notice of NJLP Convention Date: March 7, 1993

Time: 9:30 am to noon
Place: Holiday Inn,
109 9th Ave., Runnemede,
NJ, 08078

By-Laws Amendment:
See *Minutes from January Steering Committee Meeting* for text of amendment. Change would make NJLP certification requirement consistent with National requirement, without need for further modification of State By-Laws. If National does not change its requirement, amendment would have no effect.
Elections: Officers, At-Large Steering Committee Members, National Convention Delegates, Trustee, and Candidates for State and Local Offices.

Sussex County met Jan. 20 at Unitarian Fellowship, 1 West Nelson St. Newton, NJ at 7:30 pm. Speaker was Dr. Brian Comminsky, speaking on Free Market Health Care. Dr. Comminsky is an emergency room physician in Philadelphia.

The State committee will meet on Feb. 7 at 1 pm in the Holiday Inn in Jamesburg.

New Jersey State Convention: March 7 at Runnemede Holiday Inn.

New York State LP Convention on May 22 at White Plains Hotel. For more info: 212-966-5772.

Delaware State Convention, March 26-28. For further info: 215-264-1921.



NEW JERSEY LIBERTARIAN PARTY
P.O. Box 56 • Tennent • New Jersey • 07763
800-201-NJLP

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

