



THE NEW JERSEY LIBERTARIAN

NOVEMBER

1990

CALENDAR

11/10 - General Meeting for entire membership at 2PM at Gary Pomeroy's, 3 Wisina Ct., Medford. Call John Hill for directions 609/468-9571. See Oct. issue for text of proposed By-Laws changes to be voted upon at this meeting.

11/26 - Somerset/Middlesex Area Libertarians (SMAL) meet at the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 1640 Amwell Rd., Somerset at 7PM for pizza & socializing. Speaker at 8PM. Call Howard Schoen 201/572-0207 for details.

11/30 - SMAL dinner at the *Jade Dynasty Restaurant*, 925 Amboy Ave., Edison. Ray Kalaninikas will speak on 'The Morality of Taxes' (there is none) at 7PM. \$15/person, \$25/couple. Call 908/548-0882 or 908/572-1614 for tickets.

12/1 - Steering Committee Meeting at the Karlan residence in Jamesburg. 2 PM sharp. Call 201/444-2846 for info.

12/7 - Libertarians of Monmouth County will have a covered dish dinner and baby shower for Claudia Montelione's baby at the Radder's home, 172 Smithburg Rd., Manalapan. Meeting will follow at 7:30PM. Call 201/780-2086 for directions.

Mercer County Libertarians hold meetings on the last Sunday of each month at 7 PM at *Wildflowers Restaurant*, Pennington Circle, Rt. 31 at 546 near Pennington. Call Carl Peters for info. 609/737-7667.

Morris-Essex Libertarians meet the last Tuesday of the month at the law offices of Pearl & Levy, 175 Fairfield Ave., Suite 4B, W. Caldwell (at intersection of Passaic Ave.) at 8 PM. Call Rich Bellush at his office 201/543-2515 for details.

Nat'l Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) holds regular monthly meetings. Call 201/968-8226 for details.

YES, VIRGINIA. HONEST MONEY CAN BE LAUNDERED TOO

We saw *Turner & Hooch* on TV last week. Great entertainment. For those who saw the film, can you recall what crime was committed by the bad guys? It was so heinous a crime that murder was even committed in an effort to cover it up. The crime was stated as the "laundering" of money. I paid close attention to find out what illegal activity the money had to be cleansed of since honest money need not be laundered, but none was ever revealed. It seems the large amounts of cash that were being sent -- ah...smuggled -- out of the country was itself the crime.

In discussing this 'crime' with others who had seen the film, in an effort to fill in the blank, some assumed it was drug money being laundered. Others questioned the whole crime premise: "Who is the victim? What is the *real* crime?"

I remember learning in grade school that only in oppressive countries like the USSR were there such things as crimes against the State. Such crimes were considered worse than crimes against individuals. I suppose sending money out of the country would fit this "crime against the State" category since no individual was apparently harmed by the transporting of, or the making of, this mysteriously generated cash. Is Hollywood trying to get us used to a new class of crime? Come on America. Wake up and smell the stench.

(See article on p.6)

COUNTY ORGANIZATIONS

<u>State Committee Representatives</u>		<u>County Chairs</u>	
Bergen County		Mike Harris	201/891-3395
Camden/Gloucester	John Hill	John Hill	609/468-9571
Hudson County	Don Meinshausen	Don Meinshausen	201/659-6786
Hunterdon County	Joe Kerr	Joe Kerr	609/397-8119
Mercer County	Carl Peters	Carl Peters	609/737-7667
Monmouth County	Claudia Montelione		201/583-8721
		Laura Stewart	201/264-4492
Somerset/Middlesex	John Paff		201/873-1251
		Howard Schoen	201/572-0207
Warren County	Jim Agnew	Jim Agnew	201/475-4845

NJLP STEERING COMMITTEE

State Chair:	Dan Karlan	201/444-2646
Vice-Chair:	Jerry Zeldin	609/783-4306
Secretary:	Len Flynn	201/591-1328
Treasurer:	Louis Stefanelli	201/751-8675
Members-at-Large:	Helen Radder	201/780-2086
	Sam Edelston	201/906-0766
	Ken Kaplan	201/992-3991
	Howard Schoen	201/572-0207

COUNTY ORGANIZERS

Passaic County	Ken Kaplan	201/992-3991
Bergen County	Lee Altman	201/265-6249

NJLP PHONE: 201/781-6171

IS ABORTION AGGRESSION?

Libertarian arguments against abortion and for parental obligation. Literature packet, \$3. (For information only, please send SASE.)

Libertarians for Life

13424 Hathaway Drive, #18

Wheaton, MD 20906, 301/460-4141

Doris Gordon, National Coordinator

N.J. LIBERTARIAN

Letters to the editor, articles, and commentary are welcome. Send to the Editor:

Claudia Montelione
P.O. Box 913
Matawan, NJ 07747
201/583-8721

ADVERTISING RATES

Guaranteed Circulation: 200

Full Page	\$40
Half Page	30
Quarter Page	20
Eighth Page	12
Business Card	8
Inserts	\$25/sheet

Frequency rate: 3 mos. or more, subtract 20% from monthly rate. These rates only apply to ads submitted camera-ready. There will be a charge for any additional preparation needed. Call 201/583-8721 for add'l info.

Advertising and editorial material must be received by the editor on or before the 27th of the month to be in the following issue. We are currently on a monthly schedule.

WANTED

Writers for The Rutgers Free Press a Libertarian newspaper put out by Rutgers students. Please contact Gary Dempsey, RPO 6947, P.O. Box 5063, New Brunswick, NJ, 08903, (908) 249-3153.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Tax protest leader and candidate held 'hands across' some issues at meeting

By SHAWN EVANS
Focus assistant editor

The monthly meeting of the Somerset-Middlesex Area Libertarians (SMAL) was slated to be "controversial and informative," pivoting around Gov. Jim Florio's \$2.8 billion tax-increase package.

Monday night's meeting at the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church did prove to be informative but the anticipated heated exchanges between John Budzash, co-founder of Hands Across New Jersey, and Assemblyman Anthony "Skip" Cimino (D-14), a staunch supporter of Florio's package, never materialized.

That's because Cimino never materialized.

The state assemblyman who is serving his second term in representing parts of Middlesex, Somerset and Mercer counties, contacted John Paff, a SMAL member on Saturday to say he would not be able to attend because of a personal commitment.

After contacting a number of replacement speakers, Paff managed to secure Somerset County Freeholder Michael Pappas, who is seeking re-election. While the tone of the meeting was obviously not going to be the same without a staunch Florio sup-

mismanage the money, they're not fired, just kicked over somewhere else."

Meanwhile, Budzash said he is dead set against the \$135 million bond issue approved by the Legislature by an overwhelming margin. While the bond was proposed to stimulate construction of affordable housing, the HANJ leader is encouraging taxpayers to vote against it.

"We want affordable housing but not added taxes (real estate). Don't put the burden back on the taxpayer," he said. "And that is a direct quote from Gov. Jim."

Zimmer and Budzash shared similar views as they fielded comments from the audience, with the exception of the fact that Zimmer said he will vote "yes" for the housing bond issue.

Regarding disbursement of funds for school districts, Zimmer said, "I'm offended when people say I'm a racist. Regarding the plight of the urban schools, it's not the kids I'm against; it's the people who don't need the money," he said, reiterating Budzash's sentiments that the money is going into the wrong pockets. "Obviously, the suburban schools are going to be under tremendous pressure."



Photo by Shawn Evans

'Whether we're right or wrong, this has gotten everyone involved.'

John Budzash

porter orating, at least a second speaker was going to be heard.

But it was instead the voice of congressional Republican candidate Dick Zimmer, not Pappas. Pappas apparently left the church hall after inadvertently being told by a member that he was not at a "Hands Across" meeting!

Zimmer, who was also invited, then made his way to the podium.

"Well, I guess since I'm filling in, if Skip were here he'd tell you it (tax increases) is Kean's (former Gov. Tom) fault. Or, he'll tell you it's the Supreme Court's fault," Zimmer quipped.

Libertarian Howard Schoen, a District 6 candidate for Congress, introduced the group to the philosophy shared by his political party, the third largest in the country.

"The Libertarian Party has very strong views on taxes — we're against them. The way to reform taxes is to cut them or do away with them," he said. "John (Budzash) has given the people a realization that they do have power."

With that, Budzash told the group of about 35 that HANJ is zooming in on two issues: school funding and the housing bond issue.

"We are for school funding in (the) poor districts, but the money is not going to the students — it's going in someone's pocket," he announced. "We need accountability in the schools. As it stands now, there are no restraints against these people. If they

He also stated that Florio's aim to tax the rich was off balance.

"The rich, who Florio is talking about taxing, are the investors and employers," Zimmer said. "(With that) You're going to lose jobs and commercial and residential real estate."

The closest moment to an hypothetical enactment of Cimino vs. Budzash was when the speakers were challenged by Somerset resident Daryle Jenkins. Jenkins, who had the floor for several minutes, yelled out that he would much rather put his trust in the governor than someone who by his own admission didn't vote in the last election (Budzash) and someone who's using the tax crisis to advance his own political career (referring to Zimmer.)

But the men attempted to defend their positions, with Zimmer contending he is not a "Johnny come lately" following behind the "Hands" group.

"I admire what 'Hands' has done, but I've been there all along," Zimmer said. "And, I've been kind of lonely."

Meanwhile, Budzash said he didn't vote because he simply didn't care for any of the candidates but that through his present efforts, he is redeeming himself.

"I'm doing this now because I realize the importance of being involved. I volunteer about 65 hours a week for this and whether we're right or wrong, this has gotten everyone involved," he said.

TAXING TIMES — Republican congressional candidate Dick Zimmer, left, and Hands Across New Jersey co-founder John Budzash spoke during the monthly meeting of the Somerset/Middlesex Area Libertarians. Their topic: taxes in New Jersey.



VIRGINIA A. FLYNN

Freeholder candidates debate trash, taxes

By **BRUCE LEVINE**
Press Staff Writer

CANDIDATES FOR Monmouth County freeholder were clearly distinguishable along party lines in a meeting yesterday with the editorial board of the Asbury Park Press in Neptune.

The two Republican incumbents supported a trash incinerator and the county's spending and taxing habits while a Democratic challenger took opposite stands and a Libertarian candidate said neither major parties wants to scale down county activities and spending, as she does.

None of the candidates presented views different than those they have previously expressed publicly and in interviews.

Republicans Harry Larrison Jr., Ocean Grove, and Thomas J. Powers, Aberdeen Township, are being opposed by Democrats Frank G. Abate, Marlboro Township, and Burton Morachnick, Long Branch, and Libertarians Virginia A. Flynn, Marlboro, and Marshall Bienstock, Howell Township. Morachnick and Bienstock did not attend yesterday's session.

Larrison described the trash burner planned by the freeholders as the "most modern plant in the world." He noted its distinct characteristic would be a component to collect some hazardous and recyclable materials before the balance of the county's garbage was burned.

Composting of trash, which many opponents of incineration favor, can't produce a toxin-free material for agricultural and other uses, he said.

Abate said the same presorting approach planned for the incinerator could be applied to composting. He said the county could spend a couple million dollars to fund an experimental composting process for municipal waste, and if it worked, each municipality could set up its own composting facility.

Abate said incinerators have produced toxic ash and violated environmental standards, and Larrison said Monmouth County's plant would not be able to operate if it didn't meet state and federal requirements.

Mrs. Flynn said she didn't know enough about incineration to have a position whether it is safe. But, as a Libertarian, she said she believes trash management should be left to private industry, not the government. If there is a problem with a county operation, she said, "taxpayers have no place to go but (to) sue themselves."

Through the campaign Abate and Morachnick have tried to paint the all-Republican, five-member Board of Freeholders as free-spending.

Yesterday, Abate said county tax bills over the past decade have climbed just as the state budget, with which the public is angry. He said he would look if some management jobs should be eliminated and whether some other

spending is necessary during the current tight economy.

Larrison said the county tax levy grew 210 percent between 1980 and 1990 while the municipal levy in Aberdeen, where Morachnick was mayor until January, rose 145 percent and Marlboro's increased 508 percent. During the three years Abate has been a Marlboro councilman, the township's tax levy rose 129 percent, Larrison said.

Abate said he didn't know whether Larrison's figures were accurate, but that Abate's political party was in the majority during just one of those years. He said he voted against the budget one of the two years Democrats were in the minority.

Powers said the freeholders have negotiated smaller pay raises for unionized workers in the past few years and are cutting some parts of the budget to curtail the growth in spending next year.

Having listened to the Republican and Democrat candidates, Mrs. Flynn said, "Nobody's talking about cutting back." Mrs. Flynn, who acknowledged she doesn't expect to win election, said, "I'm running to change people's minds ... about how things can be done."

*This is for Evan, Eric and Lindsey... Love you, Granddaddy!
(and for your grandchildren and future grandchildren, too)*



GRASSROOTS PETITION

I'M MAD AS HELL AND I'M NOT GOING TO TAKE IT ANYMORE!

Hello, my name is Jack Gargan. I'm just a recently retired "working stiff." Like most of the people I talk with, I'm fed up with members of Congress who care more about getting re-elected than they do about what's happening to our country.

Specifically, I'M APPALLED that Congress continues to hock the future of our children and grandchildren. Our national debt is now over 3 TRILLION dollars, and going higher by the minute. ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!

I'M BITTER that more than half of all our income taxes go just for the annual interest on that national debt (it's not just some outrageous amount we stuck our children with).

I'M OUTRAGED that Congress even talks about further raises in our taxes while totally ignoring the ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY BILLION DOLLARS IN SHEER GOVERNMENT WASTE as documented by the Grace Commission report.

I'M ANGRY that, after being told by the American public that their existing salary was already an overpayment on their abilities, they turned right around and arrogantly voted themselves the biggest raise in history! Then they had the gall to insult our intelligence and call it a "vote for ethical government." If they have to be paid to be ethical they have no business being in public office. And, if it is such a lousy job, how come every one of them works so hard to stay in office term after term?

I'M INCENSED every time I stand in the checkout line behind someone with designer sunshades, designer jeans and \$100 sneakers who pay their bill with food stamps, their vote bought and paid for by a congressman who knows how to use federal giveaway programs to keep themselves in office! (I have no quarrel with food stamps going to truly needy people.)

I'M LIVID when I recall how, in typically gutless congressional style, they let an "outside commission" stick the younger American workers with a raise in Social Security taxes (over \$15,000 per year for some couples!) to bail out a bankrupt Social Security system to "make it a sound program for our retired senior citizens," knowing full well that there will not be enough money to fund that same "baby-boom" generation who will be footing most of the bill.

I'M EVEN MORE LIVID when I discovered this same Congress then screwed our retired senior citizens by taking 52 BILLION dollars out of the Social Security Trust Fund using voodoo economics to make the federal deficit look not quite as outrageous, while slipping the trust fund and I.O.U. in return. God forbid we have even a mild recession, or our retired folks will also end up holding the bag!

I'M ENRAGED when I see money pouring in to incumbents from PACs, special interest groups who use their money to stifle public interest, to congressmen who will sell their soul for another term in office.

I'M DISGUSTED at the number of shady dealings by members of Congress who get nothing more than a slap on the wrist from their peers when they get caught in the act. Something's mighty wrong with the system when 98% of incumbents are re-elected. The other 2% don't lose. They either go out feet first, or in total disgrace for conduct too embarrassing even for congressional standards!

I'M FED UP with Congress' "to get along, you've got to go along" philosophy.

I'M SHOCKED that the world's richest nation can become the world's biggest debtor nation, all within the space of one generation!

I'M REALLY HACKED-OFF that Congress has permitted, and in some cases actually abetted, the S&L rip-off which will now cost every American family an estimated EXTRA \$30 per month for the next 30 years... and not even prosecuting the scoundrels, their friends, who have stuck us with this bill!

I'M TIRED of paying for the "franking privileges" (postage) and printing costs

of blatant advertising disguised as newsletters to the voters back home, subsidizing congressmen for everything from haircuts to lunches to health insurance plans, and paying for an army of over-paid congressional "aides" (more than 32,000 at last count). Talk about an "aides epidemic!"

I'M INSULTED that Congress, who exempted themselves from Social Security laws, has set up a pension plan that will pay a congressman in six years what the average American under Social Security must work a lifetime for (and there are 14 CONVICTED FELONS currently drawing fat congressional pensions—up to \$80,000 per year!—and 6 more waiting in the wings to reach retirement age.

But mostly, I'M SAD that we as a nation have thrown up our hands in surrender to the politicians and bureaucrats who have put us in this predicament.

BUT I'M NOT GOING TO GIVE IN TO THOSE CLOWNS! Maybe one person can't make a difference, but you and I together can! And here's what we must do: The root of all of our problems is elected officials who use their incumbency to put a stranglehold on their office. They devote most of their time and energy to raising money for re-election, rather than to running the country properly. I propose that we simply rise up and VOTE EVERY INCUMBENT SENATOR AND CONGRESSMAN OUT OF OFFICE! Further, that we only elect new people who will pledge to strictly limit the term of their office and to prohibit the federal government from spending money it does not have, except in a bonafide national emergency.

Won't you help me by supporting this initiative? You CAN make a difference (and this just might be your last chance to do it peaceably). Nothing fancy. Nothing complicated. Just simply pledge to VOTE EVERY INCUMBENT SENATOR AND CONGRESSMAN OUT OF OFFICE. There's no way we could end up with anything worse than what we already have! Our effort will initially be against federal incumbents. If this works, we can then go after state and local problems where they exist. Don't worry about the 5% of good representatives who will be tossed out with the bad guys. There are literally thousands of other public service opportunities for them to move to with open arms.

I've set up a non-profit organization, T.H.R.O., Inc. (Throw the Hypocritical Rascals Out). I've borrowed my life's savings to seed the venture and am working without pay (as are the scores of volunteers who are helping with this project). You can help by doing the following:

- 1) Complete and return the pledge below so I can determine how many of you share my anger and WILL DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT. Don't worry if you can't send a contribution. I am more interested in your VOTING support.
- 2) If you can afford a contribution, no matter how large or small, it will be gratefully accepted and go entirely to keeping this initiative going. These full-page ads cost up to \$60,000 a pop so we need all the help you can give.
- 3) Get with your local Supervisor of Elections and get voter registration drives started in your area. Then, make sure YOU vote and get as many people to the polls as you can.
- 4) Write letters to the editor of every newspaper you can, promoting the T.H.R.O. campaign. Send me clippings on anything about T.H.R.O. that gets published.
- 5) Use U.S. flag postage stamps pasted upside-down (distress signal) on all your mail—especially that going to Congressmen and elected officials. Let's send those jerks a message and flood the mail with U.S. DISTRESS signals!
- 6) Let me know if you, as an individual or as a group, can underwrite the cost of an ad in your local newspaper, shoppers guide, newsletter, etc. If so, I'll provide the "camera-ready" copy to the publication.

Turn over for coupon

BEFORE COMPLETING AND RETURNING
YOUR PLEDGE, PLEASE PHOTOCOPY OR
FAX TO AT LEAST 2 FRIENDS.

A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION
#N38495 CHARTERED IN FLORIDA

Yes, I'm for real and this campaign is for real! I'm not running for any political office, nor am I supporting or endorsing any individual or party. This campaign is also not directed against any individual or party. It's the "good ol' boy/seniority system which is corrupt and corrupting our representatives. Our only hope for a cure is a CLEAN SWEEP, and start over from scratch. The only party I'm for is the huge party this nation is going to throw on election day when we throw those arrogant bums out on their collective butts! I have an impeccable lifetime personal and business history and can withstand the closest scrutiny. Check me out.

This full-page ad has already been placed in the following major newspapers: ST. PETERSBURG TIMES, TULSA WORLD, DENVER POST, SAN DIEGO UNION/TRIBUNE, RICHMOND NEWS LEADER and RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH, PORTLAND (MAINE) TELEGRAM, COLUMBIA (SC) STATE, MIAMI HERALD, and ST. PAUL PIONEER PRESS and 85 others. I HAVE 112 MORE TARGETED OVER THE NEXT 28 DAYS. With some of these ads costing upwards of \$60,000 each, I need all the support I can get. PLEASE HELP ME.

TO: T.H.R.O., Inc. (Throw the Hypocritical Rascals Out!)
4127 W. Cypress Street
Tampa, FL 33607

Yes, Jack Gargan, I'm also fed up with self-serving congressmen and senators who will do anything to stay in office. I therefore pledge to vote against all incumbents, and only vote for new candidates who pledge to strictly limit the term of office and to prohibit deficit spending except in case of real national emergency.

- ☐ I am not a registered voter, but will get registered and vote for this.
☐ I sometimes vote, and will promise to vote for this.
☐ I always vote, and you can count on me for this one.
☐ Please contact me. I want to play an active part in this campaign.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone Number: _____

IF THIS IS GETTING
ILLEGIBLE FROM
PHOTOCOPYING TOO
OFTEN PLEASE WRITE
FOR A FRESH COPY

OPTIONAL: Also, Jack, if you can hock your life's savings and work without pay to get this thing started, I can send something to keep it going. Enclosed is my contribution of \$ _____

Please make checks payable to T.H.R.O., Inc. Thank you. Your contribution will help buy another full-page ad in another city. I will NOT sell or give your name to any person, organization or mailing list.

All contributors of \$10 or more will receive a cheap Charter Member certificate which we think is sure to become a collector's item worth much more.

Canceling the Postal Monopoly

By simultaneously proposing a 19-percent postage increase and a series of service cutbacks, the U.S. Postal Service has inadvertently fueled the fires for postal privatization. Supporters of deregulation are looking closely at New Zealand's competitive postal service; privatization critics would rather ignore it.

New Zealand "corporatized" and deregulated its postal service in 1987. The government maintained ownership of the corporation but ceased subsidies and ended its monopoly on letter delivery. This forced the postal service to operate profitably while facing competitors. The law requires the postal service to continue serving every address in the nation.

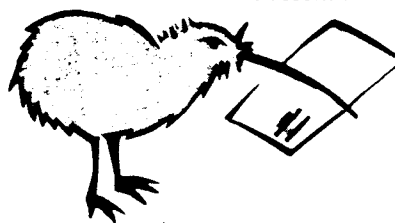
To restructure its postal service, the government closed more than two-thirds of its post offices and allowed private retailers to set up contract stations. Since decontrol, the net number of post offices has increased by 17 percent. On-time delivery of first-class letters has increased from 84 percent to 99 percent,

while automation and contracting out operations have reduced the postal workforce by one-fifth.

Postage rates went up by 40 percent in the two years prior to decontrol; they have been stable since. Yet the postal service has gone from annual losses of \$37 million to yearly profits of \$76 million.

Will studying New Zealand's experience provide lessons for the United States? In the *Wall Street Journal*, Postal Rate Commissioner John Crutcher said: "U.S. Postal Service officials who go to New Zealand return chastened and silent. The U.S. post office is not the cheapest or the most efficient in the world; it's only the biggest."

—Rick Henderson



NJLP STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

By Sam Edelston

The New Jersey Libertarian Party Steering Committee met on October 6, 1990 at the Karlan residence in Cranbury. Present were Karlan, Zeldin, Stefanelli, Edelston, Kaplan, and Schoen. Absent were Flynn and Radder. Dan called the meeting to order at 2:03 PM.

Treasurer Lou Stefanelli handed out his written report to the committee. Last month's record membership has been maintained. This year's heavy outreach program has greatly increased the number of people who have expressed an interest in the LP. In addition, Lou has received the names and addresses several hundred inquiries from National.

The committee authorized up to \$200 for a mailing to solicit new memberships from among the prospects and inquiries. This will be handled by Development Coordinator Sam Edelston.

Sam will also create a press release for shortly after Election Day, seeking Libertarian candidates to run for state and local office next year.

The posters approved at the September State Committee meeting were printed and they were used at the September 23 "Hands Across New Jersey" rally in Trenton. A sample was shown to those committee members who hadn't yet seen it, and they were impressed.

The committee voted to sell National 25 of the posters, at cost, for use in other parts of the country. If this catches on, bulk ordering at much better prices may become possible.

The Chair will continue to look into options regarding the NJLP phone message and report

back to the committee.

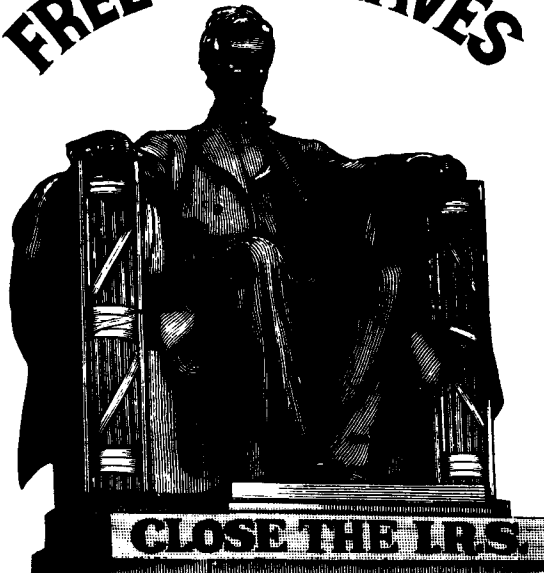
At the September State Committee meeting, the question was raised as to whether LP officials must formally file lists of its candidates in order for the designation "Libertarian Party" to appear with their names on the ballot. The answer is, no. As for improper use of our name by unauthorized candidates: Since we are properly incorporated, it's our name to use...and if anyone else tries to misuse it, it's our right and responsibility to challenge them.

Dan Karlan reported that the Bergen County Libertarians met with good attendance. Their official contact person is now Lee Altman.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:54 PM. Amazing.



FREE THE SLAVES



Editor, The Record

Edwin S. Rothschild's article, "Robbed at the pumps" (The Record, Aug. 12), contains more rhetoric than fact and is a flawed analysis of the recent gasoline price hikes.

No one is holding a gun to the heads of American drivers, forcing them to purchase gasoline. If consumers are upset over higher prices, they can decrease their consumption to reduce their gasoline bills.

But didn't the sharp increase in gasoline prices represent an unwarranted and unconscionable act? No! With the prospects of an uncertain oil flow from the Middle East because of the U.S. government's embargo of Iraq? and Kuwaiti oil, the increase in gasoline prices today is telling consumers to conserve now so supplies will be more plentiful in the future, if in fact oil supplies are disrupted. In short, the free market price mechanism is doing what it is supposed to do — allocate relatively scarce resources.

Meanwhile, Rothschild, so-called consumer protection advocates, state attorneys general, and a host of elected officials are sounding like a chorus of ignorant Soviet bureaucrats decrying the gasoline price hikes as "robbery," "theft," etc. It is not surprising that our bureaucratic elite defends any tax hike as noble and necessary, while deploring the price mechanism as evil and criminal.

MURRAY SABRIN

Leonia

The writer is assistant professor of finance at Ramapo College.

★★★★★
REGISTER
and
VOTE
LIBERTARIAN

Apropos of "Yes, Virginia. Honest Money Can Be Laundered Too" on p.1, the following article sent to us by Dr. Steever is illustrative of how the "mishandling" of your money is treated by the powers that be.

IRS seizes \$344,000 boat from A.C. dock Brigantine man subject of probe

By DONALD WITTKOWSKI
Staff Writer

ATLANTIC CITY — The "For Sale" sign was still attached to the Fishing Well as the new owner prepared to move the 36-foot vessel Thursday from its berth at the Frank S. Farley State Marina.

But Mitchell S. Kramer wasn't aware someone else had taken possession of the gleaming white fishing boat he had purchased last year and now was trying to unload.

It seems the Internal Revenue Service isn't in the habit of warning owners it is about to seize property it believes they obtained illegally.

"I don't know anything about it. This is the craziest thing I've ever heard of," Kramer, who lives in Brigantine, exclaimed after learning of the boat's fate from a reporter.

He refused further comment and ended the telephone interview by hanging up.

The IRS alleged Kramer violated federal currency laws when he bought the boat March 11, 1989, from Avalon Pointe Marina in a deal valued at \$334,000.

Edward J. Litchko, chief of the IRS Criminal Investigation Division, said Kramer purchased the Blackfin Combi by using the trade-in value of his old boat,

\$9,800 in cash and \$118,220 in bank checks and money orders.

The checks and money orders — 21 of them drawn from eight New Jersey and Pennsylvania banks between Feb. 24 and March 10, 1989 — were individually made out in amounts ranging from \$1,000 to \$9,800.

Federal money-laundering laws prohibit the "structuring" of currency in amounts of less than \$10,000. Businesses and banks are required to report transactions of \$10,000 or more so government financial regulators can monitor large movements of cash.

Kramer's boat was seized Thursday under a civil warrant to prevent it from changing hands. As long as Kramer remained the owner, the IRS had the authority to confiscate it.

Kramer has not been criminally charged but remains the target of an IRS investigation into possible money laundering and income tax evasion, Litchko said.

The probe will attempt to determine where Kramer, a pharmacist, got the cash that he converted into checks and money orders. He could face felony charges for each check and money order that was used to buy the boat, Litchko said.

The boat was taken by IRS agents to the U.S. Coast Guard station in Atlantic City, a short trip from the marina. Kramer may challenge the seizure under an IRS appeal process.

"He can come in and attempt to prove that we should not have seized it, but he would have to tell us where he got the money from," Litchko said in an interview from his Newark office.

An IRS affidavit made public Thursday said the agency became suspicious of Kramer after investigating large bank deposits made by Avalon Pointe Marina that were unrelated to the sale of the Fishing Well.

The IRS discovered Kramer's purchase while inspecting the marina's business files.

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Asbury Park Press/Monday, August 27, 1990 **A15**

Government has too much control over our lives

Gov. Florio has made a grave political mistake. Yet at the same time, he has provided the average New Jersey citizen with a rare, enlightening glimpse at what New Jersey government is really about. Florio's mistake was to raise taxes using a baseball bat instead of the traditional politician's use of smoke-screen rationalizations. This in turn has allowed us to see what our government has become: a group of people with power at their disposal that they use to control the rest of us.

Now is the time to return that power back to the people. We must again assume the power and the right, as guaranteed by the Constitution, to control our own lives, our own bodies, and our own property through *voluntary cooperation* with each other.

Take auto insurance. New Jersey law says citizens must have car insurance. This gives insurance companies a guaranteed market and removes incentive for lowering

prices. The government tries to "regulate" the price-gouging, thus adding to the expense of insurance companies doing business in the state. Guess who ends up paying for it?

The solution is voluntary auto insurance. You could insure yourself against liability for damage you cause, and also insure for payment of damages that result from being hit by drivers with no insurance or assets. The competition between insurance companies for these two markets would lower the price of insurance to a level that matches the risk inherent in the act of driving.

There are many other examples of savings that could result from limiting the power and coercion of government. Just remember: voluntary cooperation, free markets and limited government intervention mean lower taxes.

SHAD WOOLEY,
Spring Lake Heights

In modern America

Founding Fathers would be outlaws

By George Mason

Before the brief public enthusiasm for the U.S. Constitution's bicentennial disappears down the national media memory hole, it might be instructive to consider some of the ironies that surround it, together with the venerated Founding Fathers, and those who today invoke their names and the Constitution with ritualistic platitudes.

I'm not talking about Thomas Paine, the great popular patriot of the American Revolution, who declared: "Taxation is theft!"

Nor Daniel Webster, inveighing against the draft: "Where is it written in the Constitution that you may take children from their parents . . . and compel them to fight the battles of any war in which the folly or the wickedness of government may engage it?"

And I don't mean Thomas Jefferson, who advised Americans to engage in "friendly trade with all nations; entangling alliances with none."

These gentlemen would today be in hiding from the IRS or Selective Service.

But their problems pale when compared to the kind of trouble George Washington would find himself in.

That's because the Father of Our Country was also the Johnny Appleseed of marijuana for North America. This fact has been clearly established by Washington's own letters and journals.

In a letter to Alexander Hamilton in 1791, Washington asked: "How far . . . would there be propriety, do you conceive, in suggesting the policy of encouraging the growth of cotton and hemp in such parts of the United States as are adapted to the culture of these articles?"

The hemp referred to, is, of course *cannibis sativa*, otherwise known as marijuana or *pakalolo*.

Some conservative scholars, in trying to deal with the agonizing dilemma that these disclosures pose, have tried to suggest that Washington was really only interested in the use of hemp for rope, and not for recreational purposes. But in his diary for Aug. 7, 1765, the future commander-in-chief wrote: "Began to separate the Male

from the Female hemp . . . rather too late."

Sexual separation of marijuana plants is irrelevant for rope making; it is, however, a vital and traditional part of marijuana cultivation, when the purpose is pharmacological.

In an enthusiastic letter to an unidentified doctor, Washington wrote: "I thank you as well for the seeds as for the Pamphlets which you had the goodness to send me. The artificial preparation of the Hemp from Silesia is really a curiosity. . . ."

Writers faced with the evidence, but still unwilling to admit that the Father of Our Country might have been a pothead, have fallen back on the argument that Washington was probably using the drug as a pain killer for his frequent toothaches.

But as Robert Anton Wilson has pointed out, "Considering the passion shown in these records, the toothaches must have been very frequent." Further, according to Wilson, "There seems to have been no marijuana on this continent before the 18th century, and the chief cause of its wide dissemination was the enthusiasm of George Washington."

Well, where do these shocking revelations leave us?

I, for one, like to ponder what would happen if the Founding Fathers were alive today and observing the bicentennial of the constitution.

In my mind's eye, I can see old John Hancock filling out his W-4 form with a flourish.

I can see Thomas Jefferson applying for his Social Security card and then running down to the post office on his 18th birthday to register for the draft.

I like to imagine Ronald Reagan dispatching the Coast Guard down the Potomac to raid the pakalolo fields at Mount Vernon.

But most of all, I like to think of Congresswoman Pat Saiki forcing George Washington to submit to a urine test.

George Mason is a meteorologist and freelance writer for Honolulu Magazine. This article is reprinted from the SOUTHERN LIBERTARIAN MESSENGER, Rt. 10, Box 52-A, Florence, S.C. 29501.

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