



THE NEW JERSEY LIBERTARIAN

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

1989

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 7 (Election Night)-- NJLP General Meeting 7:00 PM at Rick Hoegberg's home, 64 Baldwin St., New Brunswick. Call 201/246-1731 for directions & info.

November 12-- Pro-Choice March, Washington D.C. organized by N.O.W. (see box on p.2)

November 13-- Somerset/Middlesex Libertarians meet at the Maloney's, 432 Donaldson St., Highland Park (201/572-1614 for details).

November 13-- Robert Clarkson to speak on financial privacy & offshore banking at The Constitutionists meeting in Elmwood Park, 8 PM. Call 201/327-7878 for details.

November 18 & 19-- Robert Clarkson gives his law course on Legal Research & Writing, Legal Theory, and Legal Memorandums. Call 201/327-7878 for details.

November 27- Nate Knox to speak on an aggressive procedure for the return of confiscated personal property at The Constitutionists meeting, 8PM (See above).

December 5-- NJLP Steering Committee Meeting, 6:30 PM at Farrell's Ice Cream Parlour, Rt. 18 So. (Brunswick Square Mall) in East Brunswick. Meeting at 8 PM, after dinner. All NJLP members are invited (see box on p. 2).

December 11-- Somerset/Middlesex County Libertarians to meet at Steve Friedlander's, 100 Stone Run Rd., Bedminster (201/781-6171 for details).

December 11-- Peter Van Daam to speak on various legal topics at the Constitutionists meeting. 201/327-7878 for details.

January 8-- Somerset/Middlesex County Libertarians meeting. Call Howard Shoen for details (201/572-0207).

January 9-- NJLP State Committee Meeting 6:30 PM at Farrell's (See Dec. 5).

February 13-- NJLP Steering Committee Meeting 6:30 PM at Farrell's (See Dec. 5).

March 10 or 17-- NJLP Annual Convention at a location to be determined.

NJLP COMMITTEE MEETINGS

By Len Flynn

On September 2, 1989 the NJLP Steering Committee met at the National Libertarian Party convention in Philadelphia for the sole purpose to approve purchase of LP materials. Present were Karlan, Zeldin, Flynn, Stewart, Edelston, Kaplan, and Stefanelli. Nobody was absent.

Chairman Karlan called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM and the

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meeting adjourned at 5:45 PM. The group approved \$60 for the LP outreach tabloid newspaper (600 copies); \$40 for issue papers on guns, drugs, and the LP (200 copies each); \$100 for more Libertarianism in One Lesson books (50+ copies); and \$20 for LP bumperstickers (20).

The Steering Committee met again on September 5 at Farrell's in East Brunswick, NJ. All members except Zeldin were present. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 PM.

Treasurer Lou Stefanelli opened the meeting with a review of the NJLP's finances, membership, and expenditures. He has begun to send renewal notices to many members who have expired and will follow up as needed. Lou suggested considering dropping the \$10 discount for additional NJLP members at the same address, but it was noted that only the NJLP convention could change the dues. Lou also sent each County Chair a printout of NJLP and National LP members in his/her county.

Lou received a round of applause for his efforts. Dan Karlan said that Lou's work produced a "great sigh of relief" in the group.

The committee discussed plans for the Sept. 30 anti-drug law protest in Morristown. Dan Karlan will handle mailings to county representatives and organizers about the march.

Dan told the members that the National LP Council of State Chairs suggested that all officers for state organizations serve for two year terms. Dan also will obtain other state LP platforms then work to develop proposals for NJLP consideration. Dan plans to report on his efforts at a future meeting.

Sam Edelston next presented his notes from the national LP convention concerning possible projects for the NJLP. He described the "adopt a county" program whereby an organized county would work to help neighboring county NJLP members to start a county organization. A motion passed 3-2 to offer a Nolan chart plus dots (Marshall Fritz's political preferences diagram) and a

Liberty Primer book to new county chairs upon successful organizing.

A motion to limit debate for the rest of Sam's report to no comment allowed passed 2-1 (2/3 vote required). Sam finished presenting his report and distributed copies of "Running for Office ... to WIN" to the committee. Both copies of Sam's notes will be discussed as an agenda item at the next meeting.

Len Flynn and Dan Karlan are coordinating an effort to pass a "Fully Informed Jury Amendment" to the New Jersey Constitution. Dan is including the FIJA in his campaign for Governor.

Just prior to adjournment at 9:55 PM, Ken Kaplan mentioned he had

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**LIBERTARIANS ARE PRO-CHOICE ON
EVERYTHING!**

We invite you to join us in the Pro-Choice march in Washington, D.C. organized by the National Organization for Women. This huge media event is a great opportunity for us to get the Libertarian message out.

WHEN: Sunday, 11/12/89, 10 AM

WHERE: National Archives front steps
(9th & Constitution Ave.)

- * Everyone wear something blue.
- * Bring your own signs & banners.
- * Assemble a group from your area.
- * This effort organized by Judith Weiss and Linda Morrison of Philadelphia.

Any questions? Call (215)732-7422.

*** MEETING NOTICE ***

We are wearing out our welcome at Farrell's because the meetings run too late. Future meetings will start promptly at 8 PM and end by 9:30 PM.

Any suggestions for alternate meeting places in Central Jersey are welcome. Saturday or Sunday meetings will also be considered. Call Dan Karlan with your input (201/444-2846).

LOUIS M. STEFANELLI
49 Carmer Avenue
Belleville, NJ 07109

August 25, 1989

Ms. Claudia Montelione, Editor
NJ Libertarian
P.O. Box 913
Matawan, NJ 07747

Dear Claudia:

I was hoping to address the membership, if I could. As many of you know from reading the minutes of the August 8 State Committee meeting, Dan Maiullo has resigned as Treasurer of the NJLP. He wants to take a well-deserved rest from the many responsibilities of this office and tend to personal and family matters that require more of his attention. He has been a tireless worker over the last four years and we all owe him a big debt of gratitude. I doubt we could have come as far as we have without his stewardship and behind-the-scenes dedication. Although he is under no obligation to do so, he has promised to be available to advise me as I attempt to fill his shoes. I trust I speak for all of us when I say "Thank you, Danny, for everything."

I would also like to thank the members of the State Committee who were present August 8 for their overwhelming vote of confidence. I am honored by your support and will do everything I can to measure up to your expectations, as well as the peerless example set by Dan Maiullo. If I work hard, the NJLP membership may see fit to ratify your decision at the next General Meeting.

Finally, to the members, I want you to know that, like the other NJLP officers, I am here for you. If you have questions, concerns, problems, complaints or suggestions, please let me know. I'm only one person but I'll do my darndest to tend to your needs. My phone number is on the back of the Newsletter and my address is above.

Claudia, thanks for the space.

Sincerely,

Louis M. Stefanelli
NJLP Treasurer

Lou, you're most welcome.

Claudia

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written to the Asbury Park Press complaining about exclusion of Dan Karlan in their debate of candidates for Governor. Dan also noted that the contract for the New Jersey Libertarian had been completed with Claudia Montelione.

The NJLP State Committee met on October 10 at Farrells with Karlan, Flynn, Stefanelli, Edelston, Schoen, Peters, Kaplan, and Stewart present. Mission were Harris, Hill, Zeldin, Meinshausen, Kerr, Pierone, and Agnew. The meeting began at 8:20 PM.

Sam Edelston reviewed how to organize counties. The State Committee then unanimously approved reimbursement for booth expenses of the Middlesex County Fair plus \$38.92 for display materials (Advocates for Self-Government). Sam agreed to prepare an article for the New Jersey Libertarian seeking activists and presenting ideas to NJLP members.

After the Treasurer's report confirmed more than \$500 in the NJLP account, the committee unanimously voted \$100.00 to purchase 500 copies each of LP brochures on guns, drugs, taxes, and the LP itself. Laura Stewart offered to buy stored NJLP copies of Bastiat's The Law for \$1.00 each and the members had no objection to this.

The committee heard from Steve Carrellas, State Coordinator for Citizens for Rational Traffic Laws. He described CRTL's purpose was to support driver's rights and protect and enhance personal mobility. CDRL literature lists these positions: "leading the fight to establish higher, more reasonable speed limits, ... protecting your right to own a radar detector, combatting speed traps, opposing exploitative insurance company policies." For more information contact Carrellas at 201/464-7943 (home) or 949-1980 (work).

Several members of the State Committee announced changes they wished the group to consider in the future. Sam Edelston wants to add

another category of dues "Patron" at \$100 to parallel National LP dues. Laura Stewart wishes to amend the NJLP Bylaws to lower quorum requirements. Dan Karlan wants to change the terms of office for all NJLP officers to two years.

Pondering these alterations the State Committee adjourned its meeting at 10:00 PM.



MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT LI. & SIL.

We are pleased to announce that at the SIL "20th Anniversary of the Movement Banquet" held in Philadelphia on August 30, 1989, *Libertarian International* and the *Society for Individual Liberty* merged to form the movement's premier grassroots networking and support organization -- the new **INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY**. For an info-pack, including a complimentary newsletter, sample position papers, and information about ISIL's World Environmental Conference to be held in San Francisco (Aug. 10-14, 1990) please write:

**INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR
INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY
9308 Farmington Dr., Richmond, VA 23229**

ABSOLUTE PROHIBITION #2

No State shall — grant letters of marque and reprisal,*** Our Constitution. Six supreme Court cites attest to the absolute nature of that prohibition. That is, Congress may not lawfully legislate to force any State to grant such letters. If you are concerned in any way about SAVING YOURSELF AND AMERICA FROM FINANCIAL RUIN, - call Frank at 303 935 4815 or write:

Library of truth Box 19523-2N Our fine FREE information packet will be sent to you.
Denver - CO 80219

Hot stuff...from the Development Coordinator

Are you fed up with Democrats, Republicans, below-the-belt campaigns, and Big Government? (Since you're reading this, I'll bet that you are.)

Do you want to see the Libertarian alternative make some real progress here, in New Jersey, where you live?

At the National LP Convention, we heard a lot of inspiring stories from all around the country. We in New Jersey can accomplish a lot...in many cases without too much effort. So the NJLP will be expanding its efforts after Election Day -- if you can help.

In other words, "Please put your body where your brain is." Please contact me, Sam Edelston, if you want to get involved in any of these things:

- Legislative watch. We'll be starting to monitor upcoming legislation and hearings, and doing some lobbying and testifying. In several states, the LP has won important legislative battles.
- Operation Political Homeless. Great way to locate new potential Libertarians. In three appearances recently, we got the names and addresses of about 125 interested prospects. If you want to get involved, we'd be delighted. If you know a street fair or other place where people congregate, please tell us. We're looking for opportunities. We need your help.
- Organize your county or town. There are still parts of New Jersey that have no local Libertarian organization. It's not hard to get something going, and it doesn't have to take up a lot of your time. Interested? Let's talk.
- Seminar One. Marshall Fritz developed this program, and it's the best tool around for turning mildly interested people into active Libertarians. (In addition, you can earn a few dollars on the side.) As we find more and more interested people, this is becoming a higher and higher priority.
- Elections. Our biggest opportunities are: (1) Offices where the incumbent won't be running for election next year. (2) Offices where one of the two "major" parties won't be running a candidate. (3) Any race where the hot issue will be one that is really strong for Libertarians. If you've ever considered running for office, 1990 could be the year to give it a shot. We've learned a lot this year, and we'll be able to apply it next year.

If you're interested in any of these things, either call me, Sam Edelston, at 201/906-0766, or write to me at 67 Norris Avenue, Metuchen, NJ 08840. I'll put you in touch with the people who are coordinating each of these projects.

Remember, we can't accomplish anything unless we stand up and do something.

I look forward to hearing from you.

MORRIS COUNTY, N.J.

Marijuana advocate arrested

80 show support for Cezar at rally

By JUDY VOCCOLA
Daily Record

MORRISTOWN — A "smoke-in" on the Green lost some of its flavor yesterday when the "Pope of Pot" was taken away by police before festivities began.

Michael Cezar, 47, was arrested on an outstanding warrant issued by Morris Plains police as he arrived at the Green to conduct the smoke-in and party for supporters of the legalization of marijuana.

Cezar is a Morris Plains resident and minister of a marijuana-smoking congregation called The Church of the Realized Fantasies.

"We suspected he might be arrested during the week, and when nothing had happened (by Friday) we didn't expect anything," said Jerry "the Peddlar" Wade, head of the Fifth Avenue (New York) Pot Parade Coalition. Wade said if officials planned to arrest Cezar, they should have done it earlier in the week when he was in Morristown negotiating for a permit to use the park.

"It's outrageous," said Chris Max of New York City, a member of Cezar's church.

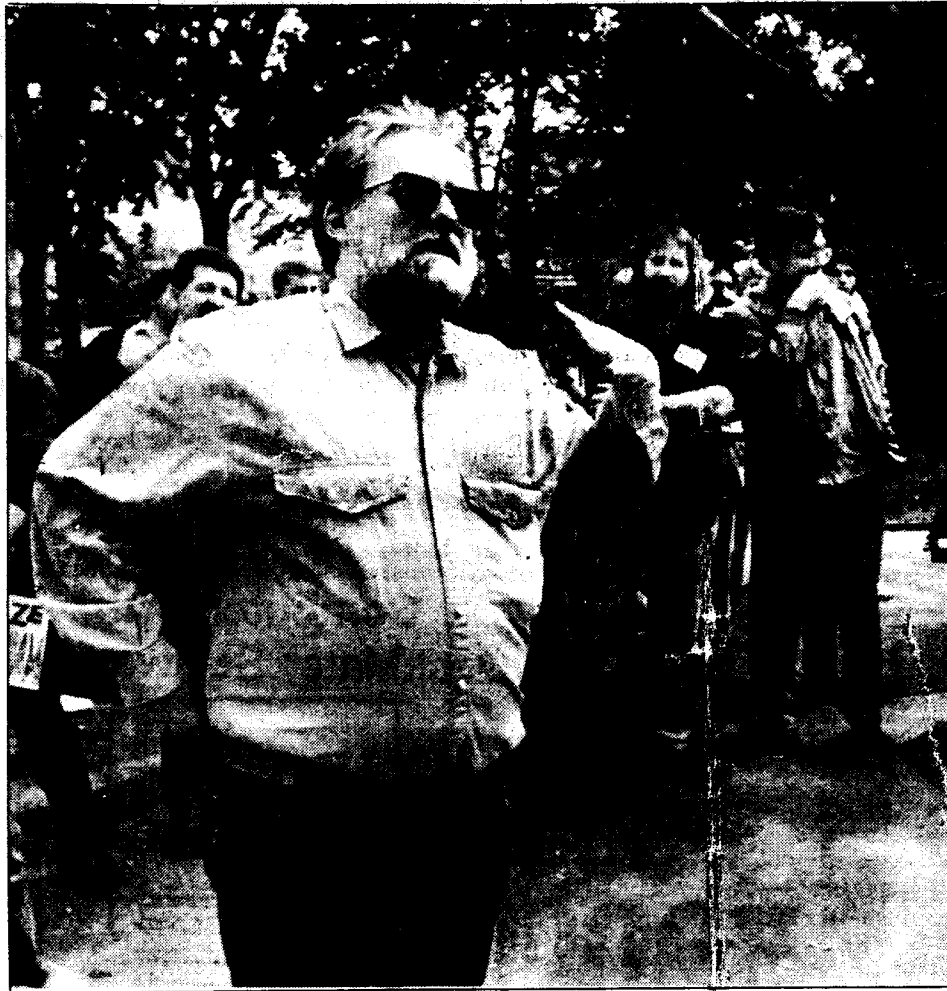
Max brought members of his band, the Acropolis Invention, to play at the protest.

Cezar remained in the Morris County Jail last night in lieu of \$75,000 bail.

He was charged with possession of a controlled dangerous substance and intent to distribute a controlled dangerous substance.

The party went on without Cezar, but with little visible evidence of marijuana.

"We came here to support Cezar, and the worst thing we can do is to



Don Meinhausen addresses a rally on the Green in Morristown, where partici-

perse because the government arrested the organizer." Laura Stewart, chairman of the Monmouth County Libertarian Party, told the crowd.

The handful of Libertarians were among nearly 80 supporters at the Green, many of whom wore 1960s-style garb and long hair.

A man dressed in a fringed vest danced through the crowd, changing his headgear from a fringed cap to a vibrant pink scarf to a tall,

pointed witch's hat.

The crowd drifted away after speeches by the Libertarians but returned when singer David Peel began entertaining with such lyrics as "I'm proud to be a New York City hippie."

Police, in uniform and in street clothes, ringed the demonstrators.

Many supporters said they believed the demonstration was timely because of recent government emphasis on eliminating ille-

gal drug

"I think the right especially drugs. The people," chairman Libertarian

Goodr per U.S. cally tre

Max's test cam

Sunday, October 1, 1989

A high-contrast, black and white photograph of a group of people outdoors. In the foreground, two individuals are seated on the ground, looking towards the camera. Behind them, a larger group of people stands, some looking in the same direction. The image is heavily stylized with high contrast, making details difficult to discern.

Participants urged the legalization of marijuana.

did he too believed the pro-
e at a good time. "I feel the

Another rally participant, Daniel

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"There might be more people at a New York rally, but the spirit is here," said Michael Santy of Plainfield.

Libertarian pitch: More freedom, less government

By COLLEEN O'SHEA
Courier-Post Staff

CHERRY HILL — Admitting they stand virtually no chance of winning, Libertarian candidates Dan Karlan and Robert Hunsberger nevertheless held a public forum at the Tudor Inn last night.

A turnout of 12, all party members, did not surprise them. Even one freeholder candidate, Dr. Richard Bartucci, of Cedar Brook, did not make the event.

Said Dan Karlan, gubernatorial candidate, "Our purpose is to address the issues in a way the Democrats and Republicans do not."

Karlan, a 38-year-old computer programmer from Waldwick, Bergen County, is also chairman of the New Jersey Libertarian Party.

Robert Hunsberger, a 35-year-old Clementon engineering designer, is running for a seat on the Camden County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Neither expect to be elected, but both hope today's efforts will bring their party further into the mainstream in the future.

"We expect an increase in the legitimacy, in respectability, in noticeability and in active membership in the Libertarian party," said Karlan. "A lot of people dissatisfied with the government tend to vote for the lesser of two evils. They are suspicious of the government. For a many of these people the Libertarian party is the answer but they don't know we are around."

The party, with about 200 active members statewide and the tag line, "a government is best when it governs least," wants fewer federal agencies and more personal freedoms.

Karlan said laws against "victimless crimes" such as drug trafficking and prostitution are violations of personal freedom. He said although neither he nor the party encourages drug use, as governor he would fight for its legalization.

"Somewhere in the middle" on the abortion issue, Karlan says he supports the right to abortion for any reason within the first trimester but with conditions thereafter.

Karlan said "handout programs" such as welfare and Social Security have to be abolished to end the need for them.

"Many people figure the government has absolved them of taking responsibility for themselves and



DAN KARLAN
... gubernatorial candidate



ROBERT HUNSBERGER
... freeholder candidate

their old age. Libertarians say you must take responsibility for yourself," Karlan said.

Hunsberger added that as Camden County Freeholder he would support programs designed to wean receipts off federal aid and into the workforce. "I believe in giving a person a hand-up, not a hand-out. We have got to stop taking a Bandaid approach to our problems."

At campaign's end, the Libertarian party will have spent only about \$3,000 to have their name appear on the ballot, money well spent to Karlan. "I fully expect to come in third," he told his party members, who chuckled along with him, but all of whom were quite serious. There are six gubernatorial candidates this year.



Tax rise suggested in forum

By CAROL NAPOLITANO
Press Staff Writer

NEPTUNE — All four major party candidates in the 13th District Assembly race yesterday said they would consider raising the state income tax or



MRS. SMITH



KYRILLOS



MS. MONTELIONE



COOPER



BEAVER



sales tax to meet New Jersey's fiscal needs.

In a meeting before The Asbury Park Press editorial board, the Republicans, Assemblywoman Joann H. Smith and Assemblyman Joseph M. Kyrillos Jr., and Democrats Richard A. Cooper and Irvin B. Beaver agreed a full state audit, followed by an increase in a

broad-based tax, may be the solution to the budget woes.

Libertarian candidate Claudia Montelione supported the idea of an audit, but said she would achieve fiscal reform through elimination of mandatory funding programs, such as education, rather than through tax hikes.

"We have to know where the money is going," Cooper said. "You have to do an audit. That is the first step. Then, if you find the money is needed, I think we're going to have to address a broad-based tax — income tax is probably what you're looking at."

Mrs. Smith said a 2-cent increase in sales tax would generate \$1 billion a year in revenues, enough to fully fund education and pay other expenditures.

"All money has to come from somewhere. We don't have a print shop in Trenton," she said. "Everybody says let the state pay or let the federal government. You and I are the state, you and I are the federal government."

Kyrillos, though not committing to any particular plan for raising taxes, said he is open to the idea.

"Whoever wins this gubernatorial

election, if they want to conduct a state audit, maybe that's not all that bad an idea. Let's find whatever waste and inefficiencies there are, what programs maybe we can cancel," Kyrillos said.

"After we do all that and we determine what essential services we want to maintain ... if the money is not there to pay for what we determine to be important and necessary, then I think you have to look for new sources of revenue," he said.

The Democrats said New Jersey has seen about \$20 billion in additional

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Tax

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revenues from the 1982 sales and income tax increases, but it doesn't seem to have made any difference.

"Where is our money going?" Beaver asked. "The state budget in 1982 was \$5.2 billion. We took 200 years to get there and here we are just eight years later and it's more than doubled."

Mrs. Smith, a member of the Assembly Appropriations Committee for four years and currently chairwoman of its subcommittee on government operations, said the money is spent for services and making up federal funding shortfalls.

"We took a hit of almost \$400 million from the federal level, cuts in human services and transportation funding, because they're obligated by Gramm-Rudman to cut their deficit," she said.

"The cost of services continues to increase whether they're formula-driven or whether they're driven by

contractual negotiations," Mrs. Smith said. "You talk about how the budget has doubled. Of course — the services have doubled."

Ms. Montelione said if Libertarian principles are followed, the budget would be reduced not only by eliminating waste, but by killing many existing programs.

"The formula-driven programs would be done away with by and large," she said. "The goody-two-shoes issue of education is one of them. It seems foolish to me for people to give their money to the state and then the state gives it back to the municipalities."

"I think compulsory education should be done away with. There are studies that show that people were better educated in the 1800s before there was compulsory education. It doesn't mean children are not going to be educated. The majority of parents want better for their children than they had for themselves," Ms. Montelione said.

Beaver, Cooper and Kyrillos all said fully funding education would be their top priority in preparing the state budget. Mrs. Smith said funding human services programs, especially

those for senior citizens and the mentally and physically handicapped, would be as important to her as education.

Harmony among the candidates ended when the topic of automobile insurance arose.

"If you want to have insurance, this would be up to the individual," Ms. Montelione said. "People can be self-insured, buy themselves a surety bond and cover themselves that way. If we were not at the mercy of having to buy insurance and allowing the insurance industry to have a monopoly on us, the rates would go down."

Beaver and Cooper attacked the incumbents' vote for a bill that instituted a "flex-rating" system. The system enables insurance companies to increase rates up to a given limit without prior approval from the insurance commissioner. It also eliminates the state public advocate's role in challenging rate increases that fall within the flex-rating margin.

"I find both of their positions anti-consumer and pro-insurance company," Beaver said of Mrs. Smith and Kyrillos. The legislation that they voted on over the past year — four pieces — gave insurance companies the opportunity to raise our rates and

lower our coverage."

Kyrillos noted the flex-rating bill passed with bipartisan support and was sponsored by a Democrat, Sen. Raymond Lesniak, D-Middlesex.

"The bill also did some other things," Kyrillos noted. "It created the audit of the JUA (Joint Underwriting Association) which exposed \$1 billion in overcharges that were imposed on JUA policy holders and it also called for the optional verbal threshold."

A verbal threshold limits lawsuits in automobile accidents to cases of death, disfigurement or dismemberment.

All the candidates favored the elimination of the JUA and replacing it with an entity or program to insure only the very worst drivers.

None, however, could provide a specific plan for paying back the JUA's massive \$3 billion deficit and the over \$1 million in overcharges if the JUA were dissolved, except to say the insurance companies — not the consumers — should assume that responsibility.

"We cannot afford to pay that extra money," Mrs. Smith said. "If it were to be paid by the average driver in the state, it would be \$200 a year for the next 40 years and that's inconceivable."

An Open Letter To Bill Bennett

Dear Bill:

In Oliver Cromwell's eloquent words, "I beseech you, in the bowels of Christ, think it possible you may be mistaken" about the course you and President Bush urge us to adopt to fight drugs. The path you propose of more police, more jails, use of the military in foreign countries, harsh penalties for drug users, and a whole panoply of repressive measures can only make a bad situation worse. The drug war cannot be won by those tactics without undermining the human liberty and individual freedom that you and I cherish.

You are not mistaken in believing that drugs are a scourge that is devastating our society. You are not mistaken in believing that drugs are tearing asunder our social fabric, ruining the lives of many young people, and imposing heavy costs on some of the most disadvantaged among us. You are not mistaken in believing that the majority of the public share your concerns. In short, you are not mistaken in the end you seek to achieve.

Your mistake is failing to recognize that the very measures you favor are a major source of the evils you deplore. Of course the problem is demand, but it is not only demand, it is demand that must operate through repressed and illegal channels. Illegality creates obscene profits that finance the murderous tactics of the drug lords; illegality leads to the corruption of law enforcement officials; illegality monopolizes the efforts of honest law forces so that they are starved for resources to fight the simpler crimes of robbery, theft and assault.

Drugs are a tragedy for addicts. But criminalizing their use converts that tragedy into a disaster for society, for users and non-users alike. Our experience with the prohibition of drugs is a replay of our experience with the prohibition of alcoholic beverages.

I append excerpts from a column that I wrote in 1972 on "Prohibition and Drugs."

The major problem then was heroin from Marseilles; today, it is cocaine from Latin America. Today, also, the problem is far more serious than it was 17 years ago: more addicts, more innocent victims; more drug pushers, more law enforcement officials; more money spent to enforce prohibition, more money spent to circumvent prohibition.

Had drugs been decriminalized 17 years ago, "crack" would never have been in-

vented (it was invented because the high cost of illegal drugs made it profitable to provide a cheaper version) and there would today be far fewer addicts. The lives of thousands, perhaps hundreds of thousands of innocent victims would have been saved, and not only in the U.S. The ghettos of our major cities would not be drug-and-crime-infested no-man's lands. Fewer people would be in jails, and fewer jails would have been built.

Colombia, Bolivia and Peru would not be suffering from narco-terror, and we would not be distorting our foreign policy because of narco-terror. Hell would not, in the words with which Billy Sunday welcomed Prohibition, "be forever for rent," but it would be a lot emptier.

Decriminalizing drugs is even more urgent now than in 1972, but we must recognize that the harm done in the interim cannot be wiped out, certainly not immediately. Postponing decriminalization will only make matters worse, and make the problem appear even more intractable.

Alcohol and tobacco cause many more deaths in users than do drugs. Decriminalization would not prevent us from treating drugs as we now treat alcohol and tobacco: prohibiting sales of drugs to minors, outlawing the advertising of drugs and similar measures. Such measures could be enforced, while outright prohibition cannot be. Moreover, if even a small fraction of the money we now spend on trying to enforce drug prohibition were devoted to treatment and rehabilitation, in an atmosphere of compassion not punishment, the reduction in drug usage and in the harm done to the users could be dramatic.

This plea comes from the bottom of my heart. Every friend of freedom, and I know you are one, must be as revolted as I am by the prospect of turning the United States into an armed camp, by the vision of jails filled with casual drug users and of an army of enforcers empowered to invade the liberty of citizens on slight evidence. A country in which shooting down unidentified planes "on suspicion" can be seriously considered as a drug-war tactic is not the kind of United States that either you or I want to hand on to future generations.

Milton Friedman
Senior Research Fellow
Hoover Institution
Stanford University

Flashback

This is a truncated version of a column by Mr. Friedman in Newsweek's May 1, 1972, issue, as President Nixon was undertaking an earlier "drug war":

"The reign of tears is over. The slums will soon be only a memory. We will turn our prisons into factories and our jails into storehouses and corncribs. Men will walk upright now, women will smile, and the children will laugh. Hell will be forever for rent."

That is how Billy Sunday, the noted evangelist and leading crusader against Demon Rum, greeted the onset of Prohibition in early 1920.

We know now how tragically his hopes were doomed.

Prohibition is an attempted cure that makes matters worse—for both the addict and the rest of us.

Consider first the addict. Legalizing drugs might increase the number of addicts, but it is not clear that it would. Forbidden fruit is attractive, particularly to the young. More important, many drug addicts are deliberately made by pushers, who give likely prospects that first few doses free. It pays the pusher to do so because, once hooked, the addict is a captive customer. If drugs were legally available, any possible profit from such inhumane activity would disappear, since the

addict could buy from the cheapest source.

Whatever happens to the number of addicts, the individual addict would clearly be far better off if drugs were legal. Addicts are driven to associate with criminals to get the drugs, become criminals themselves to finance the habit, and risk constant danger of death and disease.

Consider next the rest of us. The harm to us from the addiction of others arises almost wholly from the fact that drugs are illegal. It is estimated that addicts commit one third to one half of all street crime in the U.S.

Legalize drugs, and street crime would drop dramatically.

Moreover, addicts and pushers are not the only ones corrupted. Immense sums are at stake. It is inevitable that some relatively low-paid police and other government officials—and some high-paid ones as well—will succumb to the temptation to pick up easy money.

Legalizing drugs would simultaneously reduce the amount of crime and raise the quality of law enforcement. Can you conceive of any other measure that would accomplish so much to promote law and order?

In drugs, as in other areas, persuasion and example are likely to be far more effective than the use of force to shape others in our image.

NEW JERSEY LIBERTARIAN PARTY MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: _____ Phone: (H or B) _____

Address: _____ County: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

NJLP Bylaws require that members either live or work in New Jersey.

NJLP DUES:

All memberships include subscription to "New Jersey Libertarian". Premium membership categories provide needed funds for outreach and other educational activities.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$300 Lifetime Sustaining | <input type="checkbox"/> \$35 Supporting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$200 Lifetime | <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Basic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 50 Sustaining | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 5 Student (School: _____) |

☐ I am not the first member at this address so don't send the Newsletter. I have deducted \$10 from Basic membership only.

☐ \$10 "N.J. Libertarian" subscription only. ☐ \$15 Nat'l Party dues (1 year)

☐ Please remove my name if and when the NJLP list is rented to other organizations.

☐ \$ _____ Additional contribution to NJLP (Thank you!)

"I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals."

X _____ Date: _____
(Signature indicating acceptance of above statement is required for membership.)

Make checks payable and return to: NJLP, P.O. Box 56, Tennent, NJ 07763

U.S. Number One in Citizens Behind Bars

By Glen Riddle

I have sent letters to about a hundred embassies and foreign governments requesting prison population statistics—several countries responded. Interpol in St. Cloud, France and the government of New Zealand were the two most helpful. Surprisingly, the director of the South African Department of Justice has sent me the last two annual Verslag reports containing their statistics.

It should be shocking and embarrassing to every real American to learn the U.S. now has the highest relative penal inmate population. This situation has developed very suddenly.

Country	Inmates/100,000 population
U.S.	350
South Africa	330
Israel	204
Thailand	170.3
New Guinea	141.4
Macau	139
Turkey	139
South Korea	125.9
Fiji	119.4
Singapore	110.2
United Kingdom	96.5
Germany	92
Malta	26.3

I have sent out over a hundred articles similar to this one, but no one yet has actually published this information. (Some have said they would, but didn't.) Perhaps they didn't like the libertarian ideological message, I don't know.

But I did notice that just before the election the Associated Press issued a news release stating our total inmate numbers were 800,000, and that South Africa and the USSR were still higher than us. The truth is the AP was using three-year-old figures, and USSR figures are pure speculation—they are not available.

I believe our record inmate population is a made-to-order libertarian issue.

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