



NEW JERSEY LIBERTARIAN

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

* * * JUNE 1983 * * *

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 17-- Tempe Wick Society meeting/party at Sid Pope's apartment in North Bergen. Call Jane Rehmke (201/234-2911) for details.

July 2-9-- Cato Institute 6th Annual Summer Seminar in Political Economy, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH. Lectures by Childs, Kirzner, Ravenal, Raico, Smith, and others. \$395, students \$95, some scholarships available. Contact Kristina Herbert, Cato Institute, 224 Second St., SE, Washington, DC 20003 (202/546-0200).

July 4-- NJLP GENERAL MEETING, tentatively scheduled for Morristown Historical Park. Call John Schafer (609/466-2754) for information. Activities scheduled include distribution of NJLP literature and a parade.

August 31- September 5-- PRESCON-- 1983 Libertarian Party Presidential Nominating Convention. New York City.

Second Thursday of each month-- Constitutional Freedom Committee meeting, 8 PM, Ollie's Restaurant, Route 9 and Tilton Rd., Northfield, NJ. Guest anti-tax speaker at each meeting. Call 609/927-2320 after 5 PM for details.

Every Thursday-- PHILAVOID anarchist study group meeting, 8 PM, Community Education Center, 3500 Lancaster Ave., Philadelphia, PA. Call 609/962-8238 for details.

A TRIBUTE TO LEONARD READ
by John S. Schafer

A candle has been extinguished at Irvington. There it had burned unflinching for 37 years, flaring to ignite the tapers of thousands who made their pilgrimage to the temple of liberty.

When all of the remnant gather at the trumpet's final blare, there, standing proudly and holding aloft the light of truth, one will surely find Leonard E. Read.

Leonard prepared himself painstakingly to be a beacon for those who sought to know liberty. Absorbing freedom's undeniable logic is a quest for a lifetime, and beyond.

Where Leonard is now, tempts the double delight of kneeling at the feet of Socrates, as others place their cushions to be within earshot of the teacher from Irvington.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

By Len Flynn

The NJLP State Committee met on April 30, 1983 at the Franklin Park Inn in Franklin Park. Present were Shapiro, Schafer, Flynn, Rehmke, Heller, Maiullo, and Pope with Rothhouse, Koch, S. Siano, and Gessner absent. Also present was Union County Organizer Fred Stein.

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MEETINGS....

Review of the Treasurer's report produced a unanimously approved motion for "kudos for Jane Rehmke and Lee Schubert" for the successful NJLP annual convention which raised over \$2100 in contributions and pledges. Dan Maiullo will coordinate NJLP county fair activities. Fred Stein will investigate relocating the NJLP party phone, hopefully in Westfield. John Schafer and Bob Rothhouse will coordinate NJLP 4th of July activities.

Five 1983 NJLP candidates were identified. They are Steve Friedlander (Somerset Co. Freeholder), Rick Hoegberg (N.J. Assembly), Larry DeMatteo (Middlesex Co. Freeholder), Frank Dominiani (Hunterdon Co. Freeholder), and John Lutz (Kingwood Town Council). A motion was passed asking Dick Siano to prepare a summary of the Sept. '82 "Blitz" campaign for the next Steering Committee meeting. The State Committee voted to direct the NJLP Treasurer to obtain pledge signatures as required by the NJLP Bylaws. To clarify alternate status at the 1983 National LP Convention, the State Committee voted that anyone who is an NJLP member on August 31, 1983 will be considered an alternate. Finally, motions on renewal of the fund raising contract and accounting services through Galatians Communications were tabled.

On May 24, 1983 the NJLP Steering Committee met at the home of Jane Rehmke and Lee Schubert. All members were present.

John Schafer reported for the 4th of July Committee that tentative plans have been made for a float and booth at the Morristown Historical Park. A motion to spend \$140 plus tax for 2000 handout cards passed unanimously.

Dick Siano presented a detailed report on the 1982 Blitz campaign and then answered questions on the strengths and weaknesses of this type of publicity effort. He noted that the mailing was both time critical and time consuming. For best effect the publicity should be co-

ordinated with an active NJLP campaign and targeted to potential supporters, rather than be a blind mailing. The blitz produced 30-35 responses and about 15 phone calls with about 6 new NJLP members and 12 contributions totalling about \$200. The cost of the blitz was about \$1400, and it included \$400 for two newspaper ads, about \$700 for printing and postage for a 4000 piece mailing, a "meet the candidates" night, and a booth at the county fair. Dick told the Steering Committee that Joe Kerr's Freeholder percentage of about 4.5% was the highest ever achieved by an NJLP candidate for a county office and was attained when the winning Republican spent \$15,000.

John Schafer will prepare a special brochure to respond to requests for information about the NJLP. Dan Maiullo will call the county fairs for costs and booth information, then prepare a recommendation for the next meeting. Sid Pope is heading the NJLP Speaker's Bureau. Dan Maiullo will design a questionnaire for the July N.J. Libertarian for NJLP members to suggest activities and directions for the party in 1983 and beyond.

At the end of the meeting a motion to send the NJ LIBERTARIAN by first class mail passed 4-2. The motion takes effect with the July 1983 issue.

HOLT SEMINAR

by Ginny Flynn

Some insights from the May 14, 1983 seminar by home-schooling advocate John Holt follow. What is the ideal school system? "No school system at all!" but a system where children are needed, useful and respected. Home schooling is "not a threat to the existence of schools or public schools." It is an important resource, schools have much to gain from the home schooling movement.

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HOLT....

Holt had this to say about the recent Presidential Education Report: "In 18 months the Commission never sent me as much as a post card!" yet after the report was released the Donahue show, CBS, PBS, radio interviews, and other invitations flooded his office. Will the proposals do good? "No, they will do harm. If the medicine makes you sick, then more will make you sicker."

School systems worldwide operate on the wrong assumptions concerning children learning: coercion, control, and cutthroat competition. The Commission report is a political document; every 5-6 years we have these kinds of reports, and every one has done more harm than good. Everything that needs to be done should be done at the classroom level, but the good, creative teachers are driven out of the classroom.

---Continued next month ---

ASBURY PARK PRESS
Sunday, May 15, 1983

'Unschooler' derides panel

HOWELL TOWNSHIP — John Holt, the former school teacher who left the traditional classroom more than a decade ago to instruct parents across the nation to remove their children from school, expresses little hope that the recent report on excellence in education will "turn the tide of mediocrity" in today's public schools.

"Every commission of any kind that's ever been set up to look into the schools for the last 40 years has said exactly the same thing," Holt said of the President's National Commission on Excellence in Education, which gave public schools failing grades in its report released last month. And the commission's recommendations — to extend school hours and increase homework assignments — would be more likely to worsen, rather than improve student performance, he said.

"If it's the medicine that's making you sick, more of the same medicine is going to make you sicker."

The medicine the public schools habitually prescribe is contained in a four-word package, Holt said:



HOLT

Holt, whose books and lectures were the catalyst for the rise of much of the "unschoolers" movement across this country, won the enthusiastic applause of an audience of more than 300 at "The Teaching Family" workshop offered yesterday by the Unschoolers Network, based in Farmingdale, and the Home Education Resource Center, Ridgewood.

PARENTS WHO teach their children at home, parents considering keeping their children home, and their children attended the session. According to their name tags, they came from all areas of this state and some from New York, Pennsylvania and Connecticut for the talk by Holt, and to compare notes with other unschoolers.

The problems with the proposals for upgrading the school systems, Holt said, is that the plans are "based on the wrong assumptions — about children, learning and teaching, and about the relationship of teaching to learning. All organized education is based on the theory that children are not much interested in learning; that they aren't very good at it, and that learning is only the product of teaching."

He said public education is addressed as if it were "some industrial process," adding that a "Coca-Cola Bottling Plant" is the "best metaphor" of today's educational system. "The teacher's are the factory laborers and the children are the bottles, the empty vessels. And the biggest argument in education today is over what we're going to put in the syrup — history, math, English, and how much and how fast to pour it in these little empty bottles. Then they label the bottle. If they squirt the stuff in, and it spills all over the floor, there must be something wrong with the bottle," he said, referring to the "learning disability" labels frequently issued in schools today.

HOLT COMMENTED later that "a very good test of people and their character is in how they treat the powerless."

Children are natural learners, he said, and much resemble scientists in their quest for knowledge. "They are born with a passionate desire to make whatever sense they can about the world around them. It's a biological need to turn observation and experience into knowledge, and children are very good at it. If we watched these little people, their great sense of wonder, their flexibility with their theories, we could learn a lot from them."

He also disagreed with the commission's suggestion that raising teachers' salaries would improve the quality of education. The most capable and creative teachers quit their jobs over the years, he said, as their authority and autonomy in the classroom diminished.

"The reasons these teachers quit had relatively little to do with money," he said. "They quit because they couldn't take charge of their own classes."

While he conceded he harbors a cynicism about national commission reports, which he said are issued about every five years, Holt expressed optimism for the world's young learners because of the growth of the unschoolers movement, which he estimated includes about 20,000 to 30,000 persons in this country.

ANTI-LIBERTARIAN BIAS
IN NEW JERSEY HIGH SCHOOLS
by John S. Schafer

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On April 22-24, 1983, over 200 outstanding sophomores from as many N.J. high schools attended the annual Youth Leadership Seminar at the Ramada Inn in East Brunswick. A joint project of the New Jersey Jaycees and the Hugh O'Brian Youth Foundation based in Los Angeles, the weekend brings together bright, articulate 15-year-olds and mature leaders from business, law, education and other fields.

This year, I conducted an attitude survey among these students, to measure what they know about issues related to economics and government involvement in the economy. A questionnaire was passed out among the young people shortly after arrival on Friday evening. The same questionnaire, on different color paper, was passed out again on Sunday just prior to departure. The two questionnaires when tabulated measure changes in attitude due to attending the Youth Leadership Seminar.

A general question led off: "how much do you know about America's incentive system?" Upon arrival 4% said they know "a lot" and 29% said "not much". Upon departure 38% said "a lot" and only 2% said "not much".

Many factual questions were missed by these outstanding sophomores, who are chosen to represent their high schools by their peers and teachers, based upon leadership qualities. For instance, only 4% knew that employees receive 90 cents for every 10 cents paid to stockholders. After the seminar, 63% knew the correct answer. Only 22% knew that workers benefit the most from productivity, whereas 67% thought that the company or stockholders benefit the most. After the seminar, 48% answered correctly.

Who do they think causes boom-and-bust economic conditions

in America? Government was blamed initially by 35%, and by 60% after the seminar. The reason for the 1940 dollar being worth only 10 cents today was blamed upon government by 64% initially, which increased to 89% afterward.

Most of these misconceptions are common to the adult population as well, and thus the students are no worse informed than their parents. However, it seems to me that good citizenship requires an understanding of simple economics. If the schools are not teaching these few but important facts, then they ought to.

Perhaps the most sobering finding of the survey for me was the true-false question: "total security is possible without becoming a captive of the state". Upon arrival, 57% said true, and upon leaving 47% still said true. Also the question, "which is the more just and prosperous form of social organization?" One out of five chose "government plans for everyone", versus about 70% who selected "everyone makes his own plans". These proportions did not change during the weekend.

In conclusion, it is possible to teach simple economic facts to high school sophomores, but it is evident that New Jersey schools are not now accomplishing this vital task. What the schools do seem to be doing is communicating the notion that liberty is unassailable, and that the welfare state can guarantee total security for every citizen without demanding total obedience.

History teaches us very clearly that the all-powerful state and its false promises constitute the greatest threat to individual freedom. Lenin remarked that free peoples could be lulled to sleep, and when they awoke, would be captives of communism. I fear that Lenin's prophecy may be coming true, right here under our very noses: in the schools of New Jersey.

LETTERS # #

May 7, 1983

Editor, NJ Libertarian:

July 4, 1983 will mark the second year that libertarian Paul Jacob has been away from his home, family and friends to avoid prosecution for his refusal to register with the Selective Service System. As a libertarian, I feel for Paul who is willing to adhere to libertarian principles, even though it means living in constant secrecy until the obnoxious registration law is abolished.

It's important for Libertarians to speak out against the Selective Service System and to be supportive of Paul. Libertarians sympathetic with Paul's struggle can:

1. Write their local paper discussing Paul's resistance to the oppressive registration law.

2. Write their Congressman and Senators to push for repeal of the registration law (or better yet--the Selective Service System).

3. Contribute to the Paul Jacob Fund (c/o The Voluntaryists, Box 5836, Bath, MD 21208) to help pay for Paul's legal/living expenses.

4. Write the Selective Service System (600 E St., NW, Washington, DC 20435), the F.B.I. (9th St. & Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20435) and the Justice Dept. (Constitution Ave. & 10th St., NW, Washington, DC 20530) telling them how unjust the registration law is and that you WILL NOT REGISTER UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES. Even if you're not legally required to register this will work wonders.

Let's put some "sand in the gears" of government in the hope that Paul can come home someday soon.

In liberty,
Ken Miller

Effective Party Still Needed

To the editor:

I share *Update's* concern for the present state of the LP (April), but I am not so sanguine about the success of the movement without an effective party. The institutions mentioned cannot substitute for a political party.

The American public is becoming more receptive to libertarianism, not so much because of the innate beauty and truth of these ideas, but because of bloody beatings they are receiving from wars, inflation, prohibition, regulation, land use laws, etc., and of course, taxation. Now that their attention has been secured and they are becoming aware of the utter corruption of the old parties, they must be offered a way to remedy their distress: the traditional American political process. Now that Americans are beginning to realize the futility of trying to get effective reform from within the old parties, retreat of the LP from the field will leave a political vacuum. The LP had no credible competition as *the* alternative party for several years. This, I think, accounts for its progress in spite of severe self-imposed handicaps... The LP must be preserved as a political party offering credible alternatives to discredited statist policies, and a means of registering effective protest by voting for serious LP candidates rather than not voting at all.

It is not necessary for the LP to win elections, encouraging as that is, but only to get enough votes—perhaps ten or fifteen percent—to force the respectful attention of the media and bring the true issues into the public forum. To this end the LP must be reinforced as a *political party* and cured of its recurring image as a gratuitously shocking anti-political party.

ESLER G. HELLER
New Egypt, New Jersey

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****ADVERTISING RATES****

STATE COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

Atlantic County Bob Rothhouse 609/641-4110
 Bergen County Henry Koch 201/768-9288
 Hudson County Jonathan Steele 201/798-0199
 Hunterdon County Sandy Siano 201/996-2469
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 Half Page \$13
 Quarter Page \$7
 Eighth Page \$4
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Inserts \$10/sheet

COUNTY ORGANIZERS

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 Mercer Don Woodbridge 609/921-6384
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These rates only apply to ads submitted camera-ready. Extra will be charged for any necessary extra preparation.

Material must be received by the 23rd of the month to be in the following issue.

NEW JERSEY LIBERTARIAN PARTY

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip _____

Telephone: (a) (_____) (b) (_____) _____

Occupation: _____

- I am eligible to vote in _____ County
- I am registered to vote in NJ
- Please do not include my name if the NJLP list is rented to other Libertarian organizations.

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

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

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| NJLP Dues | Membership Category |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$250.00 | Lifetime Sustaining |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 150.00 | Lifetime |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 35.00 | Sustaining |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15.00 | Regular |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5.00 | Student (School: _____) |

A subscription to the members' newsletter, the NJ Libertarian is included with the above dues.

- Monthly pledge for each of the next 12 months:
 \$100 \$50 \$25 \$10 \$5 Other
- \$10 Libertarian National Committee 1 year dues.
- NJ Libertarian Subscription only, \$10.

- I am not the first member at this mailing address, and do not wish to receive a copy of the newsletter. (\$10 may be deducted from Regular membership dues only.)

Make checks payable to "NJ Libertarian Party" and mail with card to PO Box 686, Far Hills, NJ 07931.

New Jersey Libertarian Party
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TO:



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