



THE NEW JERSEY LIBERTARIAN

JULY

1990

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 8 - Annual NJLP Picnic & Gen'l Meeting at the Flynn's in Morganville. Call 201/591-1328 or 591-0411 for info.

July 21 - Delaware State Convention. Call 302/653-4904 for details.

July 23 - Somerset/Middlesex Area Libertarians (SMAL) meet at the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 1640 Amwell Rd., Somerset. Call 201/572-0207 for details.

July 28 - The Constitutionists have Pastor Everett Sileven addressing the meeting in NYC. Call 201/327-7878 for info.

Aug. 10-14 - Joint Convention: Int'l Society for Individual Liberty (ISIL); Future of Freedom; and Advocates for Self Gov't at the Holiday Inn Golden Gate, in San Francisco, CA. Call 415/864-0952 for info.

Aug. 24 - Libertarians of Monmouth County (LMC) meet at 7PM at Claudia Montelione's, 185 Washington Ave., Matawan. Call 201/583-8721 for info.

Sept. 9 - Barbeque at Jerry Zeldin's, 4PM, to kickoff his campaign for Congress. Call 609/783-4306 for details.

Sept. 8 - State Committee Meeting at the Karlan residence in Jamesburg. Call 201/444-2846 for info.

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 Trenton. Call Carl Peters for info. 609/737-7667 or 609/882-8432.

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

NJLP STEERING COMMITTEE

By Sam Edelston
(filling in for Len Flynn)

The New Jersey Libertarian Party Steering Committee met on June 9, 1990, at Dan Karlan's parents' home in Jamesburg. Present were Edelston, Karlan, Schoen, Zeldin. Absent were Flynn, Kaplan, Radder, Stefanelli. Special guest appearance by Michele Maloney. A quorum was not present.

National is sending us camera-ready mechanicals so we can print our own copies of the four brochures (LP Represents You, gun control, drugs, taxes). If we print large quantities, we expect to get better prices than National is charging.

Report from the Treasurer (in absentia) is that the NJLP now has 239 active members. There are 251 National LP members in New Jersey.

OPH Coordinator Michele Maloney presented the group with a current inventory of our outreach literature and gave us an update on county fairs for this year. We will definitely be in

continued on p.4

COUNTY ORGANIZATIONS

	<u>State Committee Representatives</u>	<u>County Chairs</u>	
Bergen County	Mike Harris	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	201/444-2846
Vice-Chair:	Jerry Zeldin	609/783-4306
Secretary:	Len Flynn	201/591-1328
Treasurer:	Louis Steranelli	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
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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.



"Politics is the art of looking for trouble, finding it everywhere, diagnosing it incorrectly, and applying the wrong remedies."

- Groucho Marx

Legislative Watch -- Let's Have Some Serious Fun

I considered the Legislative Watch project as an outgrowth of last year's gubernatorial campaign and as a downscaled Shadow Government, with me as the NJLP standard-bearer before the legislature in Trenton. It was a grand view -- but wholly unrealistic. First, I live too far from Trenton for any regularity of appearances. Second, the scale is all wrong for the size of the NJLP, even if -- as I hoped -- I am supplemented by other activists.

I do not want to abandon the LW project -- far from it. I want it expanded, but only in certain aspects. After speaking with Sarah Foster, of the California LP, I developed the following sequence of 4 steps which I would like to see members of the NJLP pursue:

2. Do it locally. Monitor your town or borough council -- the agendas are posted -- and attend when they're discussing an item or issue of interest to you as a libertarian. You decide where to focus your attention -- but you'll have the greatest impact when it is in your own community. Maybe you want to focus on eminent domain and redevelopment; perhaps you're especially keyed up about privatization and contracting-out; etc: you get the idea.
3. Don't target the council members (unless you have reason to think one or more might be receptive to our ideas). You won't influence them directly -- they have been known to be even hostile to and inconsiderate of Libertarians presenting our views. Your real target is other members of the community and especially the press. Have copies of your statement ready to hand out not only to the council but to the rest of the audience. In that written statement, you can go into more detail than in your spoken remarks, which will usually be limited to just a few minutes. Be prepared to take some abuse from the members of the council -- but be above their standard. Remain calm, and further our cause as much by example as by word.

(Joining a local Toastmasters International is strongly advised and enthusiastically

encouraged for those serious about presenting our views. If you don't know of a club in your area, call me -- I have a statewide directory.)

4. Listen to other speakers, and approach any you find sympathetic. They will not be libertarian (yet), but might be amenable to an alliance. Numbers frighten politicians, so if you can increase the pressure by cooperation, we can contribute out of proportion to our own numbers. Try to assume a leadership role in the alliance, if you can (again, this is facilitated by the experience of Toastmasters). It will be to your own, as well as the NJLP's, credit if you are the 'point man' for local activism.

Now for the important part. I have presented these steps in the order in which they should be implemented. Step 1 is by far the most important.

1. Resolve that just being a Libertarian -- signing the pledge, paying dues, even attending a convention -- is not all you can or want to do. If you are serious about trying to make a difference, start at home (continue at step 2, above). Not all Libertarians can afford this commitment, and I do not want to demean any of you who cannot for facing reality; but if you can afford the time, and are serious, there will be rewards for your dedication.

Dan Karlan

NJLP Chairman

***"I DON'T
MAKE JOKES--***

***I JUST WATCH
THE GOVERNMENT
AND REPORT
THE FACTS."***

- Will Rogers

MEETING continued from p.1

the Camden, Middlesex, and Monmouth County Fairs. Michele will forward information on the Burlington (7/18-7/21) and Gloucester (7/26-7/28) fairs to John Hill for possible action by the Southern NJ Libertarians. Bergen County doesn't accept political groups. The group decided not to pursue the Somerset County Fair because it runs Wednesday thru Friday. A number of town fairs were also mentioned as possibilities; Michele will get more information on them.

Our newly-created banner was displayed for all to see. It is blue, with "LIBERTARIAN PARTY" in big, white, friendly letters. If you want to see what the Statue of Liberty is wearing, come to the picnic on July 8.

Schoen volunteered to be NJLP Librarian and keep track of our numerous and far-flung printed and magnetic resources. The Chair thanked him and officially appointed him to the post.

Karlan reported that the NJLP is now on the official mailing list for the NJ State Budget, this year and in perpetuity.

Edelston presented a letter for us to begin sending to new prospects, as promised at a past meeting. Everybody was pleased. We will endeavor to implement it as soon as possible.

And that was basically it.

1990 LIBERTARIAN CANDIDATES FOR THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

US Senate

Lou Stefanelli

US House of Representatives

1st District

Jerry Zeldin

3rd District

Bill Stewart

4th District

Carl Peters

6th District

Howard Schoen

Middlesex County freeholder

Pete Hladik

Monmouth County freeholders

Virginia Flynn

Marshall Beinstock

Municipal office:

Manalapan town council

Helen Radder

Mantua town council

Mike Herner*

Metuchen borough council

John Latsko*

Eric Meltzer*

* Herner, Latsko, and Meltzer are running active campaigns.

Constitutional FREEDOM Committee

P.O. Box 157, Linwood, N.J., 08221-0157

June 12, 1990

N.J. LIBERTARIAN PARTY
P.O. Box 56
Tennent, N.J., 07763

Dear Sirs:

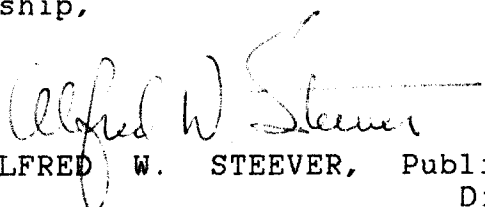
Congratulations to the Editor and staff of the N.J. LIBERTARIAN in regard the June, 1990 issue. This issue was particularly informative with many impressive newspaper responses by NJLP members. The published letters of K. R. Kaplan and John S. Hill were both excellent. Editor Ed Huser's article should send many readers to the Library for further investigation of his revealing report concerning the efforts to limit more than mere gun ownership, etc. A massive distribution of this data to many patriotic organizations is warranted - now! Why not publish a booklet with copies of the data and an appropriate critique - as a revealing documentation and fund-raiser!

Certainly the newspaper report concerning the Trenton roll-call vote of the "assault weapon" bill should be utilized for near future political purposes. Is it too early to commence a "REPEAL THE ASSAULT-GUN LAW" program?

As an evidence of support in regard the above, enclosed is the sum of \$100 (FRN) bucks toward your fund for literature replenishment, described as depleted during the Trenton gun control demonstrations.

Keep up the good work - a breakthrough to restore the original concept of American government is overdue. We must work harder to reveal the fallacy of present day demo-socialistic practices prevalent at all levels of governing bodies: town, city, county, state, and federal. Let's restore the American constitutional Republic established by our forefathers in 1789!

For the C.F.C. membership,


ALFRED W. STEEVER, Public Relations
Director

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[NJ-lib-0.612]

Ed Huser is a contributing writer to this publication.

- Ed(itor)

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

OCTOBER 27, 1989

Shultz on Drug Legalization

This is slightly adapted from remarks Oct. 7 by former Secretary of State George P. Shultz to an alumni gathering at the Stanford Business School, where he has returned to the faculty:

I was struck a couple of years ago by the drug-interdiction effort in the Bahamas. We had intercepted during the year an estimated \$5 billion street value of cocaine. I don't know how much got through. Nobody has any credible estimate. The GNP of the Bahamas is probably somewhere between one and two billion dollars. So you get an idea of the leverage there and elsewhere that our market for drugs has brought about.

I welcome the emphasis that is now being put on the drug problem. The efforts—to get to the people who are addicted, try to rehabilitate them; if they cannot be rehabilitated, at least to contain them; to educate people, to strongly discourage use of drugs by people who are casual users and first users, to stop this process among the young—all of these things I think are extremely important.

But, I have to tell you that it seems to me that the conceptual base of the current program is flawed and the program is not likely to work. The conceptual base—a criminal-justice approach—is the same that I have worked through before, in the Nixon administration when I was budget director and secretary of the treasury with jurisdiction over the Customs. We designed a comprehensive program, and we worked hard on it. In the Reagan administration we designed a comprehensive program; we worked very hard on it. Our international efforts were far greater than ever before. You're looking at a guy whose motorcade was attacked in Bolivia by the drug terrorists, so I'm personally a veteran of this war.

What we have before us now is essentially the same program but with more resources plowed into all of the efforts to enforce and control. These efforts wind up creating a market where the price vastly exceeds the cost. With these incentives, demand creates its own supply and a criminal network along with it. It seems to me we're not really going to get anywhere until we can take the criminality out of the drug business and the incentives for criminality out of it. Frankly, the only way I can think of to accomplish this is to make it possible for addicts to buy drugs at some regulated place at a price that approximates their cost. When you do that you wipe out the criminal incentives, including, I might say, the incentive that the drug pushers have to go around and get kids addicted, so that they create a market for themselves. They won't have that incentive because they won't have that market.

So I think the conceptual base needs to be thought out in a different way. If I am catching your attention, then read a bold and informative article in this September's issue of Science by Ethan Nadelmann on this subject. We need at least to consider and examine forms of controlled legalization of drugs.

I find it very difficult to say that. Sometimes at a reception or cocktail party I advance these views and people head for somebody else. They don't even want to talk to you. I know that I'm shouting into the breeze here as far as what we're doing now. But I feel that if somebody doesn't get up and start talking about this now, the next time around, when we have the next iteration of these programs, it will still be true that everyone is scared to talk about it. No politician wants to say what I just said, not for a minute.



News you may have missed --

The Record, 3/23/90

CENTERPIECE

N.J.'s taxes are truly unfair

By Murray Sabrin

Periodically, the media have reported outrageous allegations of child abuse, spouse battering, and other forms of heinous assaults. In his first budget address to the state Legislature, Governor Florio revealed the most under-publicized form of abuse, not only in New Jersey but in the nation.

Financial abuse — the assault on the income of both employees and employers — has been a centuries-old problem that has been ignored until the pain reaches intolerable levels. Mr. Florio has done a great service by proposing a tax package that exposes the unrelenting quest by government to submit the citizenry to economic servitude.

Governor Florio has stated that "harsh choices" have to be made in such matters as raising taxes and cutting spending. A hike in the sales tax to 7 percent and extending it to more consumer goods will reduce the living standards of all families, especially lower- and middle-income households. Increasing the income tax on the rich to help defray the costs of governmental programs for other groups continues the philosophy of redistribution that is morally untenable and financial self-defeating.

Virtually everyone has accepted the proposition that the funding of government must be based on the "ability to pay." Why? Payment for services or goods in the marketplace adheres to the law of one price, which states that the same goods will sell for more or less one price to all market participants. In short, the grocer or retailer doesn't care

" The progressive income tax is a demonstration of the politics of envy in operation. "

about the consumer's family income when goods are offered for sale.

The progressive income tax, in the final analysis, is a demonstration of the politics of envy in operation. That is, for some unexplained reason, the linkage between taxes paid and benefits received has been broken. Thus, instead of receiving a dollar's worth of benefits for every dollar of taxes paid, there is no rational economic basis for determining how tax dollars are to be allocated, except by the political process of satisfying the largest electoral constituencies as possible.

There is, moreover, a fundamental flaw in the taxes-spending axis that has gone unquestioned. If we accept the premise that human beings know what is best for themselves, that no outside observer can really know a consumer's preferences better than the consumer, then taxes violate a basic economic principle — consumer sovereignty.

If New Jerseyans really want all the services the state now provides, there is a very simple test to reveal these preferences. Rather than go through all the so-called pain and tribulations of budget cuts and tax hikes, Mr. Florio should advocate that the state's programs be put on a par with all other

services consumers can purchase in the marketplace.

For starters, all social welfare agencies should be transferred to the dozens of private organizations currently providing high quality service in the community. The consumers of education must pay for it just as they pay for food, clothing, and other necessities of life. Eliminating the property tax and replacing it with user fees at the local level would end the massive redistribution of income from senior citizens, singles, and childless couples to households with children.

Roads, highways, bridges, and other transportation facilities could be funded by some high-tech procedures to keep monthly records of actual automobile usage of county and state arteries.

There is no lack of good ideas that could be the basis for providing quality services to New Jerseyans — only a need to break out of the old thinking that only government can and must be the sole provider of certain services to the citizenry.

Governor Florio has a historic opportunity to demonstrate to the nation that New Jersey is indeed progressive. Instead of relying on a method — taxes and spending — that has proven to be ineffective, costly, and divisive, the governor could break out of the mold and implement a program that recognizes the sovereignty of each New Jersey citizen.

Mr. Florio would then capture the imagination of all Americans by revealing what presidents of both parties have ignored — that income redistribution does not create wealth but sets the stage for tax revolts.

Murray Sabrin is an assistant professor of finance at Ramapo College.

Letters

(N.Y.)

What about drug legalization?

To the Editor:

Not long ago, in your opinion poll, you asked people if they thought that the drug problem would be lessened by legalization, as was recently suggested by a federal judge. The responses (with the exception of one lady) were all what I would expect, considering the constant media barrage about the "War on Drugs," coupled with the American people's sad state of knowledge of our heritage of personal liberty.

The drug nightmare is not caused by drugs themselves, but by the fact that they are illegal. You don't have to have a Ph.D. in economics to know that when you control, restrict or outlaw a certain product or substance, you will cause the price on the remaining supply to "go through the roof." Consequently, this is why drugs that are outlawed cost so much, causing people to commit crimes to get large amounts of cash to purchase them.

We have been down this road before; in the 1920s, with the prohibition of alcohol, there were gangland shootouts (remember Al Capone?) just like today's "drug wars." When Prohibition ended in 1933, so did the violence! The more the government tries to suppress drug use, the more violence grows. Furthermore, when one drug is outlawed, another one is soon invented to take its place, oftentimes one that is more potent and dangerous than

outlawed predecessor drugs! These drugs may very well be as harmful as we've been told; however, a free people do not need protection from their own folly. There is nothing in the Constitution authorizing the government to meddle in our private lives and the choices we make as to what we do with our own bodies.

It's rather amusing when one hears people who are pro-choice on abortion suddenly become anti-choice on issues like drug use, handgun ownership, seatbelt use, recycling and other current social controversies. Sadly, Americans have been bamboozled into looking to government to solve all their earthly wants. I hate to think we'll give up our liberties to "solve" a perceived social ill such as drugs.

The bitter irony in this is that as the nations of Eastern Europe seem to be casting off Marxist collectivism, the United States is rushing headfirst into its own version of Socialism. Our gradual and continued erosion of freedom is what should be of concern, not our neighbors' morals or social habits. For more information on this issue, I suggest you write to The International Society for Individual Liberty, 9308 Farmington Dr., Richmond, Va., 23229. Ask for their five-cent flyer, "Ending Our Drug Nightmare." You'll find it to be an eye-opener!

Mark Richards
West Milford, N.J.

Prohibition still doesn't work

Recently, state Attorney General Peter Perretti Jr. criticized the position of those of us who favor legalization of illicit drugs.

For Mr. Perretti, it is easy to cite horrors of relegalization that only can be imagined, even though they never occurred when today's illicit drugs were legal. He warns, for example, that with relegalization, more potent and seductive substances would appear, and crack is given as an example of this. Yet he appears to have forgotten that the appearance of crack occurred under the current system of prohibition. When cocaine was legal, the most common form of its use was in beverages and tonics.

In listing all the horrors that relegalization supposedly would bring, Mr. Perretti also makes an assumption that the system we have now actually works. He assumes that when the government tells people which substances they may consume and which they may not, this leads essentially to complete compliance. Since there is no demand for the illicit substances, no gangs spring up to sell these substances. There is no incentive for the sellers of these illegal substances to peddle to children either, since the children all believe what their parents and teachers tell them about how harmful these substances

are. Naturally, since no one wants to buy these drugs, there is no money for the corruption of police and politicians, leading to broad respect on the part of the public at large for the law, the police and public officials in general.

In being asked to reject relegalization, we are being asked to reject the known problems of allowing people to make their own choices as to what substances to ingest, for the promise of utopia.

We are told, let's just outlaw narcotics (or alcohol or whatever) and our problems with violence and addiction will be solved. When the laws don't work, we are told we need more and better enforcement. When that doesn't work, we need even more money for enforcement, or let's bring in the Army and Navy for enforcement. These demands were heard during Prohibition.

In the 1930s Americans had the wisdom to repeal Prohibition, not to solve all our problems with alcoholism, but to eliminate the additional problems brought on by Prohibition itself. Let's hope Americans of the 1990s will show the same kind of wisdom and demand their politicians finish the job of repeal.

HOWARD F. SCHOEN

Chairman, Somerset/Middlesex
County Libertarians
Edison

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 except Household 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"/> \$100 Patron | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 5 Student (School: _____) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 50 Sustaining | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 5 Household* |

* For other members in the same household as a primary member. Applies to all categories except student. No newsletter.

- ☐ \$15 "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

OPH UPDATE

OPH (Operation Politically Homeless) has been very successful at various places in N.J. We have had booths set up at the Trenton Computer Festival, the Homeschoolers Fair in Princeton, the Berlin Farmers' Market, the City Market Fair in New Brunswick and the gun rally in Trenton. From these events, 74 people have signed up for more information about our party in N.J. We have sent these names on to Marc Montoni at national headquarters in Washington, DC. He, in turn, will be sending them Libertarian Party packets about the national Party. He will also keep us informed as to how many new members sign up from our list.

As you can see, we are off to a good start this year. With booths scheduled at the upcoming Monmouth County Fair, July 25-29 and the Middlesex County Fair, Aug. 7-11, we hope to gather even more names for our rapidly growing Party. We still, however, need people to run our booths. If you'd like to spend a couple of fun hours helping out, call me at 201/572-1614. Thanks!

Michele Maloney

The Further Adventures of Dick and Jane

by John Harllee

It occurs to me that there are no libertarian children's books. Of course, there are many excellent children's books for libertarian children, but none with a specific libertarian slant. On the other hand, children's books full of statist propaganda are all too common.

I have, therefore, a few suggestions which anyone is welcome to. It should not be too hard to write a libertarian children's book; most children's books are quite short. The problem is getting it published and sold.

Here are some possible titles for the series:

Dick & Jane's Lemonade Stand: Dick is hauled in for not having a business license. Jane confronts the Board of Health and the sales tax collectors.

Dick & Jane Go To The Park: Spot is arrested for not being leashed and bites the dogcatcher.

Dick & Jane Ride On A Train: Amtrak manages to make their trip miserable.

Dick & Jane Go To A New School: They try a progressive school, only to learn it has no state license; the whole family gets busted for violating the truancy laws.

Dick & Jane Visit The Farm: Uncle Will explains that the U.S.D.A. is about to put him out of business and the farm, which has been in the family for generations, will soon belong to the bank.

Dick & Jane Make New Friends: Paco and Juana and their parents are deported for entering the country illegally.

Dick & Jane Build A Treehouse: They meet the building inspector who condemns the structure for having no indoor plumbing.

Dick & Jane Move To A New Neighborhood: After their home is condemned by the highway department for a new freeway, the family is forced to move.

The possibilities seem to be endless. Any suggestions on how to get this sort of thing into print?

* * * * *

John Harllee is editor of the SOUTHERN LIBERTARIAN MESSENGER. He was one of the original members of the South Carolina Libertarian Party.

FRANK AND ERNEST

BY BOB THAVES



New Jersey Libertarian Party
P.O. Box 56
Tennent, NJ 07763

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TENNETT, N. J.

VOTE LIBERTARIAN