



New Jersey Libertarian

Volume XXXIV, Issue 1

January - March 2009

2009 NJLP Annual Convention

By NJLP Convention Co-Chair Walter Luers

We are extremely pleased to announce the times and location of this year's Convention. It's at the Wyndham Princeton Forrestal Hotel & Conference Center near Princeton, New Jersey. Register by sending in the form on page 6 or visit <http://njlp.org/convention>.

The Convention will run on March 28 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and on March 29 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. The Party's Business Meeting will be held on March 29 and will be open to all. Registration will be required for March 28's events, which will be held in the Hotel's Amphitheater from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. There will be a break station available all day for coffee and refreshments. Lunch will be served at noon and dinner will be served at 6 p.m.

Speakers, in the morning will address open government and the fair tax. Wayne Allyn Root, the Libertarian Party's 2008 nominee for Vice President, will speak for at least an hour in mid-day and he will answer your questions as well. In the afternoon, there will be a presentation regarding county organizing.

Registration for the Convention will be \$175 until March 24, 2009. After March 24, 2009 (including at the convention), registration will be \$215.

The Wyndham is located at 900 Scudders Mill Road, Plainsboro, New Jersey 08536. To make overnight reservations, please call 877-999-3223. The deadline for making reservations at the negotiated group rate of \$89 per night rate was Friday, March 6, 2009.

Please contact Walter Luers, 908-453-2147 or wluers@luerslaw.com, or Sean Colon, sean.colon@gmail.com, if you have any questions.

The last few months have been extremely busy and exciting for me as business is really taking off. I have traveled and will continue to travel extensively both domestically and internationally and must apologize for the lack of time I have spent in New Jersey. It is not that I have not been working on projects to promote Liberty because I have, and in fact just this week attended the State Chairs conference in Charleston, South Carolina representing the NJLP. In speaking with other Chairs, and reflecting on the last two years as Chair, I have come to the conclusion that two years is enough. It is time for a fresh set of eyes to move us forward. In that regard, I **will not** be seeking reelection. I wanted to give everyone a little heads up before the convention.

Over the last few months I have talked with Sean Colon and Kevin Ferrizzi about my possible intentions and both have decided to run again for positions in the NJLP--Sean as Chair, and Kevin as Treasurer. I am also hoping both Derek Demarco and Paul Tahan have the time to run again also. I enthusiastically endorse all of them, and recommend they put together a team before the convention with whom they can work effectively.

I will continue to work with the NJLP, and my intention is to donate my time and help fund projects that I have a passion for. I am currently helping on a special election in NY, working on a liberty project with Jay Boucher, have been asked to help in upcoming elections in Pennsylvania, hope to find ways to fund the kiosk in NJ again this year, and last but certainly not least continue to run and participate in campaigns with my business partner and friend Jason Scheurer.

As for the Convention, I applaud the work and time both Walter Luers and Sean Colon have put into the upcoming convention. They are trying a different approach, to attract business people to our convention and others that might not normally attend a Libertarian event. I like to remind those who need reminding, that we had two "free events" last year, that were very poorly attended by our members, so let's help and support Sean and Walter's efforts to make this convention a success. Conventions cost money, and often guarantees need

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to be met, and I will put my money where my mouth is and challenge and urge others to do the same. Today a check is in the mail for \$525.00-- my registration cost and the sponsorship of two students of my choosing. One has helped grow the Rutgers Libertarian Party and the other helped gather signatures for Bob Barr and Jason Scheurer. For those who can afford the cost, I urge you to sign up now. To those fortunate enough to sponsor a student or two, I have a list of great candidates. To our other members that cannot afford the full cost, I look forward to seeing you on Sunday. Although our Sunday meeting is "free" I am sure you all understand there is no "free lunch" so making a small donation now towards our Convention cost goes a long way in meeting our financial obligations.

Thank you and In Liberty,

Lou Jasikoff

Chair, NJLP

Letters to the *NJL* Editor

Brenda on President Obama's inauguration

I spent the day glued to the television, watching... Regardless of the political views of any of us or our colleagues, I find it reassuring that Americans did not look to the color of a candidate's skin, and that that candidate -- now our president -- is willing to listen to views opposed to his own.

As a libertarian, I disagree with the globalist-humanist views of Obama's inaugural address. We are not the world's police force, nor the world's breadbasket, nor the world's father-figure, nor the world's big brother. It is not for us to involve ourselves in the internal politics of other nations, nor for our government to directly subsidize the modernization of the worlds' emerging nations through political means (even if it is done on a "teach me to fish/elevate my neighbor" sort of basis).

I am also concerned about his interest in developing a national healthcare plan. While most of our "first world" colleagues consider this to be a hallmark of a "civilized nation," the costs of such a plan will no doubt leave us paying more than we already are, into a plan as ineffective and downright dangerous as Medicaid/Medicare. I am concerned that to provide more than the most basic of information, to those who are healthy and not in need of anything more than simple preventative medicine, will bankrupt our society.

On the other hand, his call for "responsibility" resonated as much -- or more -- to individuals than to our governments (state and national). A number of youth and teens interviewed said they were inspired by Obama's win and inaugural to find opportunities for community service and public service. This suggests an incoming generation more interested in giving

(voluntarily and of themselves) to assist and elevate those less fortunate. As long as this is not manipulated to serve the ends of the State or Statism, this is a positive development.

Obama also mentioned a willingness to examine all government programs for effectiveness, and to terminate those programs which are not effective. Much has been made of this by political commentators. Termination of government programs, and lessening the chains of excessive government, are words that resonate to every libertarian. If government programs are terminated, without replacement, then that is (at least incrementally) a good thing. However, based on this nation's history, I reserve judgment until such time as these programs are terminated and dismantled, without more-intrusive successors in their place.

Brenda Bell (Somerset County, NJ)

arachne@webwarren.com

Member (US National) Libertarian Party, New Jersey
Libertarian Party

Government and Its Limits

Dear Editor,

There was once a time in American society when functions like social services, retirement, health care and education were handled by the private sector. It was churches, synagogues, non-profits, private businesses and philanthropy that provided the social safety net for those in need. Government was limited by the chains of the U.S. Constitution and it was the private sector that filled the void and it was the private sector that delivered better and superior services to the public at large.

During the so-called "Progressive Era," all that changed. The intellectuals of that era, along with the intellectuals of the New Deal era, the Fair Deal era, the Great Society Era, as well as others, had the belief that the Federal and State governments could provide better services. While I do not doubt the possible goodness of their intentions, I have to say that they all failed. Their belief was seductive and very much in error. Government is incapable of handling those responsibilities. No matter how many times that they try to remedy what is wrong, the problems always get worse and no amount of Band-Aids can correct that.

I believe that most politicians know this reality, yet do nothing. The reason is basically two-fold:

Power: Politicians, it must be said, adore power over individuals. They are of the belief that society would cease to function without them. To have power over people, places and things, the politician can make people do as he or she wishes, even have them beg like dogs. This bolsters the politician's ego and his or her self importance. At the same time, it creates the image of the politician as a "hero."

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Votes: By giving tax monies and other support to these services, the politician secures his status and his or her hold on political office. It is not for altruistic purposes that he or she does this. It is solely for their own self-interest and their own perseverance. This often breeds corruption as we have seen this year and last year.

A just government, to paraphrase Thomas Jefferson, would be restrained to a few tasks and would allow people to be free to follow their pursuits. This would include delivering services and caring for the needy, the young and the old. Government is not omnipotent. It does not work. If the intellectuals of the twentieth century did not realize that, I hope that the people of the twenty-first century do.

Sincerely

Alex Pugliese

Bill on President Obama's Inauguration

As a black man, I was very proud to see a competent, well-spoken Afro-American, elected President. But I am troubled by his lack of regard for property rights. I've always said that political philosophies are distinguished by "their relative regard for the personal property of others;" Libertarianism being at one extreme of the scale and pure Communism, where the state owns all of the means of production, being at the other extreme. Our new President has good motives and is a good leader, and I believe him to be a good person, but his lack of regard for the personal property of others is frightening.

President Obama is much, much more willing to take my property from me, than I would be willing to take his property from him. My liberty and my property are inseparable. If you take everything from me except my property and the rights that accompany property ownership, I am free. If you give me everything in the world, everything except the right to my property, I am enslaved.

President Obama, judging from his spoken words and thoughts, is much too cavalier in his regard for the property of the citizens of this free Country.

Bill Howcott
Freehold, NJ

When the people find that they can vote themselves money, that will herald the end of the republic. Sell not liberty to purchase power. - Benjamin Franklin

Bylaws Changes Proposed

The NJLP Bylaws Committee makes three proposals for Bylaws changes for consideration by the membership at the upcoming Convention:

1. Remove the "Inc." from the name of the organization as specified in Article 1. This is merely a simplification, with no other significance.

2. Split Article 2 into two distinct articles. The current first paragraph would remain as the entirety of Article 2: Purpose, while the remainder would be grouped under Article 3: Fiscal Policy. No changes to the content of the relocated section are proposed. This is for clarity: the Purpose declares what we want to achieve, the Fiscal Policy declares how we are to be organized to best achieve that goal.

3. Add a self-reference to the protection of the Statement of Principles in (current) Article 3: Statement of Principles and Platform. The current high wall protects the Statement of Principles, but does not protect the wall itself. All that is necessary to accomplish that is to insert "and this sentence" in the second sentence of Section a, which would then read as follows:

"The enduring importance of the Statement of Principles requires that it and this sentence be amended only by a seven-eighths vote at the State Convention."

Future Meetings & Events

Saturday, March 28— NJLP annual convention at the Wyndham Hotel near Princeton beginning at 8:00 AM. See page 1 for details on reservations and the day's program.

Sunday, March 29—NJLP convention general meeting at the Wyndham from 8:00 AM to 12:00 noon.

Members Write to Newspapers

Fear falls to reason

There have been politicians and others who have done good work getting their points across. And there have been those who used irrational fear to obtain power to get what they want. In certain respects, this method has worked. Most of the time, it has worked because the other side failed to appeal to people's reason. Reason is the biggest enemy of fear; by using fear, one hopes to eclipse it.

Whenever a state political race is on in New Jersey, you can bet that Democrats will use the abortion issue as a weapon. They will say, "If a Republican is elected, women will lose the right to choose," which is false. If *Roe vs. Wade* were overturned, the people, through their elected representatives, would decide abortion policy for the state. By appealing to fear, Democrats, along with the corrupt New Jersey press corps, hope they can win.

The same could be said about other issues as well. There are those who say that if one eliminates or privatizes entitlement programs such as Social Security, Medicaid or Medicare, the poor and the downtrodden will suffer. The reality is that the private sector, i.e. churches, synagogues, nonprofits and businesses, would pick up the slack. There are those who say that if the policy of affirmative action is reversed or eliminated, minorities would suffer, instead of telling the truth that, with its elimination, there would be equality for all and no special treatment for one group of people or another.

The appeal to people's irrational and emotional fears may work for a while, but it always fails, for reason wins in the end. I would rather appeal to people's logic and reasoning than to their anxieties or to point to false evidence that appears to be real.

ALEX PUGLIESE, Kenilworth

NJ.COM Letters to the Editor, 2-24-09, *The Times of Trenton*

Election marks the start of the games

Suburban Trends, Wednesday, November 19, 2008

DEAR EDITOR:

In the Nov. 12 edition, the Op-Ed page was focused on the recent elections and what an Obama presidency may hold in store for the country.

It really didn't matter if McCain or Obama won, since both of these individuals are dedicated to bigger, costlier and more intrusive government. One wonders if either of these men ever sat down and really read the Constitution (and most importantly, learned anything from reading it!) No one man can fix the economy, and even if he could, should one person have that much power and authority?

Government can't create prosperity. Only free individuals interacting as willing buyers and willing sellers, free of government interference can make things prosperous. This notion that the State, regardless if it run by Democrats or Republicans, can somehow magically make things right is similar to a child's nursery rhyme!

I really have to laugh when I hear Republicans I know say Obama will turn America socialist, since America has been drifting toward socialist

collectivism before Obama was even born! To be sure, he will do nothing to reverse that trend, as his voting record as a U.S. senator clearly demonstrates.

And the Liberal Democrats who really think that John McCain was an advocate of a true free-market economics are just as clueless. McCain voted for the \$700 billion government bailout of troubled financial institutions last month. That's not free enterprise; that's corporate welfare!

Not all Americans are blind to what's going on in this country. Here in West Milford, over 100 of you had the good sense to cast your votes for the Libertarian Party candidates. We can make that grow by talking to your neighbors, co-workers, family members (sometimes that one is a lost cause!) Let them know they don't have to keep on voting for people and parties that lie to them, while all the time telling them how much they are "helping" them.

Enjoy the next four years, the games have just begun!

Mark Richards

West Milford

The problem is that democracy is not freedom. Democracy is simply majoritarianism, which is inherently incompatible with real freedom. Our founding fathers clearly understood this.
- Congressman Ron Paul

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Commentary and advertising should be submitted to the editor by the 25th of every month. Contact us at: *New Jersey Libertarian* c/o Len Flynn, Editor, P.O. Box 448, Morganville, NJ 07751 or editor@njlp.org.

2009 NJ Libertarian Party Convention

NJLP Convention to be held at the Wyndham Princeton Forrestal Hotel & Conference Center near Princeton, New Jersey.

The Convention will run from March 28 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and on March 29 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. The Party's Business Meeting will be held on March 29 and will be open to all. Registration will be required for March 28th events, which will include several workshop sessions and guest speakers, including the Libertarian Party's 2008 nominee for Vice President, Wayne Allyn Root. Our March 28 convention package will also include lunch and dinner buffets on Saturday, and coffee and refreshments that will be available all day.

Registration for the Convention will be \$175 until March 24, 2009. After March 24, 2009 (including at the convention), registration will be \$215.

Note that the business meeting on Sunday is free. You do not need to register for Sunday's meeting.

When March 28th, 2009 8:00 AM through March 29th, 2009 12:00 PM

*Location:
900 Scudders Mill Road
Plainsboro, NJ 08536*

Contact Email: convention@njlp.org Register online at <http://njlp.org/convention>.

NJLP Convention Form: Check here to use address from mailing label

Name: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Email Contact: _____ Phone Contact: _____

Full Convention Package (\$215; \$175 if paid prior to March 24th) _____

Reserve your place by sending payment to: NJLP Convention, P.O. Box 56, Tennent, NJ 07763



NEW JERSEY LIBERTARIAN PARTY

P.O. BOX 56
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I want to become a member of the Libertarian Party! I have checked the level at which I want to join and have enclosed the corresponding dues. I certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force to achieve social or political goals. (Signature required for membership only) X _____

Check here to use address from mailing label

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City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone () _____ E-mail _____

Occupation & Employer _____

\$500 Life Membership

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Newsletter subscription is included with your membership.

Don't send the newsletter, I'll read it on line.

Donation
 Enclosed in my additional contribution of \$_____ to help the NJLP in its efforts to expand individual liberty.

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

Make check payable to NJLP and mail to: NJLP c/o R. Edgar, 8 Arneytown-Hornerstown Rd, Cream Ridge NJ 08514

You can also join the NJLP on-line at <http://njlp.org/joinus>



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