



New Jersey Libertarian

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Chair's Message

By NJLP Chair Jay Edgar

I'd like to start with thanking the convention for placing their trust in me as chair. I hope that I can serve well and contribute in the fight for liberty in New Jersey.

It is not often that we find ourselves at a cross roads. I believe that we are currently at such a point in society. At this point in time, the liberty movement is huge. People are fed up with the growth of government. We must find a way to get all of us working together to achieve our goals.

I'd love to see us win elections. However, I believe that as a third party we are at a constant disadvantage. We need to spend significant effort building our name brand before we can be competitive in an election. I do believe that if we had the right candidate and the proper campaign planning and fundraising we could have a significant impact on an election. In the absence of such an opportunity I believe that we need to concentrate on what we have been good at.

We have had enormous success in the area of legislative outreach. This is especially true thanks to the work of John Paff, the NJLP Open Government Taskforce, and the NJLP Preempted Ordinance Project. I'd like to see us expand on these ideas. In addition to our work in these areas, I'd like to see the NJLP become involved with:

- leading recall efforts of elected officials
- fighting tax assessments and providing tools to homeowners on fighting their tax assessments
- monitoring bills in the assembly and recommending legislative action

I'd like the NJLP be the place that NJ residents rely on to affect change in government.

In order for us to be successful, we need you to get involved. If you are interested in heading up a project above, or one of your own please contact me.

Jay
chair@njlp.org

2010 Convention Highlights

The New Jersey Libertarian Party held their annual State Convention on March 13th at the Rutgers Continuing Education Conference Center in New Brunswick, NJ.

The Convention started with a business meeting. At the business meeting new officers were elected. Jay Edgar was

elected Chair. Jay had previously served on the board, most recently as an At Large member of the board. Walter Luers was reelected as Vice Chair. Kevin Ferrizzi was reelected as Treasurer. Long time activist and former NJLP Chair, Emerson Ellett was elected Secretary. Ken Kaplan was reelected to an At Large Position. Russ Conger and Joe Siano were both elected to the board for the first time as At Large members.

After a buffet luncheon several speakers gave presentations both locally and remotely. All four candidates for National LNC Chair spoke via teleconference to the convention attendees. They each presented their vision for the future of the party and presented why we should consider voting for them (see separate articles on each of these candidates).

Bob Bowdon presented the trailer for his new movie, "The Cartel." In "The Cartel" Mr. Bowdon exposes the inefficiency of the government run education system with an emphasis on the problems in New Jersey. He uncovers the bad performance of NJ schools. (In New Jersey only 39% of eighth graders are proficient or advance at reading, only 40% are proficient or advanced at math.) He then ties this bad performance to the unaccountability of our school system that is tied to their existence as a coercive monopoly.

Jerry Cantrell, President of the NJ Taxpayers Association (<http://njtaxes.org>), spoke on the dire conditions of the state of NJ State government finances.

Julian Hecklen talked to us about his activism recently. He has been hassled by the police over several out reach incidents. This has resulted in him taking legal action against the New York City Police. As Julian was finishing his speech we lost power to the conference facility. Julian finished while standing under the emergency lighting.

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George Phillies, Candidate for Libertarian National Committee Chair

The ancient Romans had a high office, the Pontifex Maximus, the high priest. I'm not running for that. If you want a philosopher king to split hairs about Libertarian philosophy, I'm probably not your man. I'm not running for the Maximus Bombasticus either. If you want revivalist speeches with smoke, mirrors and huge promises, I'm probably not your man, either. To teach the public about our Libertarian principles, we have our fine Libertarian candidates and our party educational activities.

I have only one huge promise. I promise you there are no silver bullets, no magic tricks that will march us to first-party status. Our only path to greatness is the sweat and tears, the hours and dollars of our volunteers, activists, donors, and supporters.

The National Chair is our CEO. I'm running for National Chair because I want to do the hard work of leading and administering our party, so that you, our Libertarian activists, can get on with the important political business of the day, namely converting the United States to a Libertarian-majority nation.

I'm not running by myself. In America, one man political parties like the John Anderson party and the George Wallace party are bright shooting stars that speed across the landscape in the twinkling of an eye, only to vanish forever. Their political symbol is properly the mule, a creature with no hope of progeny.

I am running as part of the New Path, the New Path to Libertarian Revival. My good friends and I, the Libertarians of the New Path, are running for our National Committee. We're running for National Committee to send our party once again on the march to political greatness.

Who are the New Path candidates? George Phillies -- Chair, Carolyn Marbry -- Vice Chair, James Oaksun, MBA -- Treasurer, Rob Power -- Secretary, At-Large: Charles Wilhoit and Thomas Hill.

Regional Representatives and alternates include Rachel Hawkridge, Jim Remmert, Jake Porter, Scott Williamson, and Brad Ploeger. (Please also remember also our good friends, including Mary Ruwart, Lee Wrights, and Vicki Kirkland.)

So what are we offering as a new course for our party? Above all, start doing real politics. Focus our energies outward at attacking our opponents, not inward at attacking our competing factions.

1. Fix our finances. Cut fixed costs. Redirect our income to real politics. Show our donors that their money will be spent wisely and well. Revive our flagging donor interest. Recruit vast numbers of new donors, and retain their interest so they keep coming back to us.
2. Support our volunteers, activists, and candidates. The LNC can't do their work for them, but it can make it a lot easier. Support? Downloadable trifold with blank panels, so you can download, modify for local needs, and print, without having to write the whole thing. Downloadable web page templates, so candidates can get off the ground

faster. Candidate and group support material like the Libertarian Candidate Support Disk. And, yes, the LNC can advance seed money to credible Federal candidates.

3. Public outreach and advertising. Web ads via facebook, adwords, etc. targeting young people. New web pages with solid archives. Put Libertarian Party sound bites where lost small-L libertarians will find us. More libertarian affinity groups like Outright Libertarians. More small-L libertarian think tanks like AntiWar.Com. A monthly newsletter.
4. An active, vibrant affiliate in every state, D.C. Puerto Rico, Guam, and everywhere else the American flag flies. Get that, and watch our ballot access costs drop in 2012.
5. Candidate recruitment and support. When the Democrats need extra pressure on a good potential Federal candidate, Obama makes a phone call. We don't have a President, but as National Chair I'll do my part to help. By the way, I promise you I will *never ever* urge a state party not to run a real libertarian candidate, in order to help the Republicans or Democrats win. We're here to beat both of them, and I'll work vigorously to ensure that defeat is their fate.
6. A National Committee that focuses on substance, not parliamentary hair-splitting. That's a National Committee with working groups, a few LNC members and a lot of volunteers, to do all the work the LNC needs and the LNC staff has no time to do. Perpetual pandering to parliamentary panjandrums is wrecking our national party. Parliamentary pandering must be stopped.

That's not everything we need, not by a long shot, but it's a nice start.

This NatCon, you have a choice. I'm offering you hard work. I'm offering you a plan. I'm offering you a team to carry out that plan.

The choice is yours.

George Phillies - <http://philliesforlncchair.robpower.com/>

Wayne Allyn Root, Candidate for Libertarian National Committee Chair

Dear Friend of Freedom,

I would like to ask for your help to save liberty in America ... to stop the aggression of a government that grows larger and more intrusive everyday.

America needs a political party that will be a visible advocate for freedom. The principles of the Libertarian Party are the principles this country was founded upon.

The freedom to pursue our hopes and dreams - without interference from government - is what has made our country great and will save us from our current struggles.

Many Americans share our ideals, but our message is not being heard.

This must change!

And that is why I have chosen to run for Chairman of the Libertarian Party.

Please help move the voice of freedom onto the national stage by signing up today to become a delegate at the Libertarian

Party National Convention in St. Louis this Memorial Day Weekend.

I am striving to be the hardest working advocate for freedom in Libertarian Party history.

As the only member of the party to regularly appear on national media outlets, I have been working tirelessly to portray a positive image for our party.

In just the past two weeks I have appeared on FOX News, Larry King Live on CNN, MSNBC, and more than 20 radio shows.

But there is so much more to do.

Let's build our movement to the next level by:

- Training our members on all levels to get the message of liberty out to the American people on a daily basis.
- Developing the kind of branding and marketing that will give our party a successful, professional image.
- Utilizing new technologies like social networks, text messaging and online media.
- Increasing fundraising and showing our candidates how they can bring in the funds they need to compete.
- Developing a presence on campuses nationwide to reach out to America's youth.

This race for chairman offers a stark contrast of visions for the future of the Libertarian Party.

Shall we be content being a protest movement or debating society while freedom dies?

Or do you agree with me that it's time for us to take the serious steps of becoming a political party that implements freedom and restores our Republic?

The answer to these questions depends on you. Every vote is important in this race. If you show up and help elect me as Chairman, we will take the first of many steps to restore freedom to America.

With my experience and achievements in both business and media I know we can bring success to the Libertarian Party. But I can't do it without your help.

Please sign up to be a delegate to the Libertarian Party National Convention today.

Only those who attend the convention will be able to vote to bring our party into the debate on what type of America we want to see. Will our children live in freedom or in bondage to a politically-favored class?

The future of freedom depends on our succeeding. And our succeeding depends on your support in St. Louis.

Our Founding Fathers put at risk their lives, fortunes and sacred honor so that we could live in freedom. All that is required of us is to attend this convention and vote to move our party forward.

I look forward to seeing you in St Louis and I very much appreciate your support.

Toward Liberty,

Wayne Allyn Root - <http://rootforamerica.com>



Julian Hecklen Discusses His Recent Activism To Our Convention Attendees

Common Sense Radio Launched

By Bobb Rayner, Common Sense Executive Producer and Host

The South Jersey Libertarian Party has recently announced the launch of a weekly radio show. The show, "Common Sense", is broadcast live on AM 1360 from 6-7 PM EST on Monday evenings.

The show can be heard on the air in the Southern NJ and Philadelphia areas. The show is also streamed live over the internet at wnjc1360.com.

Commercial sponsors are being sought, especially libertarian oriented businesses and organizations.

More info on the show, sponsorship information, and an archive of the show can be found at <http://njlp.org/commonsense>. The show can be contacted at commonsense@njlp.org.



Congressional Candidate, Joe Siano greets visitors at our table at the Tax Day Tea Party

Mark Hinkle, Candidate for Libertarian National Committee Chair

Polls confirm that the average voter is more dissatisfied with the Democrats and Republicans than ever before. Yet, we Libertarians have failed to capture that discontent and turn it into exponential Party growth. The answer isn't a new strategy, a new platform plank, or even more publicity.

The answer is to become an effective organization by creating a small set of aggressive, but realistic, goals, create plans to achieve those goals, and finally execute the plan and accomplish the goals. Over the last two years, the LNC failed to set goals and thus our membership numbers declined.

Set goals, create a plan, and execute. It's a simple concept, but critical if we are to succeed. Fortunately, I'm no stranger to this concept or its execution. As LPC Chair, we more than tripled our dues-paying membership from below 2,000 to over 6,000. We tripled our income, hired an Executive Director and opened an office. We began a lobbying effort in Sacramento. We elected a record number of Libertarians to public office via Project Breakthrough. Each month we sent out fund-raising letters, a quality newsletter, and timely and topical press releases. And lastly, we achieved a record number of registered libertarian voters under my leadership.

Set goals, create a plan, and execute. I am the most experienced candidate for LNC Chair and the most successful candidate in terms of membership growth, money raised for the Party, and Libertarian candidates elected to non-partisan office. I've served a total of 10 years on the LNC. Over the last 36 years, I've served in a wide variety of elected Party positions from the local level to the LNC. I can relate to our activists, because I've done just about every imaginable volunteer job within the LP. I can relate to our donors because I have a track record of achieving goals. Major donors want to invest in successful organizations and I bring a track record of achievement that assures them that their money won't be wasted.

As LNC Chair, some of my goals are: 50 state ballot access, 20,000 members with memberships coming from 2 key areas: the young and the rich. I'd like to see the creation of a Liberty Sales Team to bring in new members and internal education teams to train activists in the nuts and bolts of political organizing.

Because of my experience and past successes, I've earned the endorsement of the past LP Chairs: Alicia Clark, David Bergland, Steve Dasbach, and Geoff Neale. I've also been endorsed by past LP Vice-Chairs: Sharon Ayres and Chuck Moulton, presidential candidate Ed Clark and Vice-Presidential candidate Jo Jorgensen. Also activists Steve Kubby, Julie Fox, Carla Howell, Less Antman, Vicki Kirkland and elected Libertarians Kate O'Brien and John Inks.

Set goals, create a plan, and execute.

I've done it before. With your vote and support, I'll do it again.

Yours in liberty,

Mark Hinkle

<http://www.mark4chair.com>

Ernie Hancock, Candidate for Libertarian National Committee Chair

The renaissance of libertarian philosophy has produced the hoped for revolution in the minds of America's youth, and libertarianism has reentered American politics.

In the past, the LPUS served as a 'Liberty Nexus' for those that chose to embrace the principled libertarian philosophy that advocated for individual rights, peace, freedom and tolerance. However, soon after making new alliances with others of the same mind inside the LPUS, it is often clear to many of the most passionate libertarian minds that their efforts are more productive outside the LPUS. This revolving door effect has produced more libertarians outside of the National Party than inside. This isn't necessarily a bad thing. But for the LPUS to be relevant to human freedom we must understand what is happening and be of service to the individuals that are the change we seek.

Many tools provide immediate peer to peer communication and coordination with local LP groups. But the LPUS' inaction is often perceived as being an impediment to these communications and the accompanying networking of libertarians that results when we are politically active.

Often it is only the LPUS that has the standing to Challenge the Idolization of an all powerful, all knowing Federal Government, but the perception is that the LPUS is not a challenge to the tyranny America increasingly suffers.

Fear of criticism has eliminated the LPUS from consideration as a front line ally in the quest for liberty. Twenty years of Hard Core, No-Compromise libertarian activism hasn't kept me incarcerated, targeted and removed from relevance in the world of politics, in fact, it has had just the opposite effect. Fearless advocacy of libertarian philosophy is exactly what is missing from the LPUS.

My goal is to make it perfectly clear to the world that the LPUS in Convention made a very clear choice to join the peaceful revolution against the Omnipotent State. Any attempt to negotiate for a place inside this corrupt and illegitimate abuser of human rights on their terms is a clear sign of fear and weakness to those possessing the passion and talent to work for individual liberty.

Vote percentages, money raised, laws passed, media coverage, inspired activists,... are all side effects of a clear standard set and advocated for in freeing as many minds as possible with the truth.

Peace over War, Truth not Lies, Courage trumping Fear, Resolve instead of Compromise, Inspiration vs Compulsion, Self-Reliance not Dependence, Tolerance over Bigotry, and above all, the advocacy of Love.

I offer nothing less than participation in a worldwide LOVEolution. The LPUS has the opportunity to influence the greatest decentralization of power in Human History, but we must first lead by example and be of service to the individual activists advocating libertarian philosophy,... if not, then why would they need us?

Ernie Hancock

<http://www.ernesthancock.org/>

2010 Convention Meeting Minutes

The Convention was called to order by the Convention Committee Chair Jay Edgar at 9:23 AM. There being 18 members in attendance, a quorum was established and the Agenda for the Day was approved.

Secretary's Report

Secretary was not present. The minutes of the December General Meeting were read and approved.

Election of NJLP Officers and At-Large Board Representatives

The following Officers of the New Jersey Libertarian Party were elected, unopposed, for 2010:

Chair: Jay Edgar, Vice Chair: Walter Luers, Secretary: Emerson Ellet, Treasurer: Kevin Ferrizzi, At Large 1: Ken Kaplan, At Large 2: Russ Conger, At Large 3: Joe Siano

Treasurer's Report

The treasure presented the prior years budget and the proposed budget for 2010.

The budget was approved as presented.

The meeting then broke into County Caucuses.

County Caucus Reports

The Libertarian Party of Central New Jersey, representing Middlesex, somerset, and Union counties reported the following:

Chair: V.A. Cant, Vice Chair: Frank Warren, Secretary: John Paff, Treasurer: Howard Schoen, Middlesex Rep: V.A. Cant, Somerset Rep: Frank Warren, Union Rep: Darren Young

Mercer County reported the following:

Chair: Dave Trent, Secretary: Ray Cragle

The South Jersey Libertarian Party, representing Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, and Ocean Counties reported the following:

Chair: Joe Denise, Vice Chair: Russ Conger, Treasurer: Kevin Ferrizzi

Approval of NJLP Candidates for Public Office

The following NJLP Candidates were approved to run for Congress:

Joe Siano - 4th District
Russ Conger - 3rd District
Derek DeMarco - 8th District

Ongoing Business and Ad Hoc Committees

Campaign support was discussed. Petitions for Joe Siano and Russ Conger have been prepared.

Kevin Ferrizzi reported on the NJLP radio show stating that it was a work in progress. Anyone interested in helping with the project should contact the Executive Producer Bobb Rayner at bobbayner1@cs.com

College Activism was discussed and Bill Sihr, a new member and student at Rowan University was approved to be the

Campus Coordinator with a duty to report to the NJLP State Board about college activities.

Our newsletter has been delayed due to the illness of Ginny Flynn. We may need to help Len out or take over production of the newsletter.

New Business

The 2010 National Convention delegates were discussed and approved.

The following people were approved: Jay Edgar, Ken Kaplan, Dan Karlan, Bill Sihr, Ken Kaplan, Tim O'Brien, Darren Young, Lou Jasikoff, Daryl Brooks, Russell Jasikoff, Jason Scheurer, Melissa Edgar, Jim Warble, John Taylor, and Walter Luers.

Reports From National LP

Dan Karlan reported that the national party was restructuring the regional area and explained the situation and expected developments.

Reports from LNC Candidates

Wayne Allyn Root called into our meeting to introduce himself to the convention attendees. He discussed why we should support him for Chair of the Libertarian National Committee. (note: after our meeting we also heard from Ernie Hancock, George Phillis, and Mark Hinkle).

Future Meetings

Our future meeting dates were proposed and approved.

- Sunday 4/25 Steering Committee @ Tumulty's Pub house 361 George Street in New Brunswick
- Sunday 6/1 State Board @ Tumulty's Pub
- Saturday 7/17 NJLP annual picnic and general meeting @ location to be determined



Bob Bowdon Discusses the State of the Public Education at our Convention

Force Versus Persuasion In Health Care

By Jay Edgar

Today at work we were discussing the recent news that AT&T will take a \$1 Billion dollar non-cash accounting charge as a result of the recent Health Care Act. Surprisingly not many of my coworkers were even aware of this news. We discussed what effect this may have on our pay and benefits. Most of the group expressed their disdain over the Act. However two coworkers wouldn't accept the fact that this Health Care Act is bad for our country.

The first, lets call him Boris, made the argument that this bill will cost AT&T money, but it won't affect our pay or benefits. He is normally an intelligent guy, but when it comes to economics he just doesn't get it. He believes that if AT&T shows a profit then that profit is coming out of our pay. We tried our best to explain to him that when AT&T loses money, they are going to pay their employees less, not more. The same is true of the insurance companies. When insurance mandates increase costs, companies will pass the expenses down to their customers and employees.

Boris, like many on the left, believes many economic fallacies. He, like many of our elected leaders, believes that government can conjure up wealth by waving a magic legislative wand. The Health Care Act will demonstrate that "there ain't no such thing as a free lunch". The health care bill will increase the cost of doing business both inside and outside of the health care industry. As a result investors will be less likely to invest, employers less likely to hire, and students less likely to choose medicine as a career. The long term consequences of this act will be less innovation, less doctors, worse health care and more poverty.

The second coworker, lets call her Natasha, expressed her full support of the Health Care Act. She mentioned how bad it is for her neighbor not to have health insurance, whether he wants it or not. Natasha also stated that she supports socialist policies of all sorts. I told her that I found her attitude to be very violent. She kept asking me to repeat my statement, because she couldn't believe what I was saying.

Let us say that Natasha was to go over to her neighbor's house with a gun and force him to buy health insurance. Natasha is not satisfied with a cheap plan that just covered major expense, but a plan with expensive provisions like unlimited coverage amounts and mandated coverage of everything from abortion to Zollinger-Ellison syndrome. If her neighbor refused to purchase this expensive plan, Natasha would use the gun to extort \$2,400 out of him to buy a plan for him, whether he wanted it or not.

I'd call such behavior violent.

Natasha however, considers herself a peaceful person and detests guns. So instead of using a gun and doing the force herself, she has someone else do it for her, like her friend Vladimir. Or the federal government. Is Natasha any less violent? If she uses the guns of government to force her world order on other people, is she not just as guilty and violent as the entity using those guns?

Both Boris and Natasha have a distorted view of the world that is true of many on the left and the right. Such a view values

force over persuasion and violent coercion over peaceful cooperation.

The left favors force and violence when it comes to economic issues. Government mandates, fines, taxes, government controlled wages, and tariffs are all based upon force. If you don't follow their will, the government will come down on you with a vengeance, seizing your property and assets and possibly sticking you into a cage. A free market, however is about persuasion. A provider is persuaded into offering services that are of value to a customer at a competitive price. Otherwise a competing provider will swoop in and take that customer away.

The right favors force and violence when it comes to personal issues. They want the government to impose their version of morality upon you. Use of non accepted drugs, unapproved gambling, and certain sexual choices and behaviors are all answered with forceful fines and/or imprisonment.

Libertarians always favor persuasion over force. Members joining our party must agree that they "do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals". This principle is a rejection of the initiation of violence against other human beings.

The triumph of persuasion over force is the sign of a civilized society.

- Mark Skousen, *Persuasion versus Force*



Len Flynn Hands Out Fully Informed Jury Brochures at the Monmouth County Courthouse

Consider giving a recurring monthly donation at

<http://njlp.org/partyinfo/donate/generalfund>

Letter to the NJ Libertarian

Hello All at the NJLP:

It is always a joy to see that the NJLP is alive, well, and active!

For those who know not who I am (and even for those that do know), I was a Founder and First Chair of the NJLP in 1972. I ran for Congress in 1974 with the unanimous endorsement of the NJLP.

Please seriously consider Jay Edgar's urgings of you to take a more active role in the NJLP. I cannot give you a guarantee on how it will affect your future life. However, for me, I always look back with joy and pleasure at those exciting times.

I was well received by the public and well reported in the media. I even had this fantasy that I just might pull off the long shot and earn a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.

A quick story: The year was 1974. The Democrat was 25 years old and was an ultra Liberal. There was no way that he was going to win. Matty Rinaldo, the Republican incumbent was a self-proclaimed Conservative, had a long, ongoing negative reaction to his candidacy from the public. The negative reaction to every Republican was Watergate! Some of you may remember what was going on in the U.S.A. in 1974. Throughout the country Republicans had to deal with the backlash from Richard Nixon's indiscretions.

Then things changed. Richard Nixon resigned as President. The next day, in whatever media outlet you could find there were two smiling faces on the front page: candidate for re-election to Congress Matty Rinaldo and incoming President Gerald Ford.

As soon as I saw that I knew it was over. I was not going to win a seat in the house.

Am I glad that I ran? YES!

All right, now you know a bit of my story. As far as my recent "political action," I was the worldwide president of the Society of American Magicians (S.A.M.), the longest existing magic association in the world. I now serve as Chair of the Freedom From Drugs program of S.A.M. It is such a joy to see kids and adults enjoying magic and learning to communicate with one another, parents and children, on that important topic of drug abuse.

All the best wishes to you.

Sincerely,

Bob Steiner

The Cartel Movie
Education + Politics = \$
<http://thecartelmovie.com>

Recall Your Elected Officials

By Jay Edgar

School budgets are currently being evaluated by the town councils of each individual town where the budget was rejected by the voters. Each town council will either respect the will of the voters and recommend significant cuts to the budget or they will reject the voter's wishes and recommend budgets without any substantial cuts.

When these official's seek reelection we must remember how they acted. Or we can act now. You may consider recalling your elected official. According to NJ 29:27A the procedure to start the process is:

1. Form a committee of at least three registered voters in the town of the official you are trying to recall. Note also that they can not serve on any other recall committee.
2. Prepare a filing that indicates the name of your committee (Committee to Recall John Doe), the name of the official you are recalling, the position you seek to remove him from (i.e. Township Committee), and whether or not you want a special election. You must also include a certification in the filing that each member of the recall committee is a registered voter in the town, they support the recall of the official, and that they accept the responsibilities of serving on the recall committee. Have all committee members sign it. Include their full name and address. Optionally you can include a short statement detailing the reason you are seeking recall.
3. Send this filing via registered mail to the Secretary of State and to the named official. You may also send copies to the press and to the state Division of Elections.

Once the statement is filed, the state has three days to accept or reject your filing. Once it is accepted the state has five days to notify the official and two weeks to publish it in a newspaper.

At this point you can begin to collect signatures on a petition. You must get at least 25% of the registered voters to sign the petition. All petitioners must reside in the town as well. Note that in most cases all signatures must be obtained with 160 days of final approval of the recall process by the state.

If you raise or spend any funds you may also need to report the source of those funds.

Prior to undertaking this, I recommend that you review the actual text of Title 19:27A and contact me for assistance.

Future Meetings & Events

Sunday, June 6 – 1:00 PM State Board Meeting at Tumulty's in New Brunswick.

Saturday, July 17— NJLP annual picnic and business meeting. Location to be announced.

Eight More Towns Repeal Loitering Ordinances

By John Paff

Since our last issue, an additional eight towns have repealed all or parts of their loitering ordinances. As a result of a request from the NJ Libertarian Party's Preempted Ordinance Repeal Project Bogota, Guttenberg, Long Branch, Madison, Maplewood, Oldmans, Westampton, and West New York have all passed resolutions.

The NJLP's Preempted Ordinance Repeal Project seeks to get New Jersey municipalities to repeal loitering ordinances that should have been--but were not--repealed when the New Jersey Code of Criminal Justice was enacted in 1979. The Project has successfully had loitering ordinances repealed in 28 towns so far. See <http://njlp.org/loitering> for more information.

Clifton Official's Adopt Official Emails

By John Paff

As a result of a March 19th request from the New Jersey Libertarian Party's Open Government Advocacy Project (OGAP), the City of Clifton has assigned official "cliftonnj.org" e-mail addresses to Mayor and City Council members. Previously, the Mayor and Council were using their personal e-mail (e.g. Yahoo or Gmail) addresses for City business.

This is a concern because e-mails sent from or received by a personal account might be lost or accidentally (or intentionally) deleted making them unavailable to a citizen who requests them. But, e-mails sent or received by an official "cliftonnj.org" e-mail address are permanently retained and archived on the City's server and will be available to future OPRA requestors even if the author and recipient delete them from their computers.

This issue with Clifton is not fully resolved because the City has not yet established a policy requiring that only the official e-mail address be used for official business. The OGAP wrote to the City Council today requesting that they adopt such a policy. More information on the OGAP can be found at <http://ogtf.lpcnj.org>.

School Board Refuses to Publish Agendas

By John Paff

On April 17, the Express-Times published an article on Warren County school board's refusal to publicize its meeting agendas until ten minutes before the start of the meeting. I am quoted in the article as a representative of the New Jersey Libertarian Party.

This school board's position underscores the need for Senate bill No. 1351, introduced by Sen. Loretta Weinberg (D-37)

and Assembly Bill No. 2322. an identical bill introduced by Assemblyman Gordon M. Johnson (D-37).

S-1351/A-2322 will, among other things, require public bodies to publicize a meeting's agenda at least three business days prior to the meeting and prohibit matters not on the published agenda from being discussed or acted upon unless the prerequisites for holding an emergency meeting have been met.

Please take the time to forward this article to your Senate and General Assembly representative with a request that they cosponsor S-1351/A-2322.

"When you announce your agenda in advance, it gives people an opportunity to research the issues and come to the meeting prepared with cogent comments and questions," said John Paff, who chairs the New Jersey Libertarian Party's Open Government Advocacy Project.

"The way they're doing it ... transforms the citizens from participants to observers," he said.

-- Express Times article

About Our Newsletter Publishing

You may have noticed a decrease in the frequency of our newsletter. Ginny Flynn, the wife of our newsletter editor has taken ill. Len has been busy taking care of her. In the meantime be sure to visit our website, <http://njlp.org> to stay informed of party new.

Get Well Ginny!!!



Jerry Cantrell, President of the NJ Taxpayers Alliance, Discusses the State of NJ Government Financing At Our Annual Convention

Members Write to Newspapers

There is a growing concern in our nation about the state and direction of our government. I've been concerned about the influence of special interests on our government, but when I saw the movie "Food Inc" I was blown away at the extent of the influence.

The movie laid out the fact that food industry giants have systematically manipulated our government, creating laws that protect and expand their profit at the expense of our health. These costs don't show up on their balance sheets, but they do feed the explosion of healthcare costs and serve up healthy profits to the pharmaceutical giants.

Here's an example: billions of our tax dollars subsidize the corn industry, creating a profitable market for high fructose corn syrup. This nasty substance is void of nutritional value and may actually have a negative impact on our health, yet because it is produced below cost it has become a foundational ingredient in most of the processed food we eat. How insane is this! Our taxes subsidize an industry that produces unhealthy products!

It's not just the food industry. Our government is bought and paid for by Wall Street and big corporations. They write the legislation that becomes law and often the speeches that politicians make on Capitol Hill.

Our forefathers founded our republic to prevent corruption from gaining a stranglehold on our government. They were determined to ensure that a tyrannical, corrupt central government like the one we separated from in our revolution would never rise here.

They faced an untenable situation under the Articles of Confederation where states were rising up against each other in chaos. They knew they needed some form of a central government and also knew that they must limit that government to protect individual liberty.

Our founding documents, the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, were designed to ensure that our republic would survive the continual onslaught of those that would attempt to gain an upper hand and corrupt our government for their private interests at the expense of our liberty. They were deliberate in defining limits for the central government, clearly establishing that any powers not granted to the central government were assigned to the people.

The truth is, since our founding, our government has veered far from its constitutional limits. The very protections established by our forefathers have been systematically dismantled. "We the People" have become numb to these realities, distracted by our daily lives fending for our families.

Media giants are subject to the same influences so we are not hearing about this there. The media industry is focused more on driving us into consuming feeding frenzies fueled by credit and a belief that the government will solve all of our problems, creating astronomical debt. Debt is to us as the shackle is to the slave. Debt is a powerful negative controlling lever that pries us from our liberty.

It's not about big government, but that the bigger it gets, the more corruptible it becomes and the more it serves the corrupters at the expense of the people.

So what can be done?

We need to move our government back to within the confines as established in our Constitution. We need to awaken and engage the "We the People" that our forefathers depended on. Without that active voice to insist that government at all levels serve the people and operate within its constitutional limits, the freedoms protected in the Constitution will fast fade away as they are now.

We must heed the directive from our forefathers as written in the Declaration of Independence, calling us to our duty: "Governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed ... whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it ... *It is their duty* to throw off such Government ..."

It's not about political parties, left or right, liberal or conservative — that's a smokescreen to distract us from the real issues we all face; the corrupting interests are not partisan. If you/we don't get active and engaged to ensure that our rights are protected, we have only ourselves to blame for the loss of our liberty.

So, let's get to work! Join us at the first meeting of the Hunterdon County Campaign for Liberty on March 17, 7 to 9 p.m. at the North County Branch Library. Feel free to wear green.

Gerry St. Onge

Councilman, Frenchtown

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