



New Jersey

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2001

Recent Court Ruling Holds Great Potential

By Pat Bontempo, Monmouth County Chair



Macron Determined to seek US Senate Seat

Shortly before press time, Sean Twomey contacted the NJL with the news that Liz Macron, one of the NJLP's most respected members, will run for US Senate in the next election.

Stating that her goal is "to restore and more what was lost", Sean added "personally,

I'm trying to contain my excitement having such hope in my old age". Many thanks, Liz!

New Jersey Libertarians won a significant victory, and our party gained an important organizing tool in September when the Appellate Division of Superior Court ruled we have the right to register as Libertarians. Unfortunately procedures for implementing the ruling have yet to be put in place.

Until now, voters have only been able to register as Democrats, Republicans, Independents or Unaffiliated. This has been a serious handicap for us.

At our peak we have about 80 current, dues-paying members here in Monmouth County. With no little work we've been able to keep track of lapsed members and those contacting us for information, giving us a mailing list of a few hundred.

But this is only the tip of the iceberg. Last year, for example, well over 3,000 Monmouth County voters pulled the LP lever for our Freeholder candidate, Len Flynn. Past returns indicate we have a base of support of at about 1.4% of the county electorate.

Who are these people? We have no idea. We have no way to identify them and contact them to let them know about our candidates in the next election or to invite them to join in the process of building the Libertarian Party here in Monmouth County.

To be sure, many of these are protest votes. And it would be naive at best to think that even most of those voters would ever register as Libertarians. The overwhelming majority of Democrats and Republicans don't even register as such.

But if just 5% did, for example, that would be 150 newly identified Monmouth County libertarians. That's close to double our peak membership. And the county would keep track of them as they moved and we would be able to obtain an up-to-date registration list for organizing purposes.

In September of last year a lower court ruled in favor of granting us the right to so register. It was part of a lawsuit brought by the Coalition of Alternative Political Parties and individual plaintiffs, of which Libertarians were a part. Its significance is demonstrated by the fact that not only did the State of New Jersey appeal that ruling; it was joined by the Republican and Democratic State Committees.

On Sept. 10 the Appellate Division of Superior Court upheld that lower court ruling. A recent check with the Monmouth County Board of Elections, however, revealed that the administrative procedures county boards will have to follow to implement this ruling have not yet been promulgated.

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From The Chair

By NJLP State Chair Emerson Ellett

Why Democrats and Republicans Hope Libertarians Won't Fill County Election Slates



We've won the right to register as Libertarians! The Attorney General declined to appeal the unanimous appellate court decision upholding that right, and on September 10 the ruling became final.

But we can't stop now.

Our next legal battle will be to challenge the Democrat and Republicans' exclusive use of columns 1 and 2 on the ballot. But in order to overturn that particular odious privilege our lawyers need legal standing to challenge the law. A full slate of Libertarian candidates will constitute standing. With a full slate in hand the lawyers representing the Council of Alternative Political Parties, of which the NJLP is a member, can argue that the election law reserving the first two ballot columns to Rs and Ds is clearly discriminatory and therefore unconstitutional. That victory would be a major milestone because the first ballot position is allegedly worth 3% of the votes cast. An additional 3% of the vote would help us toward the 10% rule that will qualify us as a political party as defined by NJ election law. It could even help us to lower or knock down the 10% threshold altogether.

In 2002 a full slate will consist of U.S. Senate and House candidates and all state or county offices up for election in a particular county.

Local candidates do not count toward a full slate for this purpose because they are listed on separate municipal ballots only. That is not to say that we don't value local candidates. We desperately need local candidates too!

Our registration victory was made possible only because we have run county, state and federal candidates over a period of many years. Our lawyers cited that fact in their successful brief that permits voters to register as members of a party other than D or R. We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to the candidates who ran in the past, and to those who ran this year.

So hats off to our 2001 candidates: Tom Abrams, Jay Boucher, Jennifer Carter, Jay Edgar, Mark Edgerton, Diane Hittner, Robert Hull, John Taylor and Chris Toto. They also have helped strengthen our hand in the legal battle for electoral freedom.

The question is: which counties will give us legal standing? Which counties will field a full slate of candidates in 2002? Monmouth County under Chair Pat Bontempo and Election Coordinator Jay Edgar is definitely a contender; they fielded candidates for six of eight offices this year. Ned Kelley has pledged that Hunterdon County will surely try. But what about our other counties? The more full slates we can muster the stronger our case will be. Contact your county chair (see page 18 for listing) and help get the ball rolling today.

If you are interested in getting candidates on the ballot and your county isn't listed, give me a call. Also, contact me at chair@njlp.org or 732 774-3684 with other suggestions about how to advance our cause.



New Jersey Libertarian Party Annual Convention and 30 year Anniversary Celebration 9 March 2002

Location: The National Conference Center at the RAMADA® INN
379 Monmouth Street, East Windsor, New Jersey 08520

Schedule * : Business session; 09:00AM - 12:00 noon, Luncheon; 1:00PM - 4:00PM

Speakers * :

Bob Steiner: NJLP Founder and first Chair. Magician.

Reginald Jones: A radio talk show host.

Clifford Wallace Thorton Jr: President of Efficacy. Efficacy advocates peaceful responses to social problems. Its primary effort is to promote open discussion of alternatives to the "war on drugs."

Allen Good: Fairtax. Fair is a tax reform organization that advocates replacing the income tax with a national sales tax.

Two Candidates for National Chair: Jeff Neil and Eli Israel.

*Speaker list, topics and schedule subject to change

For more information, contact Robert Jacobs at roberlj@yahoo.com or 908-303-3052.

RESERVATION FORM

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Contact phone number: (_____) _____ ☐ number of members

☐ number of non-members

☐ number for luncheon and all speakers @ \$50.00 each. ☐ number for speakers only, no luncheon @ \$20.00 each.

☐ number for luncheon and speakers STUDENT RATE, @ \$25.00 each. (valid student ID required at registration).

* All above reservations are additional \$10.00 at the door, (luncheon choice not guaranteed without reservation by 22 Feb 2002)

☐ number for business meeting ONLY, no luncheon, no speakers, no cost

Luncheon choice: ☐ BEEF ☐ CHICKEN ☐ VEGETARIAN

☐ Dietary restrictions, (religious, health, etc.) we will try to accommodate, but can not guarantee: _____

Please return with payment by 22 February 2002 to:
NJLP Convention, PO Box 56, Tennent, New Jersey, 07763

Citizens must comply with police instructions

By John Paff

TRENTON - On September 28, 2001, the Appellate Division held that a citizen attending a public meeting must leave that meeting when so instructed by police, even if he has good reason to believe that the police officer's instructions are based on incorrect information or are otherwise unreasonable.

While addressing the Teaneck Town Council last year, William Brennan got into a heated exchange with the mayor and members of the council. The mayor ordered Brennan to sit down because his allotted three minutes had expired. Brennan, claiming that council members interrupting him had used much of his three minutes up, refused to sit down until he was finished speaking. Heated exchanges continued. Finally, Brennan sat down. The meeting went into recess.

The mayor pushed a silent alarm button under his desk and the police arrived. One of the officers testified that the mayor told him that "Mr. Brennan was acting irrational and that they had to stop the Council meeting and that they wanted -- they wanted him to be removed from the meeting. . . [and that]. . . Mr. Brennan had gone beyond his allotted time, was using obscenities and using an alarming conduct of voice towards the Council members, and that he was interfering with the meeting and that, you know, they would like him to leave the meeting." The police admitted that they did no further investigation and accepted as true what mayor had told them.

Several times, the officers asked Mr. Brennan to leave the meeting and told him that he would be arrested if he didn't obey. Brennan was defiant, stating that he "had a right to be there" and that the police would "have to drag [him] out." Brennan was arrested, handcuffed and removed from the meeting. He was charged with Defiant Trespass and Disrupting a Meeting. He was later acquitted of the Disrupting Charge and convicted for Defiant Trespass, which conviction was appealed.

Brennan's main issue on appeal was whether he had actually been disruptive and whether the mayor and council acted unreasonably or maliciously by asking police to remove him from the meeting. The Appellate Division ruled that unless the police used excessive force, Brennan was obliged to follow police instructions, even if they were based upon faulty information or the mayor's impure motives. The court summed it up as follows: "A private citizen may not resist an announced arrest by one he knows to be an authorized police officer, even if the arrest is illegal under the particular circumstances."

According to the Court, even if the "mayor's scenario [as he explained it to the police] was inaccurate or ill-motivated, defendant had remedies available to him through appropriate legal channels. Similarly, if defendant's First Amendment rights were impinged by his removal from the meeting, that deprivation could be addressed at a later time. The remedy that was not available to defendant was the defiance of a police officer's direction given in the lawful course of the officer's employment."

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Best of Both Worlds

Many of you have noticed that, by the time you get your hard copy NJL each month, some of the events mentioned have passed.

Unfortunately, the downside to our cost-cutting switch from First Class mail means that local post offices can pretty much deliver your NJL when they feel like it.

We've moved our deadline up 10 days (from the 20th to the 10th of every month) in an effort to solve the problem, but you also have another way to get your NJL.

If you have Internet access, check out the NJL each month on our state web site, www.njlp.org. Even if you choose to keep receiving the hard copy version, the ezine becomes available nearly three weeks before the paper NJL is delivered.

So why not enjoy the best of both worlds? Get your snazzy, full color NJL in a timely manner, simply by going to the web site, and still get your hard copy, which many members like to pass along or simply archive for themselves.

Learning from the Edgerton Campaign

Former Campaign Manager Takes a Hard Look

By Bob Heitner

There were a number of mistakes made during Mark Edgerton's gubernatorial campaign. This summary should help to keep libertarians from repeating these mistakes in the future. Appropriately, there are 13 major categories of blunders.

1. **Fundraising**
2. **Knowing Your Opponents**
3. **Treatment of Volunteers**
4. **Doing Dirty and Grunt Work**
5. **Letting members know what is going on**
6. **Reality versus Delusion & Arrogance**
7. **There are no magic bullets**
8. **Knowing what you do not know**
9. **Campaign Organization & Planning**
10. **Campaign Colors**
11. **Campaign Websites & Obscure Political Internet Sites**
12. **Positions on Issues**
13. **Practicing how you sound to the media & public**

1. Fundraising

Mark thought fundraising was beneath him. The candidate must be the main fundraiser. The candidate must work hard at fundraising. This is probably the most unpleasant aspect of campaigning, but if a candidate is not willing to put lots of time and effort into fundraising, the chances of success decline dramatically.

Fundraising must start as soon as the campaign starts. Edgerton's campaign went on for four years, and he did ask for small contributions early on, which was very good, but there was no follow up. Several of us got together on March 6th, 2000 at Ed Weissmann's (the party chair at that time) behest to write a fundraiser for Mark. We wrote one, but Mark for various reasons, none of them valid, decided against sending out the fundraiser.

Fundraising has to begin at the beginning of the campaign and continue throughout the campaign. Also, the campaign *must* send thank you notes to all contributors. I asked Mark if he had done that, and he said no and that he was not interested in doing it.

2. Knowing your opponents

You must know who your opponents are and where they stand on the issues. When I asked Mark what he would do if Schundler won the primary, he stated that Schundler did not have a chance in the world and that it would not change his campaign anyway. As a third party candidate, you win votes and influence people by where you stand on the issues and how different your positions are from the other candidates. Of course, not knowing where your opposition stands on the issues basically sabotages your own campaign.

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Learning from the Edgerton Campaign

Continued from Page 5

Look at McGreevy. After Schundler won the primary, he had to completely change his campaign to fit Schundler, rather than Franks. To do otherwise would have been suicidal. He came up with a plan to portray Bret as an extremist and excuted the plan very well. Schundler, although vastly outspent and sabotaged by DiFrancesco, blundered in his plan by backing down and saying, 'please, I am not that extreme.' He should have stated that if choosing a school is extremist, if letting people keep more of their own money is extremist, if letting law abiding citizens defend themselves is extremist, then I am proud to be an extremist.

Campaigns do not take place in a vacuum. It is critically important to respond to your opponents attacks and positions.

3. Treatment of Volunteers

This was one of Mark's biggest failures. One statement he made to me said it all. I said, "Mark, not all volunteers will have the same level of enthusiasm as you do about your campaign." Mark replied, "Well, I do not want those people working on my campaign then." He got his wish! Mark was rude, arrogant and demanding of unpaid volunteers. He would often lose his temper and yell and scream at them. He expected them to do all the dirty work while he went and made speeches in front of important people and large groups. As I stated before, the crewman on the H.M.S. Bounty were treated as well by Captain Bligh as Mark treated his campaign workers.

This is a recipe for disaster. Like Captain Bligh, Mark ended up in a tiny boat with few supporters in a huge political ocean, where he garnered just .22% of the vote.

Volunteers are a campaign's most important asset. They are very easy to lose and alienate and very hard to find and motivate. They must be treated as customers, because that is what they are. They are the most important customers, along with contributors, that are buying into the candidate's campaign. If a business treated its customers the way Mark treated his 'customers' it would be out of business in no time, as was his campaign.

4. Doing Dirty & Grunt Work

Mark thought that all dirty and grunt work was beneath him. He adamantly stated that his only duty was to put his face in front of people, and that others had to do all the dirty and grunt work. This arrogant and elitist attitude, treating volunteers as peons to serve the candidate wouldn't fly in the major parties, never mind in a group of individualistic libertarians.

In order to successfully launch a campaign, the candidate and his immediate staff must do almost all the necessary dirty and grunt work to get the campaign off the ground. Mark was too busy to even help to stuff envelopes for his fundraiser. Needless to say, with Mark's attitude, much of the essential dirty and grunt work never did get done and Mark's campaign never did get off the ground, never mind soaring into the atmosphere.

5. Letting members know what is going on

While Mark's campaign manager, I stated it was very important to let members know what was going on, what our campaign plans and strategies were. This is of course necessary to get contributions and volunteers and to motivate the volunteers. Mark absolutely and adamantly refused. He stated that the Republicans and Democrats would use this information to sabotage his campaign. Besides being delusional and arrogant, it is dead wrong.

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Citizens must comply with Police instructions

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The lesson learned here (I learned it five years ago in East Brunswick!) is that you must follow a police officer's "reasonable" order even if you're sure that you have a legal right to do what you're doing. You must obey, and then sue in civil court for the deprivation of your rights.

One small problem arises. The officer may later claim that his or her spoken words were not really an "order" but rather a "request" that you could have complied with or ignored at your option. If the court believes the officer, it may dismiss your suit for "lack of standing" even if your facts are otherwise correct.

I suppose then, that before obeying or defying a police instruction, one should ask the officer, in front of witnesses, to clarify whether his or her spoken words are in the nature of a "request" or an "order." Beware, however, that that question, in itself, may be considered "defiance" justifying arrest.

The entire opinion may be viewed at <http://www.judiciary.state.nj.us/opinions/A1912-00.htm>

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has!"

Margaret Meade

Are you Online But Out of the Loop?

Why do we need your email address? Money! We can save money on renewal notices and other communications that, until now, we had to mail through the USPS. Please send your email address to Membership Coordinator Jack Toussaint at JTOUSSAINT@aol.com

Why sign up for the announce email list? Because it's a special list The New Jersey Libertarian Party has which allows subscribers to receive timely announcements of upcoming events as well as information about new developments - and even the monthly notification that the newsletter is available online. It's free and available to both members and non-members. To subscribe visit www.njlp.org and click on Party Information on the menu bar on the Home Page.

Resources for Activists and Candidates

PACs:

California Liberty PAC

Contact: Gail Lightfoot
<http://califlibpac.tripod.com/>

Libertarian Activist PAC

Contact: Mark Murphy
<http://www.libertarianactivist.com>

Liberty Slate Committee

Contact: J.R. Graham
<http://www.opine.org/slate.html>

Libertarian Victory Fund

Contact: Chris Azzaro
<http://www.libertarianvictoryfund.com/>

Washington Liberty Project

Contact: Mike Hihn
<http://www.waliberty.org>

Books:

"Winning Political Campaigns"

by: William S. Bike

"How to Win a Local Campaign"

by Lawrence Grey

"The Campaign Manager"

by Catherine M. Shaw & Michael E. Holstein

"The Art of Political War"

by David Horowitz

"Rules for Radicals"

by Saul Alinsky

Magazines:

Campaigns and Elections

***Highly recommended!
<http://www.campaignline.com>

Audio & Visual Production:

Third Wheel Group

<http://www.thirdwheelgroup.com>

Printing & Layout:

Gold Standard Press

Contact: Chuck Geshliger
Location: Pahrump, Nevada
gspchuck@pahrump.net

Web sites of interest:

Grow the LP

<http://growthelp.org>

Leadership Institute

<http://www.leadershipinstitute.org/home.htm>

The LI welcomes Libertarians to take their courses

Libertarian Strategy Caucus

<http://www.lp2000.com>

Private Solutions

<http://www.angelfire.com/pa/private/solutions/>

- *From the Libertarian Mainstream
Caucus, <http://users.ez2.net/lmc/>*



Thanks!

**Jay Boucher ran for
Monmouth County Sheriff.**

Thanks, Jay!

**Support the NJLP and
receive a Premium
Thank You gift!
Merchandise Now
Available to Donors!**

**The NJLP now has
premium merchandise
available as thank you
gifts for
contributors to our
campaign funds. T-Shirts,
coffee mugs, steins,
sweatshirts and other
items are available from
the "Contribute" page on**

our web site. Just click on

Announcements

NJLP 2001 Christmas Party!

Date: Sunday, December 16, 2001

**Time: 5 pm to 8 pm (right after
the Steering Committee meeting)**

**Place: Stefanelli residence, 846
Sycamore Ave, Tinton Falls, NJ**

07724

(732) 450-0270

**Donation: \$45 per person, with
100% of proceeds going to the
NJLP.**

**Make checks payable to "NJLP"
and send to Lou Stefanelli at the
address above.**

Want to get involved?

*The NJLP has volunteer
committees addressing
fundraising, recruitment and
membership, public relations,
candidate recruitment and support
and electronic access. Please
contact State Chair Emerson Ellett
if you'd like to serve on one or
more.*

**"Society in every state is a blessing, but government, even in
its best state is but a necessary evil; in its worst state an
intolerable one".**

Thomas Paine

John Paff quoted in Sunday edition of Star-Ledger

A favorite NJLP "nudge", John Paff's name jumped out of the story appearing in the Sunday, October 21st edition of the Star-Ledger. Keep on stirring the pot, John!

As sheriff, they will answer the public

Somerset hopefuls agree to field questions

By Joe Tyrrell, Star-Ledger Staff

With a little nudging from a legal watchdog, both candidates for Somerset County sheriff have agreed to unprecedented public accountability, although with different limitations.

When Republican Frank Provenzano and Democrat Richard Z. Voorhees visited the Somerset County 4-H fair in August, John Paff of Franklin Township buttonholed them about his idea.

Paff suggested the sheriff appear regularly at freeholder meetings to answer questions. Over the years, sheriffs have occasionally appeared at the meetings but usually at budget time for brief discussions on spending.

"While this might not seem such a big deal at first blush, I don't ever recall having the opportunity to pigeonhole the sheriff with a hot question at any public event with media in attendance," Paff said.

Over the years, Paff has raised plenty of questions in public. He sparred for years with county and state officials over the forfeiture policies of former Somerset Prosecutor Nicholas Bissell, who eventually was convicted on federal corruption charges and killed himself.

As an elected official, the sheriff also should appear regularly at public meetings to field questions on whatever comes up, Paff said. "People are already at the freeholder meetings," making that the logical forum, he said.

Voorhees, a former Bridgewater police chief currently serving as undersheriff, called a public question-and-answer session "a great idea".

"It's important that we have communication between the public and the sheriff's department, and the freeholders too," Voorhees said.

Provenzano, a retired Bridgewater police captain, said the sheriff does not necessarily need to attend freeholder meetings but should use other means to reach the public.

"From time to time when things are occurring in the sheriff's department, we will hold press conferences," Provenzano said.

To improve morale, the sheriff should highlight promotions and also outline new programs, such as his proposal to assign officers to a county fugitive task force, he said.

But Paff said that's only a start. In a September 24th letter, Provenzano wrote, "I am committed to holding open town hall style meetings," and Paff said that is what he expects.

Voorhees has proposed increased security measures at county facilities, and said he would limit the information given out about them. But other program or personnel changes are fair game, and residents should be able to put questions directly to the sheriff like they do to the freeholders, he said.

Learning from the Edgerton Campaign

Continued from Page 6

First, the Republicans and Democrats are arrogant and would probably totally ignore Mark if he ran a real campaign with real money. They are concerned with each other, not a Libertarian.

Second, even if the Republicans or Democrats tried to sabotage Mark's campaign, he is assuming that they would do something intelligent that might actually hurt that campaign. Odds are that anything they did would give Mark more publicity and help his campaign by making any voters paying attention angry. So Mark's adamant stand on this issue was dead wrong in multiple ways.

6. *Reality versus Delusion & Arrogance*

There is a big difference between a positive attitude and delusional arrogance. Mark thought that once he had been anointed as our gubernatorial candidate, the libertarian masses would swarm around him like obedient worker bees and exhaust themselves to get him elected. He never realized that he had to do anything like motivate them and treat them well and give them something to work for. I have more respect for Murray Sabrin four years ago. He worked extremely hard in a short period of time to raise a lot of money and get a campaign off the ground. Most of us did not realize the time and effort that required. Mark thought that since he had 4 years and Murray only had 6 months, that it would be a cakewalk, and that all he had to do was fun things like show his face and make speeches. And of course asking for money was beneath such an exalted candidate as Mark.

7. *There are no magic bullets*

Mark had the idea that if he hired Doug Freidline, Doug would make Mark the Governor. It takes a lot more than a good campaign manager to make a good campaign. Mark thought that any campaign planning he did before Doug came on board was wasted effort, since Doug would know best. Mark also stated that he would do whatever Doug told him to do. Mark stated that if Doug told him to jump off a bridge, he would ask Doug if he should jump head first or feet first. This was not the case at all. Mark still mostly did what he thought was best anyway, listening to Doug only slightly more than he listened to me.

8. *Knowing what you do not know*

Let me be blunt. Mark knew next to nothing about running a campaign. Most of what he thought he did know was wrong. The few times I talked with Doug Freidline, we were mostly in agreement on what should be done, but on this issue we were in total agreement. The following is just a partial list of what Mark thought was necessary. Next to each of Mark's convictions is the reason that he was dead wrong. Doug told Mark about many of these things, but Mark would not change.

- A. Always appear in a suit.** This makes you appear elitist
- B. Never eat or drink in public.** This makes you appear elitist & aloof
- C. Don't let members know what is going on** - Makes it very difficult to get contributions and volunteers if there is no information to motivate the contributors or volunteers.
- D. Be vague on issues** - This may work for a Democrat with no Republican opposition or vice-versa, but for a third party candidate trying to change voters' minds, it is suicidal and moronic. If we are the party of ideas and principals and you do not enunciate any ideas or principals, how are you going to influence anyone to vote for us?

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Learning from the Edgerton Campaign

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9. Campaign Organization & Planning

Campaign organizing and planning is not rocket science. For real political campaigns, there are a number of tasks that should always be done. Mark thought that no one in the Libertarian Party was capable of running his campaign, since no one in our party had won a race. He thought that hiring Doug Freidline would instantly solve all these problems. What he did not realize was that even an excellent campaign manager needs an organization and a basic plan, especially if the manager is out of state. After three years of campaigning, when Mark had no money, no organization, no plan and few volunteers, it became obvious to many people that Mark's campaign was floundering badly. At this point, with many potential supporters and volunteers already insulted, turned off or skeptical, even a Doug Freidline could not save it.

There are a number of basic laws in campaigning that never change. Things that involve organization, volunteers and fundraising are often constant between any real campaigns for any parties. What differs is the message and how that message is delivered.

When you start a campaign, the first thing you do is have a campaign plan. Then you start fundraising to implement that plan. Then you get an organization to implement your plan. Last year at this time, after three years of campaigning, Mark had no plan, no organization and no fundraising. Even though I told him that this should have been done long ago, he would not do it. He was waiting for Doug Freidline to save the day. Unfortunately, Doug was only human and was unable to jump start a campaign from scratch, especially a campaign that was already more than three years old.

10. Campaign Colors

I had told Mark that he needed 'different' colors for his signs and other campaign literature. He refused, stating that he was going with Red; White and Blue like the Republicans and Democrats. Only when Doug Freidline agreed with me, did Mark consider changing his colors. As a tiny third party, your campaign needs to be different to get noticed.

11. Campaign Websites and obscure political Internet sites

When I was briefly Mark's campaign manager, he was constantly asked me to log onto obscure political websites and write messages about how wonderful Mark was, messages that no one but a few wienies would ever read. He wanted a county coordinator for each county of some obscure web site. At that time, Mark's own website was a mess as far as content was concerned. Mark or someone like me had to enter interesting and pertinent content, but Mark was totally uninterested in his own website, but fanatical about writing messages that no one would ever read on obscurepolitics.com.

Today, your website is one of your most important advertisements. It is critical to have a professional website with content that will make voters take notice of libertarian ideas and principles. In the end, Mark had a professional website, but its content was bland and designed so that no one, even a dedicated totalitarian socialist, would be offended. I am sure that Mark's website did not offend anyone, but it inspired no one, and it certainly did not motivate any libertarians either.

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Calendar

*Sunday December 16,
Steering Committee at Lou
Stefanelli's home in Tinton
Falls*

NJLP 2001 Christmas Party!

*Date: Sunday, December
16, 2001*

*Time: 5 pm to 8 pm (right
after the Steering
Committee meeting)*

*Place: Stefanelli residence,
846 Sycamore Ave, Tinton
Falls, NJ 07724
(732) 450-0270*

*Donation: \$45 per person,
with 100% of proceeds
going to the NJLP.*

*Make checks payable to
"NJLP" and send to Lou
Stefanelli at the address
above.*

New Jersey Libertarian Party

*Annual Convention and
30 year anniversary
celebration.*

9 March 2002

*The National Conference
Center*

*at the RAMADA® INN
379 Monmouth Street, East
Windsor, New Jersey
08520*

**See Ad and Registration
Form on
Page 3**

New Jersey Libertarian Party

P.O. Box 56

Tennent, NJ 07763

1-800-201-NJLP

Steering Committee

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Commentary and advertising may be submitted to the editor by the 10th of every month. Contact us at:

**New Jersey Libertarian
c/o Deb Sackett, Editor
69 Malaga Lake Boulevard**

Recent Court Ruling Holds Great Potential

Continued from Page 1

It appears the best the county board can do is provide anyone who asks with a postcard-size form in which you indicate you want to switch registration and how. Its wording seems inappropriate for our purposes, since it refers to primary elections, but that is what you get. When you hand it in your change of registration is held pending future directions from above.

Presently about four Monmouth County voters have indicated a desire to be registered as Libertarians, presumably all party members. Anyone who wants one of these forms can contact Pat Bontempo (775-7263; PDB10752@aol.com; 315 8th Ave., No. 208, Asbury Park NJ 07712).

Having members register is of limited benefit. True, it will help us keep track of them as they move or as their memberships lapse. But what we really need is to be able to get as many as possible of that larger group of Libertarian voters to register.

That will have to wait until final registration procedures are put in place. Once that is done we can start letting the general public know, and clearly they will not find out unless we tell them.

Nonetheless members are encouraged to request a change in their voter registration. If less than a handful does so it could appear that the arguments made in the lawsuit were hollow. If many do so it could constitute pressure on the State Division of Elections to put appropriate procedures in place quickly.

This victory in court will not automatically translate into a victory at the polls. But it is a building block in the process of constructing a viable Libertarian Party here in Monmouth County and throughout New Jersey.

Thanks!



Robert Hull (top) and John Taylor (bottom), Candidates for 11th District Assembly

2001 NJ Gubernatorial Election Results

Compiled by Don Imbriale

James E. McGreevey	Democrat	1094603	56.37%
Bret Schundler	Republican	808486	41.63%
Bill Schluter	Independent	22069	1.14%
Jerry L. Coleman	Green	5474	0.28%
Mark Edgerton	Libertarian	4294	0.22%
George Watson Jr.	Free New Jersey	2490	0.13%
Michael W. Koontz	Conservative	1888	0.10%
Costantino Rozzo	Socialist	1615	0.08%
Kari Sachs	Socialist Workers	968	0.05%
Total		1941887	

State Legislature Election Results

Compiled by Don Imbriale

2001 NJ State Senate District 15

Shirley K. Turner	Democrat	31077	69.13%
Norbert E. Donelly	Republican	13336	29.67%
Thomas D. Abrams	Libertarian	539	1.20%
Total		44952	

2001 NJ State Assembly District 11

Steven J. Corodemus	Republican	33913	28.97%
Tom Smith	Republican	30975	26.46%
Jim Reilly	Democrat	26094	22.29%
Warren Goode	Democrat	24184	20.66%
Robert Hull	Libertarian	673	0.57%
John M. Taylor	Libertarian	657	0.56%
Karen Zaletel	Lower Taxes Now	578	0.49%
Total		117074	

2001 NJ State Assembly District 13

Joe Azzolina	Republican	33775	28.87%
Samuel D. Thompson	Republican	32352	27.65%
Kevin Graham	Democrat	25809	22.06%
Steven T. Piech	Democrat	23783	20.33%
Diane Hittner	Libertarian	867	0.74%
Mac Dara F. X. Lyden	We The People	419	0.36%
Total		117005	

2001 NJ State Assembly District 15

Bonnie Watson Coleman	Democrat	29651	33.99%
Reed Gusciora	Democrat	29355	33.65%
Thomas Dallessio	Republican	14090	16.15%
Rosanna Dovgala	Republican	13546	15.53%
Christopher C. Toto	Libertarian	586	0.67%
Total		87228	

Thanks!



Diane Hittner, 13th District State Assembly candidate

LPSMC Hosts OPH, Follows up with Press Release

METUCHEN FAIRGOERS: LIBERTARIANS GAINING ON LIBERALS

News Release-October 13, 2001

From: Libertarian Party of Somerset and Middlesex Counties

On Saturday, October 13th, members of the Libertarian Party of Somerset and Middlesex Counties (LPSMC) set up an "Operation Politically Homeless" (OPH) booth at the Metuchen Country Fair.

The party asked fair participants to complete a survey called an "OPH Quiz" and posted the results on a large, diamond-shaped display called the "Self-Government Chart." A total of 32 fairgoers took the Quiz. The results were:

Liberal 13
Libertarian 11
Centrist 5
Conservative 2
Authoritarian 1

Party member John Paff, who supervised the event, acknowledged that "the Quiz isn't intended to be statistically representative of Metuchen's population." But he said that, "It's good to see the Libertarian goals of limited government, personal responsibility and tolerance are back in the mainstream. I guess people are finally getting wise to the bigger-government-is-better claptrap peddled by the liberals, conservatives and authoritarians running the two established parties."

The OPH concept is advanced by the Advocates for Self Government (www.self-gov.org). More information on the Libertarian Party can be found at www.lp.org

Photos are available. For more information, please contact:

*John Paff
Phone: 732/873-1251
Email: paff@pobox.com*

Photos and captions, courtesy of Ray Babecki,
appear on Pages 17 and 19



LPSMC's booth. Pictured (in shade, left) are Brenda Bell and Frank Warren. At right is Howard Schoen)



Howard Schoen giving quiz to a young man.

County Organizations

The NJLP has affiliated county organizations for advocacy, activism and discussion at the county level. Feel free to contact these organizations through any of the individuals listed. If you do not see your county listed, please contact Chair Emerson Ellett for information on activism in your area.

Bergen	Dan Karlan, Chair and Rep DanKarlan@compuserve.com 201 444 2846
Hudson	Contact Erik Purasson 201 434 7938 epurasson@hotmail.com
Hunterdon	Chair Hal Shute 609 397-5913 shute@blast.net Rep Robert Jacobs 908 534-6764 robertlj@yahoo.com
Mercer	Chair Chris Toto, 609 883 0697 ChrisToto@aol.com Rep Ray Cragle 609 799-1173
Middlesex	Rep Barry Allen, 732 463 5405
Monmouth	Chair Pat Bontempo, 732 775 7263 PDB10752@aol.com Rep Mike Panella, 732 442 8711 102531.3477@compuserve.com
Morris	Chair, Donna Morelli ddonnajmorelli@cs.com
Ocean	Rep Chris Weimann, 732 240 6132 cweimann@wallnet.com
Passaic	Contact Tom Wright, 201 651 0436 timetrial@worldnet.att.net
Somerset	Chair Howard Schoen hschoen@superlink.com Rep Frank Warren Kb4cyc@webwarren.com South Jersey Libertarian Party Chair Steve Lang 856 678-7758
Sussex	Chair Tony Federici, 973 764 7289

Calendar of County Meetings

The public is invited and guests are very welcome.

Hunterdon County generally on the first or second Monday of each month. The agenda is split between business and social activities. Contact Hal Shute at 609-397-5913 for information or shute@blast.net to be added to announce list.

Mercer County: Call David Trend at 609 466 2469

Middlesex/Somerset Counties: For information, join the LPSMC announce list (LPSMC-Announce-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) or contact Howard Schoen at 732-572-0207..

Monmouth County, Regular county meetings are held the second Sunday of every month at the New School, 301 Middle Rd, Holmdel at noon. For information call (732) 775-7263 or check the website for changes, www.MonmouthLP.org.

South Jersey Libertarian Party monthly meetings on rotating Saturdays and Sundays. Contact Deb Sackett at 856 694 3419 for info.



John Paff giving quiz to 2 young ladies.



John Paff giving quiz to young man.

Learning from the Edgerton Campaign

Continued from Page 12

12. *Positions on issues*

Mark had no positions on any issues except the Drug War. Doug Freidline and I agreed that it was of critical importance to have a specific education plan. Mark had no specifics on any issues. I do not know why he thought he could change peoples' minds when he did not offer anything different from a typical sleazy and vague major party politician.

13. *Practicing how you sound to the media & the public*

If you are running a real campaign, you must practice how you will sound in the public and with the media. About June, Mark called me up and asked me to listen to an interview he did. Bret Schundler did a similar interview. Mark stated he did much better than Bret. Another Libertarian called me and stated that Mark sounded awful. He was vague and evasive and was someone he would never vote for, if this were his first introduction to the candidate. He thought Bret did a much better job. I listened and agreed. Mark was the type of weasly, vague politician that I cannot stand. Mark evaded answering the questions, no matter how many times the interviewer asked them. I asked another Libertarian to listen to the interview. He got so disgusted with Mark and thought Mark was so awful that he could only listen to 1/3 of the interview before he turned it off.

Anyone can have delusions about what sounds good. That is why it is critical to review and practice your speeches and interviews with others, including non-libertarians.

NJL Advertising Rates

Full Page - \$60

Half Page - \$30

Quarter Page - \$20

Eighth Page - \$10

Alert! NJL Deadline Change!

The deadline for the NJL has been changed to the 10th of every month.

Monmouth County Results Show A Small Improvement

By Pat Bontempo, Monmouth County Chair

Vote totals for the Libertarian Party candidates for Monmouth County Freeholder and Sheriff in the November 6th General Election showed a small improvement as the party fielded a particularly strong local ticket.

In the past few races the LP countywide candidates have received about 1.4% of the vote. This time Freeholder candidates Jennifer Carter and Jay Edgar won 1.73% of the vote polling 3,352 and 2,504 votes respectively. Sheriff candidate Jay Boucher received 1.64% of the total or 2,839 votes.

Once again Upper Freehold Township gave us strong support. Carter and Edgar, who are from the Cream Ridge section, won 4.7% while Boucher polled 4.5%. Our countywide candidates, in fact, fared best in the 30th District, which includes Upper Freehold, which gave us 3.12% of the Freeholder vote and 3.15% of the Sheriff vote. Results from all five Monmouth municipalities in the district were well above average.

Other good showings in the Freeholder race included Farmingdale, 3.8%; Shrewsbury Twp., 3.4%; Howell, 3.1% and Millstone, 3.1%. In the Sheriff's race the other top towns were Long Branch, 5.1%; Englishtown, 4.9%; Farmingdale, 3.8% and Shrewsbury Twp., 3.7%.

In Tinton Falls Boucher's 90 votes were greater than the margin of difference between the locally victorious Democrat (2,144) and the Republican (2,129). Countywide Republican Joe Oxley won the race.

In the 11th District Assembly race Robert Hull received 673 votes and John M. Taylor 657 for 1.14% of the total. The Republicans won with 55.42% followed by the Democrats at 42.95%. An Independent received .49%. In the 13th District Diane Hittner, who ran without a running mate, won 867 votes or .74%.

While not fielding a full slate, the ticket was strong enough to win us Column Three on the ballot. That plus the lack of third-party opposition in the countywide races helped boost the final numbers. It also gained us a dramatic increase in press attention this year.

In the balloting for Governor, Mark Edgerton received 694 votes in Monmouth County, the most raw numbers of any New Jersey county, or .4% of the vote. According to figures available at this writing Edgerton received 4,613 votes statewide or .2%.

It appears the fuller ticket we had in some legislative districts did not significantly help vote totals for our Freeholder and Sheriff candidates who were on the ballot in every municipality in the county. For example the five towns in the 30th District (Allentown, Farmingdale, Howell, Roosevelt and Upper Freehold) produced returns well above the countywide average in both races despite the lack of Assembly candidates: 3.15% versus 1.64% for Sheriff and 3.12% versus 1.73% for Freeholder.

Similarly the 12th District municipalities (again, no Assembly candidates) gave our Freeholder candidates 1.95%. It appears other factors were far more important. For example that our Freeholder candidates came from Cream Ridge and received good press coverage throughout the district helped. And no doubt having the third column boosted vote totals across the board. It should be noted, however, that having the fuller ticket is what gained us that third column.

Thanks!



Richard "Jay" Edgar and Jennifer
Carter, Monmouth County Freeholder
Candidates

***"We, the people,
are the rightful
masters of both
congress and the
courts - not to
overthrow the
constitution, but
to overthrow men
who pervert the
constitution".***

Abraham Lincoln

NJLP Members In Public Office

Elected Officials:

John Aglialoro, Commissioner of Tavistock
(Camden County)

William Krouse, Franklin Township (Warren
County) Board of Education

Christian Joest, Blairstown Township (Warren
County) Board of Education

Appointed Officials:

Paul Anderson, Vice Chairman, Chester Borough
Zoning Board of Adjustment, Chester Borough
Planning Board, and Historic Preservation
Committee

Tony Federici, Community Dispute Resolution
Committee, Vernon Township

Ken Hetrick, Administrator, Chatham Township;
Acting Town Manager, West Milford Township

Joseph Higgins, Woodcliff Lake Borough
Emergency Management Coordinator

Paul Horuzy, Commissioner, Sussex County
Municipal Utilities Authority

Ned Kelley, Hunterdon County Local Advisory
Committee on Alcoholism and
Drug Abuse

John Paff, Member, Franklin Township (Somerset
County) Attorney Ethics Committee

Hal Shute, West Amwell Township Open Space
Committee and West Amwell Zoning Board of
Adjustment

Bill Thawley, Cape May Mayor's Advisory
Council and Transportation Committee

Ed Wiessmann, Chairman, Sparta Township
Community Dispute Resolution Committee;
Member, Vernon Township Community Dispute
Resolution Committee

Ronald Wishart, Member, Manalapan Township

Thanks!

**Tom Abrams ran for Senate.
Thanks, Tom!**

Lessons We Are Learning: Organize!

by Chris Toto, Mercer County Chairman

Dear Mercer Libertarians and Friends,

Tom Abrams and I thank you for your votes. While we didn't get huge vote totals this time out, we did achieve some notable "new positives" that have not happened in Mercer before. My web site for local issues platform and policy commentary is <<http://members.aol.com/votetoto/index.htm>>.

Tom and I ran in the 15th district. No one volunteered for the 14th district except Ray Cragle but we didn't get word about Windsor getting switched to the 14th district until Ray had collected all his petitions signatures for the 15th district. Ray started out with the idea that his residence in West Windsor meant he lived in and could run in the 15th. Despite several calls to the NJELEC and the County, we got no word till the last minute. Just another fringe benefit of our modern official "bureau-geoisie" class, one more official screwing to rob us of electoral opportunity. The Fifteenth District includes all of Mercer, even Schluter's hometown in Hopewell Twp, which used to be part of the old 23rd district that ran up into Hunterdon County. The 14th district is now mostly Hamilton Twp, Hightstown and the Windsors.

No Libertarian candidates have run simultaneously in Mercer for Governor, Senator and Assemblyman within memory, if ever. This year was a first. No LP candidate in Mercer ever had a web site before, never had a platform based on local NJ issues, never had a flyer based on such issues. We basically never had any specific publicly posted policy answers to local/state problems before. More new "firsts."

The ballot arrangement for our area was good, as it placed Tom Abrams for Senate directly above my own name for Assembly. If there is a next time for a gubernatorial candidate, we will ask the County clerk to either group all Libertarians next to each other, or will ask for a separate column.

Tom got 539 votes and I got 586. There are only about 120 dues paying NJLP members in Mercer, as far as I know. Tom and I spent barely any money, and we went only to a few community groups meetings, were thrown out of one, the Iles forum held on public property, at the Mercer Community College. We actually were almost *pestered* by some newspapers to contribute information to get essentially free publicity.

I think we should learn a few *positive* things for next time.

I think it might be better to run one Assembly candidate instead of two per district. Running two dilutes the percentage for Libertarians of the total at-large vote count. As future vote totals for libertarians grow it would be better for us for Assembly candidates to wage a five way contest instead of six. I think it's a bit better to run one Senator candidate and one Assembly candidate instead of two Assembly candidates. Better to ask libertarian-ish voters to vote only once for the LP Assembly candidate. Focus on getting one Assembly LP person elected per district. All we need is one or two LP Assembly persons to break through the "wall of silence" in media on policy issues.

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Lessons We Are Learning: Organize!

Continued from Page 23

Get your "local NJ issues" platform in order far ahead of running a campaign. These issues won't change much from election to election because the Incumbent boobs won't be solving anything. Once you've got a platform set this year, you're ready for next election. Don't stop running for election; keep running for 2003 or whatever.

Don't throw out the solicitations from all those community groups that wanted to poll your positions or wanted you to participate in their forums this past election. Keep them as the basis of your local "press kit" to send chronic updates of your positions on current issues, events, topics. Use this list as the beginning of your press list; add new community groups as you go along.

Use your newly existing platform and flyers to "sell" your "Dutch Uncles" on donating some serious dollars to your campaign for next election. Ask them in person, up front, in private discreet meetings. Get the money early so you can "leverage" the money with the most time to use it.

Scan the current events and issues NOW for your next campaign. ORGANIZE coalitions NOW to get freebie publicity during the next few years before the next election. Each county could have its libertarian "contact person" for the different coalition issues for local press consultations, phone calls and more freebie, chronic press coverage, more name recognition. Form web sites for coalitions NOW as universal gathering places for people who want to help. Ask for coalition help now, and keep it up until next elections. Ask for money now, form non-profit issue corps. Use the money for the coalition issue AND for getting name recognition, media publicity.

This essentially is the "back door" for getting funding & support for independent candidates from people who don't see themselves as strict libertarians. We have to realize that we will rarely be able to get massive amounts of funding in short term burst requests for donations. We need to institute permanent, on-going requests for monetary support, labor support, and freebie publicity support from media. We need to organize now and permanently. We need to construct permanent "social funnels" to attract help and attention to us, even if we must use "Single Issues" to funnel society's support to us generally. We need to recognize how our society works a la Hayek, and use the "spontaneous organizational" behavior of civil society in our favor instead of working against it.

Examples of top current statewide issues:

Coalition Against Arena Welfare (CoAW) "Stop Milking the TaxPayer CoAW NOW!"

Coalition Against Taxing Non-Users of Schools (I haven't thought of anything catchy yet. Maybe "Learn No Tax Tolerance for Non-Users.")

Coalition Against Coercion of Auto Insurance (CACAI) "CACAI wants to stop the politicians auto insurance "caca." "

Coalition For Jury Rights. Or Coalition for Fully Informed Justice.

Example of an umbrella group we could organize to push most single issues: Productive Taxpayers Union, or PTU. The non-profit tax status could be vested in one group, possibly the PTU, and it could serve as the funding/organizing conduit for all sorts of "closet libertarian" single issues. Perhaps we should focus the contributions of the few "Dutch Uncles" that we do have for funding the institution and organization of a "Productive Taxpayers Union." (This could be especially useful acronym to counteract the PTAs and PTOs which basically are parents and teacher lobbying unions to suck more money out of non-users of public schools.

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Lessons We Are Learning: Organize!

Continued from Page 24

Parents who use public schools and their Teachers, Administrators are organized; the opposing common cause interest is NOT organized. Thus public school budgets grow with little effective opposition voice. Obviously, the NJEA and NEA are organized generations in advance of us; we at least need to get a clue that we need to ORGANIZE.)

A web site page for the umbrella group, and separate pages for each "single issue" with factual reference material, policy analysis, past events and future event plans would be very helpful features. Forum email lists would galvanize communications and planning dramatically for the different issues. Libertarian "contacts" should be featured prominently, to start the name recognition process.

A few "well placed calls" to certain talk-radio personalities should be part of a previously planned strategy.

We have to learn how to take existing discontent and magnify it, and to whip it in the direction of our benefit. We have to concentrate a few ripples that disturb the waters of society's surface and focus it into tidal waves.

An exciting book found by Dan Sullivan is called "Organizing For Social Change." The Seven Locks Press publishes it and its ISBN is 0-929765-94-X. It is written by "lefties" so you need to ignore some of their biases but on the whole it is very factual and practical. I'm only part way through it, but it's excellent so far.

We also need to learn about special interest researching which is how you find out about all the "dirt" on the defacto conspiracies to exact political privileges at the expense of equal liberty. Supposedly a person named Saul Alinsky or Aulinsky has written a lot of stuff about this. Digging up the "dirt" on Privilege Seekers and Takers and posting it on web sites for public display is one more way to whip up public discontent and media publicity. Every commentary article should have some libertarian's name as author, preferably someone who is "in the running" for next election cycle.

Please note that all the issues I've mentioned are integrally bound up with both statewide and local organizational and protest activities one can do. Monmouth County libertarians do a nice job of staging occasional protest activities. Integrating "organizational" objectives with "protest demonstrations" builds social funnels to bring new people, new help, new additional attention to our causes and beliefs.

I hope we can use this thread of discussion to add and organize ideas that can be integrated into an organized plan for more efficient, greater return on our efforts. It also could be a way to increase our hopes for actually getting significant, positive returns on our efforts. I know that I'm personally reluctant to heap tons of personal effort into "the cause" if I have little hope, little reason to think our cause will reap any reward. But if we have a practical, productive plan for attacking our adversaries and issues, many others and I will gain confidence and will magnify our efforts and support. We will have a "business plan" to take to our "Dutch Uncles" to get big contributions, if they know they are not pouring their wealth into "poor" plans that will have no positive returns.

A word of "caution". The rough organizational issues plan that I have just outlined is precisely what our opposing Incumbent politicians fear. This is precisely what all their campaign financing legislation is designed to defeat; grass roots organizing that culminates in overturning the political status quo. Previous legislation is not really designed to block special interest lobbying that is already solidly in the pockets of the political establishment.

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Lessons We Are Learning: Organize!

Continued from Page 25

That is why non-profit, tax-exempt corporations are so strictly regulated to prevent funding of political campaigns, to prevent grass roots efforts to organize, to whip up discontent and funnel it against the status quo. The literature and media press release products of such an organization should probably not ever mention capital "L" libertarianism or NJLP candidates as such. But our enemies have not yet figured how to block plain vanilla grass roots organizing without blocking their own special interest biased non-profit tax-exempt organizations.

Our enemies have simply been very lucky up to now, that most libertarians have wallowed in ignorance about social organizing, about interactions with a "society that doesn't exist" as many libertarians like to prate on about. The jig is up. The spell of our own self imposed blindness is over. The hoax that individualists can't engage in social cooperation is over. Libertarians need to learn social organizing, need to embrace it, need to learn how to cooperate with that "society that doesn't exist" to benefit libertarian causes, to incite libertarian social tidal waves.

We must organize to integrate social dissent in cooperation with the libertarian paradigm. Otherwise dissent is muted, confused, diverted, distracted by the false alternatives of the Republican-Democrat dialogue.

Now, for local organizing. David Trend and I have decided to ask you in Mercer to tell us when is the best time to have Mercer County official meetings and informal social get togethers. Instead of Sunday afternoons that interfere with NFL, perhaps Saturday or Friday evenings might be better? Perhaps Saturday or Sunday brunches? We want to settle on one regular day for every month. Call or email David or me. We have "honed down" our normal official meetings to a minimum, for those who haven't visited us in a while.

Is there anyone out there who would volunteer their home or office for regular or occasional meetings? Meeting at private homes frees us up from constraints of public places.

Is anyone interested in a Central Jersey Speakers Forum? Pat Bontempo came up with this idea, and I think it's a winner. Perhaps the members from various Central Jersey Counties could meet at the Happy Apple Inn in Imlaystown to invite Speakers or host mock debates, real debates, panel forums to "roast" sitting politicians or journalists? We could lure them in with promises of a free dinner and booze. How could they resist a chance to mooch off productive libertarians? I live near the Trenton Train station and could pick up speakers from the Main Line and haul them to Imlaystown. Wednesday night is Prime Rib Special night. They have an all you can eat salad bar, a bar with a player piano, authentic Colonial Rustic ambience complete with real pot bellied stoves, post and beam construction, and their own dammed mill race lake to ponder imponderables. Oh yeah, they have a second story upstairs that is nearly always empty, just begging for a Libertarian Invasion.

Give us a jingle will ya? Let us know "you're out there. "Voyage to the Last Unknown Frontier" for Libertarians, the monthly Mercer libertarian meeting. It might be scary at first, or boring, but it can be exciting if we cooperate to plan exciting counter-establishment things to do. Any Desk Top Publishers, any data base mail sorting computer geeks out there who can help put some flyers, web pages, mailing lists, monthly newsletter together? Please Help Us To Help You!

Libertarians In Print

Are you a Libertarian In Print? You are if your Letter to the Editor was published in an area newspaper, and included the word(s) "Libertarian", "libertarian" or "libertarianism". Please forward any letters meeting this criterion to Deb Sackett at the address on page 13, or at DebSackett@aol.com.

**Published in the November 30
New Jersey Herald**

Editor:

As usual I read with interest Bill Weightman's contribution to the Mailbag. In his letter published Nov. 19 on the taxpayers being fooled again with the 'stimulus package' he lumps the Republicans and Democrats together. Only very recently I remarked to a Democrat, that from his perspective I understand him seeing a difference between the two controlling parties, but he understood that from my perspective, the Libertarian, the Democrats and Republicans are One.

Bill Weightman is an individual with heart as well as mind; I recommend that he look closely into the Libertarian Party as the best medium for his talents.

Sean Twomey
(Chairman Public Relations Committee NJ Libertarian Party)
Lafayette

"To compel a
man to
subsidize with
his taxes the
propagation of
ideas which he
disbelieves and
abhors is sinful
and
tyrannical."
Thomas
-- --

Thanks!

Candidate for Governor

Alex Pugliese - A One-Man Letter Writing Campaign

NJLP Member Alex Pugliese deserves kudos for having many Letters to the Editor published in area newspapers. Although those chosen for publication did not include the "key words" that would place them in our "Libertarians in Print" column ("Libertarian", "libertarian", "libertarianism") or the Advocates For Self-Government "Lights of Liberty" awards, Alex's prolific efforts and his success at getting in print is to be praised. Following are two of the many letters he's had published.

Published in the November 2-8 "Elizabeth Reporter"

Take Schools Away from Politicians

To the Editor,

Since the 1960s, both the state and federal government have spent great percentages of money on public school education. Each year, the percentages increase greatly more and more, and yet student reading, math and SAT scores continue to decline. Therefore, the belief that there is a correlation between spending and student achievement is nothing more than a fallacy. An illusion.

In 1990, the National Assessment for Education Progress wrote in its report that "large proportions, perhaps more than half, of our elementary, middle and high school students are unable to demonstrate competency in challenging subject matter... Further, even fewer appear to be able to use their minds well." The late president of the American Federation of Teachers, Albert Shanker, even noted in 1992 that "95 percent of kids who go to college in the United States would not be admitted to college anywhere else in the world."

When are people ever going to come to the realization that government-run schools do not work?

Continued on Page 29

Published in the Home News Tribune 11/08/01.

Speech must be free, even if full of hate

The recent ruling by the Virginia Supreme Court in which it struck down a law banning and prohibiting cross-burning was a victory for First Amendment rights everywhere in this nation.

Though I consider this kind of speech to be revolting and disgusting, I agreed with Justice Donald Lemons when he wrote, "Under our system of government people have the right to use symbols to communicate. They patriotically wave the flag or burn it in protest; they may reverently worship the cross or burn it as an expression of bigotry ... Government may not regulate speech based on hostility -- or favoritism -- toward the underlying message."

There has been a movement in this nation that believes if the racist or bigot is prevented from speaking, then peace can be maintained. This is not true, because by doing this the bigot and racist gain more power.

The best way to combat this kind of speech and expression is with more speech.

Combat bigots with sunlight, which, as Justice Louis Brandeis once wrote, is the "best disinfectant."

By doing this, those who espouse views of hate will fall to the wayside, and their ideas will collapse like a ton of bricks crumbling to the ground. Then and only then shall we overcome all forms of intolerance as a people.

Alex Pugliese, Kenilworth

Take Schools Away from Politicians

Continued from Page 28

If the American people are looking for a solution to the education crisis, then the answer is simple: get the government out of the education business entirely. Privatize public schools. Sell them to private educational companies that will have constantly rising standards, expanded choices, and falling prices.

This would stimulate new ways of organizing schools and teaching, and it would benefit taxpayers as well as saving them \$300 billion a year. Finally, children would be learning what the parents want them to learn, and not what the government thinks they should, for example, sexual activity.

Education has been a big issue for too long in new Jersey and elsewhere. Each year, politicians promise to remedy the situation but it gets worse with every so-called reform it passes. The definition of insanity is basically repeating the same thing over and over again in the hope of expecting different results. When it comes to education, politicians have repeated the same mantra, put Band-Aids here and there hoping that would do the trick, only to find out it is an exercise in futility. This insanity has got to stop for the sake of children and parents.

Alex Pugliese, Kenilworth

"The prestige of government has undoubtedly been lowered considerably by the Prohibition law. For nothing is more destructive of respect for the government and the law of the land than passing laws which cannot be enforced. It is an open secret that the dangerous increase of crime in this country is closely connected with this".

Albert Einstein

"The Constitution shall never be construed to authorize Congress to prevent the people of the United States, who are peaceable citizens, from keeping their own arms."

Samuel Adams

Libertarian Links and Lists

This month's pic is Ifeminists.com, introduced by Wendy McElroy in the following announcement:

My name is Wendy McElroy, a long-time libertarian. I am writing as a member of the LP to let you know about a resource that may be valuable to you personally, your state organization, or its newsletter. I am referring to Ifeminists.com <<http://www.ifeminists.com/>> which is a part of Free-Market.Net. It is a young, aggressive site that already boasts a weekly column "Ifeminists" on FOX News.com and an anthology that will be out this Spring from a division of Rowman and Littlefield.

Come visit us! And feel free to reprint and repost freely from the site -- although credit and/or a link on material used is always appreciated.

What We Offer....

Ifeminists.com (individualist feminism) posts links to news and commentary of interest to libertarians on a daily basis at <<http://www.ifeminists.com/>> .

It also offers a free original weekly editorial on current events: the archives are available at <<http://www.ifeminists.com/introduction/editorials/>>. If you would like to be placed on an email list that distributes the editorial each week, please write to mac@ifeminists.com.

A weekly e-zine is available for free by filling your email address into the blank at the right hand side of <<http://www.ifeminists.com/>>. Keep up-to-date on the areas we cover, such as women and guns, political correctness, violence against women, etc.

The database contains several hundred links of interest to individualist feminists and can be accessed without charge. <<http://www.ifeminists.com/information/>>

www.njlp.org. The homepage of the NJLP

www.lp.org. Homepage of the National Libertarian Party.

www.lppa.org. Homepage of the Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania

www.monmouthlp.org. Homepage of Libertarians of Monmouth County.

www.cjnj.org. Citizens for Justice in NJ's homepage, including John Paff's Bartender List.

www.lp2000.com Libertarian Strategy Caucus

www.politicsnj.com The New Jersey Political scene. Great site!

www.freemarket.net. The starting point for libertarianism on the web.

www.cato.org. The premier libertarian think tank.

www.reason.com Homepage of the Reason Foundation and Reason magazine.

http://www.njlp.org/html/bartender_list.html. John Paff's Bartender list. If you're thinking of a hiring a lawyer in NJ, you might want to check him out here.

www.lp.org. Homepage of the National Libertarian Party.

www.freecannon.com Garry Reed's "The Loose Cannon" column site

www.self-gov.org. Homepage of Advocates for Self Government.

www.lp2000.com Liberty Strategy Caucus

www.laissezfaire.org. Homepage of Laissez-Faire books.

www.ij.org. Libertarian organization committed to achieving justice through action in the courts.

www.drcnet.org. The central homepage dedicated to the reform of American drug laws.

www.guntruths.com Defending second amendment rights through common sense and truth.

www.friedmanfoundation.org. Nobel Laureate Milton Friedman's foundation to free children from the government monopoly on schools.

www.atr.org. The homepage of Americans for tax reform.

www.fff.org. The homepage of the Future of Freedom Foundation.

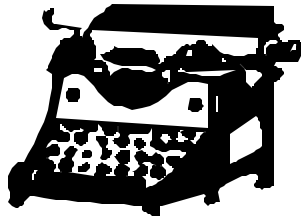
www.deathtax.com Changing the way you leave your money

www.libertarianrock.com A great site for younger libertarians

www.pokerface.com Freedom Rocks with this Allentown band

Sign up! Many of the sites above provide free email updates. Also, Wallnet offers superb services like *Announce* and *LibertyTalk* mailing lists. Sign up at www.njlp.org.

Letters To the Editor



Operation Punishing the Taliban

Dear Editor:

While the bombing campaign continues in Afghanistan, the plight of the Afghan refugees gets little attention on CNN and other networks. Comments from Condoleezza Rice that the bombing campaign is not to blame for this are hardly believable. While certainly the Afghan population's economic hardships have existed before the bombing, the exodus from the bombing areas is a logical response to the bombing campaign, unless Rice wants the Afghans to welcome the bombs that sometimes are not too "smart". There hardly has ever been a war where a civilian population was welcoming bombs and thanked the bombing nation. The use of cluster bombs was too similar to another undeclared war that occurred just two years ago. While the deaths of seven million Afghans from starvation still remains a possibility, the bombing campaign is hardly helping, since the bombing campaign makes the air delivery of food supplies problematic.

The Afghanistan's ruling Taliban regime has certainly no respect for civil liberties, however the same can be said of the US ally, Saudi Arabia and the Northern Alliance which according to some human rights groups is even worse than the Taliban. The Taliban harbors the terrorists, though the same can be said of Saudi Arabia (none of the 9/11 terrorists were Afghans, but most were Saudis) and even the United States, if we are to assume that the network still operates on our home territory. The fact that it was known before 9/11 that the terrorists were on US soil and nothing was done about it, makes the meaning of the word "harboring" slightly more controversial. Afghanistan wasn't even on a list of nations that sponsor terrorism.

When I wrote that the terrorists must be punished, I did not imply the "collective guilt" to be extended to the entire country. After all, if this undeclared war, according to the President, is about replacing the Taliban regime with a stable government then what does that have to do with catching bin Laden, which according to General Franks isn't one of the missions of Operation Enduring Storm?

There seemingly is no clue about the whereabouts of bin Laden, so one would think that the letters of marque and reprisal could be a useful tool in bringing the terrorists to justice. Unfortunately, the mission has gone from the talk of "smoking the terrorists out" to "smoking the Taliban out". The humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan and the ensuing "collateral damage" are the negative consequences of this undeclared war, which has bred nothing but anger from the Afghans themselves. Even if the Taliban is toppled, the WH seems to indicate that the US will participate in nation-building which in a country like Afghanistan brings to mind the Somali debacle, despite the previous assurances from Secretary Rumsfeld that nation-building was not on the agenda.

For the sake of the rule of law, if this government plans to continue the campaign, Congress must declare war against Afghanistan. It is strange that the Administration's comments about the necessity of the bombing as a measure of preventing bin Laden from escaping was meant for the public, since it was already reported that we don't know where bin Laden is. Nor does it seem like the Taliban is preventing US forces from finding bin Laden. And yet, the Administration has decided to stamp the sign of "collective guilt" on the map of Afghanistan. The initiation of force came from the terrorists not the Taliban government and its civilian population, and if this government does not differentiate that, then why would anyone even ask the terrorists to differentiate between the American government and its people?

Vic Kaplan

Thanks!

Chris Toto ran for the 15th
district Assembly seat.

Thanks, Chris!

Letters To the Editor

Continued from Page 31

End the war, before it's too late!

Dear Editor,

The terrorists have retaliated, after we have retaliated. One begs to ask the question, when will this nightmare end? One thing is for certain, the escalation of the battle zone to involve new countries or the continuation of the bombing of Afghanistan will lead to more retaliation, and it will create more terrorists (the current ones have left their bases a long time ago). The safety of Americans is under attack, and it would be unwise to follow the policy of eye for an eye. Today, it's anthrax; tomorrow it could be something else... The United States government should cease the bombing of Afghanistan, followed up by the return of the US troops home from Saudi Arabia and the lifting of the "no-fly zone" and economic sanctions against Iraq. Can I guarantee utopia? No, but I can guarantee that an escalation of the war would invite further retaliation.

Pakistan and India have nukes, the public opinion in many mid-East countries is definitely not supportive of the US bombing campaign, and it is not difficult to foresee how this war could go horribly wrong, especially if Iraq and the Philippines would be next on the agenda. Someone better hope that the moderate Islamic governments would not fall, and that the terrorists would not retaliate. I am not naive enough to place my faith in that, so I chose the alternative. I chose peace over the cycle of retaliation.

Vic Kaplan
October 17th, 2001

*"There will never be a
really free and
enlightened State until
the State comes to
recognize the
individual as a higher
and independent
power, from which all
its own power and
authority are derived,
and treats him
accordingly."*

Henry David Thoreau

"In the beginning of a change, the Patriot is a scarce man, Brave, Hated and Scorned. When his cause succeeds however, the timid join him, for then it costs nothing to be a Patriot."

Mark Twain

*Beware of
"The Regulators"
As The
New Jersey Libertarian
Party
Sheds Light
Upon Them*



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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 political or social

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☐ \$40 - Both National LP & NJLP ☐ \$25 - National LP only ☐ \$15 - New Jersey LP only

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☐ Enclosed is 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:

