



# PREMISE

THE <sup>SEMI</sup> MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE  
**NEW JERSEY LIBERTARIAN PARTY**

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**Fall 2012 – 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition**

There Ain't No Such Thing  
as a Free Lunch

## Chair's Message

by Jay Edgar

In celebration of the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the New Jersey Libertarian Party, this newsletter is slightly different. The masthead above reflects our original newsletter from November 1972 until February of 1974. Since then we have gone through a variety of newsletter names and formats including "The Spirit of '76", a rather bland title of "Newsletter", to our current "NJ Libertarian News."

For those interested in the history of the party we have all of our newsletters archived at <http://njlp.org/newsletters>. This issue includes reprints of a several old articles published over the years.

I hope that you receive this just before the election. I write from the floor of a Barnes and Noble. Hurricane Sandy has made this newsletter issue a challenge. Be sure to go out and vote for Gary Johnson for President and Ken Kaplan for U.S. Senate. If you are lucky enough to live in a Congressional district where we have a candidate – support them as well. I expect Gary to set vote total records for a Libertarian Presidential candidate. He is head and shoulders above the Romney/Obama corporate sponsored team.

As this election winds down we need to look ahead to 2013. Ideas for a gubernatorial candidate are being solicited. My dream candidate would be Judge Napolitano! Join us at our General Meeting on November 17<sup>th</sup> at The Omega Diner in North Brunswick to help us plan our activities for 2013.

In Liberty,

"The basic premise of a free society is that each individual has the right to live his (or her) life for his own happiness" - The Premise from our early newsletters

## Birthplace of the NJLP

By Fred Stein

The birth place of the NJLP was at my house on one hot summer night location 26 Essex Street Irvington, N.J. I believe I was the first organizer/founder of the NJLP. The story goes.....

Once upon a time in 1969 I met Kathy Greene at a YAF meeting at Monmouth College. She was in a group called New Jersey Libertarian Alliance. Her boyfriend at the time and future husband was Ralph Fucetola. Through both of them I met a lot of Libertarians. Some of them called themselves Radical Libertarian Alliance. The word radical was hip back then.

One day I was at the home of Don Meinhausen and he had two big boxes of political literature. One was right wing the other left wing. For those who know Don he loved to travel in both groups seeking converts. He told me of a group trying to form a Libertarian Party. I contacted the Nolans. They sent me a list of Reason subscribers. I mailed out using my stamps and envelopes about the meeting of the first Libertarian Party in New Jersey. I also got the name of Bob Steiner. I called him and he with others helped me organize the meeting.

I claim that I was the founder of the NJLP. He claims he was the founder. Who called the Nolans first? I can't prove any dates. Who's on first? That's my story and sticking with it.

Now where did I put my car keys?

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## Libertarian Party Dates In History

by Jay Edgar

On October 6th, 1972 - forty years ago - the NJ Libertarian Party was started. A party constitution was adapted and Bob Steiner was elected the first state Chairperson. Peter Cooper was elected Vice-Chairperson, Joe Salerno was elected Treasurer, Denise Cooper was elected as Recording Secretary, and Lydia Longinotti was elected as Executive Secretary.

Dues were set at \$7.50 per year which included a subscription to the PREMISE Newsletter. [The first newsletter](#) was produced in November of 1972. The party adopted the Libersign (arrow angling upward) and TANSTAAFL slogan (There ain't no such thing as a free lunch) over an outline of the state of NJ as the party's emblem.

Our first convention was held in February of 1973, during which John Goodson was nominated as our first candidate for NJ Governor.

### LP Dates in History

7/17/1971 The Committee to Form the Libertarian Party was organized by David Nolan and four friends

12/11/1971 The committee meets in the home of David Nolan to officially form the Libertarian Party

6/1972 The first convention is held in Denver. Hospers and Nathan nominated for President (they got a total of 89 votes in NJ!)

10/6/1972 The NJ Libertarian Party is formed. Robert Steiner is the first chair.

11/1972 the first issue of the NJLP newsletter, "The Premise" is published with Lydia Longinotti as the editor.

2/24/1973 the first NJLP Convention is held. John A. Goodson is nominated to be our first Gubernatorial candidate. Bob Steiner is reelected Chair. At the convention, Chair Bob Steiner warns against nominating candidates who are not libertarians as this would compromise the principles of the NJLP.

11/1997, Dick Randolph is elected as a libertarian to the U.S. House of Representatives. He was re-elected in 1980. He was instrumental in the repeal of the state income tax and saving the Alaska Permanent Fund, through effective use of the initiative process. He was also the LP's Alaska gubernatorial nominee in 1982, garnering nearly 15 percent of the vote.

12/29/1981, the first widely reported successful election in the continental United States of a Libertarian Party candidate in a partisan race occurred as Richard P. Siano, a Boeing 707 pilot for Trans World Airlines, running against both a Republican and a Democrat, was elected to the office of Kingwood Township Committeeman in

western Hunterdon County, New Jersey. His election resulted from the special election held on December 29, 1981 to break a tie vote in the general election between him and the Democratic candidate. He received 63% of the votes cast in the special election. He served a three-year term of office.

This is an invitation to join us, not to sacrifice yourself to some so-called "higher purpose", but to increase your own liberty and happiness. Hop aboard the only freedom train which is still running in the United States - the

Libertarian Party.

- Robert Steiner, First Chair of the  
NJ Libertarian Party

## Minutes of September 16, 2012 Board Meeting

by Emerson Ellett, NJLP Secretary

Meeting was called to order. Present were board members Jay Edgar, Joe Siano, Vinko Grskovic, Ray Cragle, Frank Warren, Kevin Ferrizzi, Bill Sihr, Cheryl Heichel, Arp Trivedi, and Ken Kaplan. Also attending were Ed Coyle and Bill Howcott. Board members who were absent included Emerson Ellett, Chris Thrasher, Sean Lindenau, and Joe Denise.

The Agenda was approved and the prior meeting minutes were approved.

NJLP Treasurer, Joe Siano, reported that we have just under \$10,000 in the General Fund, a little over \$2200 in the State Fund, and \$885 in the federal fund with a \$120 check outstanding for the federal fund.

We discussed the 2012 Elections:

- The Johnson campaign has campaign signs and materials available to activists to be put up.
- Motion was made to allocate up \$1,000 (depending on federal fund availability) for yard

### Future Meetings & Events

**Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup> 8:30** – Liberty on the Rocks The Knight Club New Brunswick

**Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup> 1:00 PM** – NJLP General Meeting, Omega Diner Route 1, North Brunswick, NJ

signs for the Johnson and/or Kaplan campaigns. Motion passed.

- Motion was made to allocate \$150 per each of our congressional candidates if they choose to take it and they have a treasurer (depending on federal fund availability). Motion passed.
- A discussion ensued pertaining to the complexity of campaign finance laws. There is much confusion and recognition that these laws often hinder the political speech that our party wishes to perform.

Continuing with Ongoing business we discussed our plans to put together a 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Newsletter.

The Membership Report was presented and discussed.. The number of members has been somewhat flat, but the number of prospects has been quite large. Membership contact names shall be sent out to active county committees. Ray asked for the Mercer county information. Discussion ensued on what to do with National members who we currently treat as prospects and those who are registered as libertarian but not members.

We participated in a [Jersey Lyfe Outreach Event on 9/9/2012](#). Prospects names were added to our database as a result.

Continuing with New Business we started with discussing our plans to hold a U.S. Senate debate. We have some potential locations. Planning is underway.

A membership drive is planned to get more people to join the party in conjunction with the excitement of the presidential race. A motion was made: "The board allocates \$1,000 towards reaching out to the prospects in our database. The money shall be used for direct mailings and/or advertising. In addition the board approves the use of premiums to be given in exchange for memberships." Motion passed.

This weekend Occupy the Hood Justice March 9/14 - 9/17 is marching protesting the number of prisoners being held in NJ

We will be holding a NJLP 40th Anniversary event on 10/6/2012 at Hightstown NJ at the Tavern on The Lake.

Atlas Shrugged Opening is on 10/12/201. Once we find out what theatres it is playing in we will be planning an event.

Post Election General Meeting is tentatively planned for November 17th. Location to be determined.

2013 State Convention Planning needs to get underway. A chair person is needed (or perhaps two chair people - one for logistics and one for speakers). We are currently considering returning to Tavern on the Lake or perhaps the Belmar Pavilion. Our goal is that we can break even on the cost while having a convention priced affordably.

Report from National - Wayne Root has resigned and returned to the Republicans.

We discussed Ken Kaplan's campaign and how to best organize for the election.

After reviewing our future meeting plans we adjourned.

## **Report: NJ Pays Millions in Sex Harassment Cases**

by Jay Edgar

The Asbury Park Press has recently [released a report](#) showing that "New Jersey has paid millions in sexual harassment cases, but little has been done to change the culture in some agencies." In the report the project was mentioned and John Paff was quoted.

One of the tasks of the NJ Open Government Taskforce is discovering hidden government secrets. Many towns, county bodies, and state agencies, instead of fighting lawsuits, pay off the accusers. When this occurs we have no way of finding out the validity of the accusations. All we can determine is that someone decided that it would be easier to make an out of court settlement rather than take the issue to trial. Most often these settlements are done without announcement. When we find them we post them [to our website](#), the [Open Government Advocacy Blog](#), and/or various public forums.

John Paff, chairman of the New Jersey Libertarian Party's Open Government Advocacy Project, lamented what he sees as a lack of transparency in government sexual harassment cases.

"My main problem is there doesn't appear to be any ramifications in many cases," with employees being disciplined, he said. – Asbury Park Report on Sexual Harassment cases against the State of NJ

## **Taxpayer Earnings Detoured**

by Robert Steiner, February 1973

Assume that a state government has set up a Parkway Authority to build a roadway. Call it the Garden State Parkway.

Assume further that the tolls set for the roadway bring in far greater return than was anticipated. In a short time, the Parkway is self-sufficient.

With continually increasing revenues, the Authority coffers start to bulge. What should the Parkway Authority now do about the tolls on the Parkway? Choose one:

1. Continue to excessively tax the citizens at a higher toll rate than is required to maintain the road. Use this excess, without any vote or referendum by the citizens, to build something totally unrelated to

Parkways. It should be something which suits the whim of some politician, something like a cultural experience center – a Garden State Arts Center.

2. Since the tolls are excess, reduce them to the lowest possible level consistent with maintenance of the Parkway. Allow each taxpayer to retain a bit more of his earnings.

Would it be so incredible to expect our state legislators to adopt the “radical” second alternative? Apparently it would (not), hence the NJ Libertarian Party.

## National Debt Hits \$16,000,000,000,000

by Jay Edgar

On September 5<sup>th</sup> the national debt has exceeded \$16 Trillion! The debt is now at 104% of GDP - the highest it has ever been in fifty years. 65% of the debt has been accumulated during the Bush-Obama presidency.

There are few solutions at this point that the public would be willing to swallow. Politicians must consider the following:

- **Increasing taxes.** Between federal income taxes, federal FICA taxes, state income taxes, and local property taxes many New Jersey residents pay close to 40% of their income in taxes. This doesn't include the increased cost of goods due to taxation or the special taxes we pay on gasoline, tobacco, sugar, and many other items. Can we really afford more taxes? Raising the taxes on just the rich [won't solve the problem either](#). Raising corporate income taxes won't help, and will actually hurt our ability to compete in the marketplace. In the end, it's the consumer who ends up paying for higher corporate taxation.
- **Inflating the money supply.** The fed could buy up treasury securities with money created out of thin air, causing the value of our money to drop. Are you saving for a rainy day or for retirement? The federal government has a long history of inflating the money supply causing the value of your investments to drop. This option will cause many Americans to continue to have to work into their old age.
- **Cutting spending across the board.** Military spending should be drastically cut - while still maintaining security. However military spending alone is not enough, we need to consider the [huge entitlement spending](#) that our children are being saddled with.

If we want to avoid defaulting on our existing obligations and debts, yet still remain a wealthy nation where opportunity and business thrives, the only option is to cut our spending now. Raising taxes or further inflating the money supply would be tantamount to economic suicide.

Unfortunately, the Democrats and Republicans in congress will continue to avoid making hard choice and will most likely raise the debt ceiling again. They will continue their reckless spending and destroy the future of our country.

## The Myth of the “Job Creation”

by Unknown Author

Originally published in “The Spirit of ‘76” – March 1974, Tom Palvern, Editor.

We constantly hear George McGovern and politicians of that ilk calling for the “creation of more jobs.” Usually this is in the context of making social workers out of the unemployed or “put(ing) these people to work cleaning up the parks,” etc.

Let it be noted that jobs do not necessarily make the world go ‘round. If carried to its extreme, and everyone were given government make-work jobs, it is obvious that our homes would gradually disintegrate, and we would starve to death through lack of productive work. A less number of government jobs, held by people who consume, but do not produce, causes the same lowering of living standards, but in lesser degree.



**THERE AIN'T NO SUCH THING AS A FREE LUNCH**

## Russell Means: A Look at His Journey Through Life

by ICTS Staff

*On October 22<sup>nd</sup>, libertarian Russell Means passed away at the age of 72. The following article on <http://indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com> is provided with permission.*

As news of his walking on spreads across Indian country, we've taken the time to look back at Russell Means' storied life. He passed at 4:44 a.m. on October 22 at his home in Porcupine, South Dakota.

Means laughed in response to being called the most famous American Indian since Sitting Bull and Crazy Horse by the *Los Angeles Times*. Last year he told the Rapid City Journal: “I thought Jim Thorpe was,” he said with a grin. “Jim Thorpe was my hero.”

**November 10, 1939:** Born on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota.

**1942:** Family moved to the San Francisco Bay area.

**1958:** Graduated from San Leandro High School in San Leandro, California.

**1970:** Became the first national director of the American Indian Movement (AIM).

Participated in a prayer vigil on top of Mount Rushmore to, as the New York Times put it, “dramatize Lakota claims to Black Hills land.”

Helped lead AIM’s Thanksgiving Day demonstration at Plymouth Rock where 200 American Indians seized the Mayflower, painted Plymouth Rock red and observed a day of mourning.

**1972:** Participated in the Trail of Broken Treaties from California to Washington, D.C. (AIM was one of eight Indian organizations involved). Led the week-long occupation of the Bureau of Indian Affairs to protest broken treaties.

Filed a \$9 million lawsuit, as director of the Cleveland AIM chapter, against the Cleveland Indians baseball team for its use of “Chief Wahoo,” its toothy Indian mascot. “It epitomizes the stereotyped images of the American Indian,” Means said. “It attacks the cultural heritage of the American Indian and destroys Indian pride.”



Russell Means, AIM leader on the Pine Ridge Reservation, left, tells villagers on March 7, 1973 in Wounded Knee that they must continue their fight against the government until their demands are met. At right is Dennis Banks another AIM Leader.

**February 27, 1973:** Was a leader of the armed 71-day standoff at Wounded Knee against federal agents. Thousands of shots were fired, two Indians were killed and an agent was paralyzed. Means and Dennis Banks, another protest leader, were charged with assault larceny and conspiracy.

**1974:** Case against Means from the Wounded Knee standoff dismissed for prosecutorial misconduct.

Clash between police and Indian activists outside a Rapid City, South Dakota courthouse.

Republic of Lakotah released its Declaration of Continuing Independence by the Frist International Indian Treaty Council.

**1975:** Anna Mae Pictou Aquash is murdered on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, an act that was connected to AIM. Authorities believe three AIM members shot and killed Aquash because she was an FBI informant.

Murder charges are filed against Means and Richard Marshall, an AIM member, for the shooting death of Martin Montileaux at the Longbranch Saloon in Scenic, South Dakota. Means was acquitted, but Marshall served 24 years in prison.

Means shot in the abdomen during a tussle with an Indian Affairs officer in North Dakota.

In another incident, a bullet grazed his forehead while he was on the Rosebud Indian Reservation in Mission, South Dakota in what Means called a drive-by assassination attempt. He received 12 stitches to close the wound.

**1976:** Survived another assassination attempt in South Dakota when he was shot in the chest.

Led a caravan of 500 Sioux and Cheyenne during the centennial of Gen. George Armstrong Custer’s last stand at Little Big Horn in Montana.

**1978:** Participated in the “longest walk” when American Indians walked from San Francisco to Washington, D.C., which was the largest, single-day peaceful protest up to that time. The demonstration blocked all anti-Indian legislation in Congress.

**1979:** Served one year in prison following the riot at the Rapid City courthouse. He was stabbed by another inmate while serving his time.

**1980:** Gave “For America to Live, Europe Must Die!” speech at Black Hills International Survival Gathering.

“You cannot judge the real nature of a European revolutionary doctrine on the basis of the changes it proposes to make within the European power structure and society,” he says during the speech. “You can only judge it by the effects it will have on non-European peoples. This is because every revolution in European history has served to reinforce Europe’s tendencies and abilities to export destruction to other peoples, other cultures and the environment itself. I defy anyone to point out an example where this is not true.

**1983:** The \$9 million lawsuit against the Cleveland Indians baseball club for its Chief Wahoo mascot was settled out of court for \$35,000 and is later widely criticized.

**1984:** Served as a vice presidential candidate joining Larry Flint in his unsuccessful bid for the Republican nomination.

**1987:** Ran for president. Means campaigned for the Libertarian Party nomination but lost it to Ron Paul, a former and future Congressman from Texas.

**1988:** Announced his retirement from AIM.

**1992:** Began his acting career by playing Chingachgook in “Last of the Mohicans.”

With the Colorado chapter of AIM, stopped the Columbus Day parade in Denver, which was meant to celebrate the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Columbus’ “discovery” of America.

**1993:** Hosted HBO documentary “Paha Sapa.”

**1994:** Vernon Bellecourt denies allegations of involvement in Anna Mae Aquash’s murder.

Appeared in “Natural Born Killers” as the “Old Indian.”

Arlo Looking Cloud is convicted of first-degree murder for his role in the shooting death of Aquash.

**1995:** His autobiography *Where White Men Fear to Tread* was released with writing help from Marvin J. Wolf.

Here are a couple of passes from the memoir:

“For millennia, we Indians lived as part of the earth. We were part of the prairies and the forests and the mountains. We knew every blade of grass, every plant, every tree. We knew the winds and the clouds, the rivers and the lakes. We knew every one of the creatures that fly and crawl and burrow and run and swim—all our relatives with whom we share this earth. We are part of the earth, but not the most important part.”

“Sadly, the white man equates happiness with the pleasing of his senses. My Uncle Matthew King used to shake his head and say, ‘The white man is like a little child; you have to be patient with him.’ But Grandmother Earth is running out of patience. What Eurocentric societies have done to indigenous peoples all over the world they are now doing to themselves—poisoning the land and air and water, abusing one another as they abuse our sacred Grandmother. We are approaching the abyss of species suicide.”

Provided voice talent as Powhatan in Disney’s animated film “Pocahontas.”

Starred as Sitting Bull in the CBS mini-series “Buffalo Girls.”

**1997:** Charged with threatening, and battery against Leon Grant, his Omaha father-in-law, and battery against Jeremiah Bitsui, a Navajo. Means pleads not guilty to these charges.

**1999:** Held a press conference regarding the murder of Anna Mae Aquash. He says, “The reason I called for this press conference for my participation is to tell the world, about the leadership of the American Indian Movement at that time, was well aware of what happened to Anna Mae, and two of the leaders ordered her death. Vernon Bellecourt made the phone call to the house on Rosebud, which... [Means gets emotional]... is my brother’s house... and Clyde Bellecourt took the call from Vernon and then issued the order for her death, for her murder, in 1974 and 1975.”

“If AIM is the perpetrator of this grisly murder, in collusion with the FBI, then I want it brought out...”

**2000:** Arrested in Denver, Colorado while protesting the Columbus Day parade.

**2002:** Campaigned to become governor of New Mexico but was barred from the ballot.

**2004:** Ran for the office of president of the Oglala Sioux Tribe but was beaten by Cecilia Fire Thunder, the first woman to be elected to that position.

**2007:** Republic of Lakotah withdraws from the United States to become a free and independent country.

**2010:** John Graham was convicted of felony murder for his role in the shooting death of Aquash.

**2011:** Means is diagnosed with esophageal, or throat cancer and turns to indigenous medicines and spiritual healing ceremonies.

**August 14, 2012:** Made his last video post to his YouTube page. He titled the video “Clouds.” Watch it at <http://alturl.com/p39tj>.

## What’s a Freedom Fighter?

by Rene Baxter, January 1976

There are lots of labels in use today: radical, liberal, conservative, leftist, right-winger, hippy, biker – you name it. Most of them have very bad connotations for large numbers of people. But what’s a freedom fighter?

Well, that’s just the point – the term gives a hint of what we mean by it, but it doesn’t make anybody feel tense. Americans are prepared to like the term as soon as they hear it. It reminds them of the Hungarian freedom fighters of the ‘50s, struggling against overwhelming Soviet oppression for control of their homeland. But they really don’t know what it means. It’s up to us to define it.

### The Libertarian Activist

Libertarians believe that the individual has an inalienable right to his own life, liberty, and property that he is born with the right to exercise sole dominion over his own life, and that he may live in whatever manner he chooses, so long as he does not forcibly interfere with the equal right of others to do the same.

Activists believe that their own lives and actions make a difference in how things turn out in this world. They choose goals, sometime seeming impossible ones, and they work unceasingly to attain them. They often succeed. The apathetic, on the other hand, never accomplish anything.

The freedom fighter is a libertarian activist. The individualist tradition to which he belongs goes back a long way. Thomas Jefferson was a freedom fighter. So were John Hancock, Thomas Paine, Patrick Henry, and Nathan Hale. Today’s freedom fighter is in very good company.

### Friends and Enemies

The freedom fighter’s goal is always and everywhere the same: maximum individual liberty, and severely limited government. This makes judging ideas, people, and organizations simple – if they favor less government, they

are friends; and if they favor more government, they're enemies.

But what about the "liberal" who is a great advocate of civil liberties – free speech, freedom of religion, etc. – who is also in favor of gun control? He simply has a contradiction. If he really believes in freedom, he can be persuaded to see his error and join us.

The same is true of the "conservative" who is a great advocate of economic freedoms – free enterprise, the gold standard, etc. – but who also believes in laws suppressing pornography, marijuana, "living together", etc. He has contradictions too. But, again, if he really believes in freedom he can be persuaded to see that in order to be free himself, he must be willing to allow others to be free.

The elitist is the real enemy. He believes that he is somehow superior to most other men. Those people out there, he will tell you, are animals. They must be forced to do what's right, what he believes is right.

Here's the real watershed between friends of liberty, and enemies: does man deserve to be free? Can he handle it, or must he be protected from his own "depraved" natural state?

The elitist has a very negative, pessimistic view of human nature. He really believes he has a right to rule other men. Socialists are always elitists, as are all advocates of the police state, whether leftist or right-wing.

Libertarians believe in freedom for everyone, not just for themselves. Freedom fighters are always libertarians. But not all libertarians are freedom fighters. A libertarian becomes a freedom fighter by becoming an activist.

## **Letter to the Editor – Mark Richards Takes a Stance for Liberty**

by Mark Richards, published in The Suburban Trends

Dear Editor:

Originally it was my intent to write or call Jason Okin of and ask him why he is so upset with my letter regarding the history of Camp Midvale Weis Ecology Center. The local phonebook showed no listing for a Jason Okin in Ringwood so I will respond via your letters to the editor section.

He doesn't like the "tone" of my letter. Why is it that whenever a person takes a principled stand on behalf of individual liberty they are attacked with the smear word of "hate?"

If Mr. Okin had read my letter carefully he would have seen that I said that I defended the right of the Camp Midvale people to have any views they wanted, even though most Americans would have opposed those views. Evidently defending the First Amendment rights of people you oppose isn't good enough for Mr. Okin. What he wants is endorsement of the viewpoints one is defending.

Well that isn't going to happen. I reject any and all philosophies and ideologies that embrace collectivism. The individual is what is important, not the group—an idea that all authoritarian regimes throughout history reject.

How is defending individual liberty in a consistent manner as we Libertarians do, somehow a form of "hate"?

This isn't the first time I've been attacked for my views and I'm sure it won't be the last. When you defend individual liberty on all issues and also debunk the "official version" of history, you get attacked from both ends of the political spectrum.

For example, a lot of "Conservatives" I know think I'm "Satan Incarnated" because of my pro-choice views on marijuana, pornography, gambling, and consensual sex outside of marriage. What they don't get is that favoring liberty on these topics doesn't imply endorsement. By the same token "Liberals" go ballistic when you defend guns; individual choice on who an employer hires, fires or does business with; the right to choose your own health-care plan; or whether a worker should be compelled to join a union.

Let's face it: Quite a few people in this "land of the free" don't really like freedom to act in a way that they don't approve of.

These groups really deserve one another. I just wish they would leave the rest of alone and let us live our lives as we choose! "A plague on both their houses!"

## **From Reason to Freedom**

by Robert Steiner, December 1972

"If a nation expects to be ignorant and free, in a state of civilization, it expects what never was and never shall be." So wrote Thomas Jefferson.

Today's honey-tongued politicians who promise something for nothing are successfully eroding the freedoms in our country. They destroy incentive and dignity from the top to the bottom of the economic scale.

We libertarians must undertake a huge job of education. We must show that Big Brother helps no one. All should realize that whenever somebody gets something for nothing, someone else has gotten nothing for something.

Redistribution of wealth, coercive economic legislation, government social experiments, and other such transgressions on life, liberty, and property must be stopped.

And how do we stop them? By reason, logic, common sense, and the electoral process!

To sum up our message, and explain the proper function of government, we tap Mr. Jefferson's wisdom once again:

"Still one thing more, fellow citizens – a wise and frugal government, which shall restrain men from injuring one

another, which shall leave them otherwise free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement, and shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it has earned. This is the sum of good government.”

## **New Jersey Ballot Question Recommendations**

by Jay Edgar

Question one authorizes the state to take on additional debt for the purpose of upgrading our state colleges. Let us not forget the recent state college spending scandals.

In 2007 State Senator Wayne Bryant was indicted for a kickback scheme involving the state University of Medicine and Dentistry. In exchange for taxpayer funds Bryant was given a no-show job with the University. R. Michael Gallagher, the former dean was convicted of bribery.

A May 2012 report has found that Rutgers Football runs the largest money losing program in the nation. The Rutgers Football program costs each student an average of \$1,000 each.

New Jersey debt burden is the fifth highest in the nation. I urge you to vote No on Question one.

Question two amends the NJ State Constitution to require judges to pay more towards their pensions and healthcare. In 2011 a pension reform law was passed that increased the contribution state employees must make towards their pension. A court decision challenged this for some judges because it amounted to a salary decrease which is not allowed by our constitution to avoid retribution for decisions judges may make. This question amends the constitution to allow for changes to benefit contributions for judges and justices. I recommend voting Yes on Question two.

## **Super Storm Underscores Danger of Encouraging People to Live in Harm's Way**

by R. J. Lehman, R-Street Institute

**WASHINGTON (Oct. 30, 2012)** — As much of the eastern United States begins the work of assessing the damage caused by Hurricane Sandy — even as its remnants continue to wallop inland areas with strong winds, heavy rains and blizzard-like conditions — the R Street Institute today suggested the storm should heighten awareness about the dangers of federal policies that encourage development in risk-prone areas.

Key among these is the National Flood Insurance Program, which is expected to pick up as much as half of the \$20 billion in economic losses Sandy is projected to produce. The 44-year-old NFIP is the federal government's second largest fiscal liability, behind only

Social Security, with taxpayers on the hook for the program's \$1.25 trillion of coverage in-force, including \$527 billion of coverage in coastal floodplains.

While Congress finally moved earlier this year to pass serious reforms to the program — including phasing out subsidized rates for second homes, commercial properties and properties that have been subject to repetitive losses — the NFIP remains roughly \$18 billion in debt to the U.S. Treasury.

“It appears likely that Sandy will exhaust the NFIP's remaining \$3 billion of statutory borrowing authority, meaning it will need to request more money from Congress to pay its claims,” said R Street Senior Fellow R.J. Lehmann. “In the short term, we would insist the NFIP use its existing authority to raise rates, buy reinsurance and issue catastrophe bonds, so that the private market, rather than taxpayers, assume the risk of these sorts of catastrophes in the future. Over the longer term, further NFIP reform must include phasing in actuarial rates for all policies, and possibly selling some of the NFIP's 5.6 million policies to private insurers.”

Suffering the most direct impact from Sandy and its tidal surge were New Jersey's numerous barrier islands. Because most of the state's barrier beaches were already developed prior to 1982, they largely are exempt from the Coastal Barrier Resources Act. The CBRA, which recently celebrated its 30th anniversary, prohibits federal assistance for roads, wastewater systems, potable water infrastructure and disaster assistance in 3.1 million acres of coastal land and aquatic habitat.

“From 1982 through 2010, the CBRA saved taxpayers at least \$1.3 billion by limiting development in high-risk coastal areas,” R Street President Eli Lehrer said. “It has served as a model for a free market approach to environmental challenges. The federal government should not be subsidizing environmentally destructive development or encouraging people to live in harm's way. The images we've all seen of the coastal barrier destruction caused by Hurricane Sandy make abundantly clear precisely what the law was created to avoid.”

Some lawmakers, including New Jersey's own Rep. Albio Sires, have proposed even greater federal subsidies to coastal development, by creating a system of government-backed reinsurance and loan guarantees to state-sponsored catastrophe funds and insurers-of-last-resort. This would have the effect of making it easier to develop property in risk-prone areas that private insurers are reluctant to insure, thus making it all but certain that the impact of the next Sandy would be even greater.

“While Sandy was a very large and tragically lethal storm, the global insurance and reinsurance industries are



perfectly capable of absorbing the claims this storm will produce,” Lehmann said. “Those states with large residual markets are, uniformly, places where lawmakers and regulators have suppressed risk-based insurance rates. For the federal government to aid states in that kind of suppression would be a disaster for both taxpayers and the environment.”

*Ray Lehman is a former NJ resident and former NJLP member. R Street is a non-profit public policy research organization that supports free markets; limited, effective government; and responsible environmental stewardship. It has headquarters in Washington, D.C. and branch offices in Tallahassee, Fla.; Austin, Texas; and Columbus, Ohio. Its website is <http://www.rstreet.org>.*

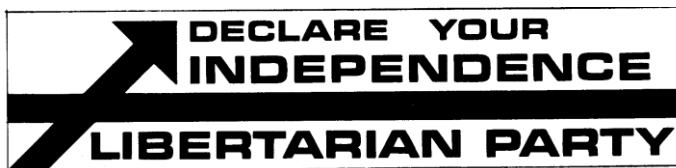
## Liberty on the Rocks

by Jay Edgar

A Liberty on the Rocks chapter has formed in New Jersey. Liberty on the Rocks is an organization that encourages activists to get together on a regular basis at local watering holes to discuss ideas and concepts of liberty.

*“Liberty on the Rocks is a non-profit libertarian organization that empowers and assists liberty enthusiasts in becoming better connected, informed, and involved. Through local chapters and events, citizens and activists throughout the country can increase the size of their networks, enhance their understanding of economics and the philosophy of freedom, widen their knowledge of local and national educational outlets, and increase their opportunities for involvement.”* – Liberty on the Rocks vision statement

There will be a Liberty on the Rocks get together at The Knight Club in New Brunswick, NJ on November 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 PM. Be sure to vote first – and then come on by and discuss the liberty movement with us. Ken Kaplan, our U.S. Senate candidate will be present. (note verify location on the our website due to possible changes because of the storm or call Jay at 848-525-0578)



## The New Jersey Libertarian

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## NJLP Membership Drive

by Jay Edgar

A year end membership drive has been kicked off! So far our membership numbers are looking good. At the end of October we were tied with the largest membership numbers since I have been keeping historical data. (I only have historical data going back to 2007).

Visit <http://njlp.org/growthelp> for our membership drive page. Premiums for joining include:

- A copy of Libertarianism in One Lesson
- One year subscription to Reason magazine
- Silver bullion
- NJLP 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary T-Shirt

Hurry, offer will end at the end of the year.

**NOTICE: On November 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM we are having a General Membership Meeting at the Omega Diner on Route 1 in North Brunswick, NJ.**

### NJL Advertising Rates

Full page	\$60
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You can also join the NJLP on-line at <http://njlp.org/joinus>



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