



New Jersey Libertarian

March/April, 2005

Volume XXIX

Issue 3/4

WANTED: CAMPAIGN WORKERS, CANDIDATES & FUNDS

By: Brian J. Phillips, NJLP Chair

The NJLP is preparing to enter the 2005 election race led by our candidate for Governor, Jeff Pawlowski and nearly 40 candidates for the state Assembly. If we can recruit 80 members as Assembly candidates we could contest all Assembly seats and finally give the people of this state a REAL choice. We intend to rock and shock the duopoly. We need your help to do it.

With your help we can send the duopoly parties a message on Election Day they will never forget! We can do it!

On Saturday, April 30th at 1:00 pm we will be having a Campaign 2005 workshop for all volunteers and candidates. The workshop will take place at Tumulty's Pub, 361 George Street in New Brunswick. Please make every effort to attend and bring a friend or two! Let's pack out the hall.

To challenge Republicrat rule we will need every NJLP member to generously share of his or her time, talents and treasure. We will need an army of volunteers. We will need members to make generous contributions to our NJLP State Fund. You can do so now by sending a check made payable to the NJLP State Fund and mail the same to NJLP, 846 Sycamore Avenue, Tinton Falls, NJ 07724. Please be generous and please respond now.

After the recent NJLP Convention the newly elected Steering Committee held a brief special meeting to approve a contribution of \$3,000 from the NJLP State Fund to the campaign of Jeff Pawlowski for Governor. The amount contributed represents 1% of the funds needed to allow our candidates to participate in debates with the duopoly party candidates, i.e. \$300,000. As of writing we do NOT have the \$3000 in our NJLP State Fund as we are depending upon the generosity and response of the membership. Please give the entire 2005 NJLP slate of candidates the resources they urgently need to be effective in the 2005 campaign. Give us the tools we need to reach the citizens of this state who are crying out for hope, an alternative and for change. We can become the opposition to the Republicrats. Please support this effort by getting involved in the campaign itself and by making a contribution to the NJLP State Fund today.

Let us also not lose sight of the fact that the 2005 Campaign and our efforts over the months that lie ahead present us with many unique opportunities to recruit and to build our county organizations. We must be ready to see the opportunities in this campaign for recruitment and to invite those we encounter to join the NJLP.

Take a look at the New Jersey state emblem or flag and you will see the words, "Liberty and Prosperity." The New Jersey Libertarian Party has a unique opportunity to make that slogan more than just mere words on paper or cloth. Work for Liberty in 2005. Join me at Tumulty's on April 30th.

Members Select Gubernatorial Candidate

One of the most important functions of the Convention is the selection of candidates; members attending the 2005 convention selected Jeff Pawlowski to run for Governor, and excitement about his campaign is running high! See stories on Pages 3 and 4.

You can get your New Jersey Libertarian **weeks** earlier! It is posted every month at www.njlp.org/newsletters/

Members Select New Officers at 2005 Convention "SOS Team" Takes Top Two Offices

Chair: Brian Phillips
Vice Chair: Tom Abrams
Secretary Emerson Ellett
Treasurer Lou Stefanelli
At-Large Steering Committee Representatives
Elizabeth Macron
Bill Goerke
Virginia Flynn
Len Flynn

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*Late Additions submitted following deadline

New Jersey Libertarian Party Officials

Steering Committee:

State Chair	Brian Phillips	chair@njlp.org
Vice Chair	Tom Abrams	vicechair@njlp.org
Secretary	Emerson Ellett	secretary@njlp.org
Treasurer	Lou Stefanelli	treasurer@njlp.org
Member-At-Large	Virginia Flynn	atlarge1@njlp.org
Member-At-Large	Bill Goerke	atlarge2@njlp.org
Member-At-Large	Liz Macron	atlarge3@njlp.org
Member-At-Large	Len Flynn	atlarge4@njlp.org

Others:

Membership Coordinator	Bob Hull	membership@njlp.org
Newsletter Editor	Deb Sackett	editor@njlp.org

In the Loop?

The NJLP Announce List is a means whereby all members can be advised of events, meetings and special announcements. If you have not been receiving emails regarding NJLP activities please send Bob Hull your email address and request to be added to the NJLP Announce List. You can email Bob at rhull@wallnet.com

HUNTCO Announces Reorganization Meeting

The HUNTCO Libertarian Party will hold a Reorganization Meeting on Wednesday, May 4, 2005, at 7:00 PM at the North Branch of the Hunterdon County Library located at 65 Halstead Street, Clinton, New Jersey 08809.

The proposed agenda will include nomination/election of new officers; discussion/approval of proposed HUNTCO By-laws; and, a schedule for members' participation in the Assembly/Gubernatorial NJLP Petition Drive. All NJLP members residing in Hunterdon County are invited and urged to attend.

For further information, directions to the meeting or other related inquiries, please contact Tom Abrams via telephone at (908) 782-2040 or e-mail at atabrams37@yahoo.com

Calendar

April 17, 2005

NJLP Steering Committee meeting,
1:00 PM at the home of Len Flynn.
Contact Len for directions at
lenflynn@wallnet.com

April 30, 2005

NJLP Campaign 2005 Workshop
for all campaign workers and candidates at
Tumulty's, 361 George Street,
New Brunswick.

May 4, 2005

Hunterdon County Reorganization Meeting
7:00 PM at the Hunterdon County Library
(North Branch)
65 Halstead Street, Clinton, NJ 08809

May 5, 2005:

Ocean County Libertarian Party reorganization meeting
7:00 PM at the Manchester Branch of the
Ocean County Library in the Community
Room. The library is located on Colonial
Drive in back of the Manchester Town Hall,
between Routes 37 and 70.

May 21, 2005

NJLP State Board meeting
1:00 PM Tumulty's Pub, 361 George St.
New Brunswick

July 9, 2005

NJLP Annual Picnic...more details to follow

A Third Point of View

A weekly half-hour libertarian TV program with host Shad Woolley and his guests, "Third Point of View", airs Wednesdays, 10:30 p.m., Ch. 77 on cable in the following communities: Asbury Park, Avon, Belmar, Bradley Beach, Brielle, Farmingdale, Howell, Hurlerlaken, Jackson, Manasquan, Millstone, Neptune City, Neptune Twp., Sea Girt, So. Belmar, Spring Lake, Spring Lake Hts., Upper Freehold and Wall. Visit the TPOV website at <http://www.njlp.com/multimedia/tpov/tpov.php>.

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Contact us at: New Jersey Libertarian, c/o Deb Sackett, Editor, P.O. Box 870, Malaga, NJ 08328 or Editor@njlp.org

Special thanks this month to contributors Ray Babecki, Jay Boucher, Jay Edgar, and Bob Hull

Pawlowski Campaign Organizes At April 3rd Meeting

By Ray Babecki

Jeff Pawlowski, of Parlin, NJ was selected as the gubernatorial candidate of the New Jersey Libertarian Party at its convention in March. April 3rd was the organizing meeting of the "Pawlowski For Governor 2005" campaign. Participants gathered to initiate the process by selecting officers, setting goals - including an aggressive fundraising schedule - and delegating responsibilities for the campaign's essential functions.

Over 15 party faithful attended this meeting. When asked for comment, Jeff Pawlowski said, "I can't believe this support! To have so many people come out, on a Sunday afternoon makes me extremely encouraged. I know we're on the right track".

You can donate or contact the campaign at: Jeffrey Pawlowski for Governor 2005, P.O. Box 177, South Amboy, NJ 08879-0177. Website: <http://www.PawlowskiForGovernor.org> (or, <http://www.Pawlowski2005.org>). You can reach Campaign Manager Jay Edgar at manager@Pawlowski2005.org.



Above: Members of the Pawlowski For Governor 2005 campaign team meet at the home of Jeff Pawlowski in Sayreville, NJ on April 3, 2005. In photo (alphabetical order): Jay Boucher, Sean Carothers, Ken Chazotte, Jay Edgar, Ginny & Len Flynn, Ken Kaplan, Jeff Pawlowski, Lou Stefanelli, John Taylor, Frank Warren, Chris Weimann, Darren Young.

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acknowledgement included.

Pawlowski Campaign Unveils Website

www.PawlowskiForGovernor.org

www.Pawlowski2005.org



CandidateBio

By Chris Koszalka

The New Jersey Libertarian Party is proud to announce our new Gubernatorial Candidate Jeff Pawlowski. Jeff has a history of standing for open and honest government and views his involvement in Libertarian politics as an extension of that theme. A resident of Central Jersey his entire life, Jeff's experience in the inner-workings of local government gave him a real opportunity to study what is wrong with New Jersey politics up close. As a husband and father of two daughters, Jeff understands the values of family and personal responsibility; as a member of the Rotary club, Lion's Club, and former member of the South Amboy First Aid squad, Jeff proved to be a vital part of the Sayreville, NJ community; as a councilman and planning board member for over 4 years, however, Jeff grew tired of party politics and squabble. "The old parties spent too much time attacking each other and not enough time attacking the grave problems our town and its residents faced everyday."



Fed up with seeing issues mishandled and residents cheated out of an honest, open government, Jeff turned to the Libertarian Party in 2003. In our party, Jeff found answers to the problems affecting politics in general. "Perhaps the greatest single problem today with publicly elected officials is a lack of accountability and personal responsibility. Public servants who serve themselves first cripple local and state government."

By taking the same ideas, enthusiasm, and dedication that were tried and true in the state's largest borough, Jeff hopes to make a similar impact statewide. For the first time in many years, we finally have the right candidate and the right point in time to really make a difference in New Jersey. We have the opportunity to shed the image of a corrupted state and start anew. We can leave politics behind and truly make a difference in the lives of New Jerseyans everywhere. However, we can't do this without your help. To truly launch an effective campaign and to bedrock the Libertarian party in New Jersey, we need your help. Donations of not only money but time will further the dream that one day our children might live in a state free from corruption, free from inter-party squabble, and free in every other respect. If there ever was a time to rewrite history, it is today. If there ever was a candidate who understood the needs of the Libertarian Party, it is Jeffrey Pawlowski. If there ever was an opportunity to make a change, it is now.

New Jersey is ready for an independent honest politician that owes nothing to corrupt party bosses, and owes no favors to special interests. Because of his experience, integrity and honesty Jeff is the ideal candidate to take on the commitment of bringing open honest government to New Jersey voters. And because he has proven himself to be a caring, concerned citizen we are proud to offer him to the citizens of our state. Please help us better acquaint the citizens of New Jersey with Jeff Pawlowski and with the New Jersey Libertarian party and our commitment to small, open, effective, honest, caring and competent government.

Pawlowskiforgovernor.org

Pawlowski2005.org

Convention 2005

“Well-attended, hip, student-friendly, entertaining, and informative”

by Richard “Jay” Edgar, Convention Organizer

On March 19th the NJ Libertarian Party held their annual convention on the campus of Rutgers University. During the morning business meeting we nominated over 35 freedom fighters as candidates for Governor and Assembly. Delegates also voted for new board members, electing Brian Phillips as our new State Chair.

After a buffet luncheon, attendees were treated to great entertainment and informative speakers. Ivan Eland of the Independent Institute kicked things off with an informative analysis and critique of US foreign policy. His warnings of the problems of expansion of US Empire and call for a more humble foreign policy was well received by the attendees.

Amanda Phillips, President of the Free State Project, presented the current state of this project. She presented the advantages of thousands of freedom loving citizens moving to New Hampshire and urged support of this worthy project. She pointed out that New Hampshire already enjoys being the state with the lowest state and local tax burden in the continental United States. It also has the second lowest dependence on federal spending.

Scott Bach, NRA board member and gun rights activist presented the advantages of NRA membership and described many worthy projects the NRA is pursuing. With much interaction from attendees, he defended the NRA's lack of support for Libertarian candidates. While not making any promises he will be taking our concerns back to the NRA leadership.

Pokerface rocked the house for about an hour, entertaining us with their freedom minded music. They played many great songs from their current discography and played several new songs. They stated that they are currently working on the fourth CD release “Peace or War” and hope to have it finished soon. They closed with the ever-popular “Rather Die than Be Your Slave” and “Illuminati.” Consider going to see them in Philadelphia on the evening of April 15th.

Heather, Minister of Contraband of Bureacrash gave a very entertaining speech describing the activities of Bureacrash. Bureacrash has an international network of freedom activists who travel the world mocking bureaucrats and conducting counter protests. Most entertaining was her description of how she ruined Richard Gere's vacation during a counter protest at the 2004 International Aids Conference in Bangkok. I recommend watching the hilarious videos of their activities on the Crash-O-Vision section of their website.

Overall, the convention was well-attended, hip, student friendly, entertaining, and informative. Our annual convention is the single most important event we hold. The convention has provided a launch pad for our campaign season, invigorating members, while attracting the attention of the public and the press. Lets take the excitement generated by the convention into the campaign season.



Above, Pokerface's Dennis Beidler (L) and Paul Topete “rock the house” at the 2005 Convention.

Below, Rich Valentin is visible behind the drums.

Photos by Jay Edgar.





Dr. Ivan Eland, of the Independent Institute, addresses the convention.

Photo by Jay Edgar



NRA Board Member Scott Bach fields questions from convention attendees.

Photo by Bob Hull



Amanda Phillips of the Free State Project.

Photo by Bob Hull

Convention 2005

Photos and commentary by Ray Babecki



Jeff Pawlowski defends his nomination for candidate for Governor at the NJLP 2005 Convention business meeting.

In 2004, Jeff ran a real, earnest campaign for Sayreville Township Council. His running mate was Chris Koszalka. At the NJLP 2005 Convention, Jeff was nominated for, and was selected as, the party's Gubernatorial candidate in this year's statewide election.

www.PawlowskiForGovernor.org

www.Pawlowski2005.org

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Brian J. Phillips campaigns for Chair of the NJLP at the party's 2005 Convention business meeting.

If you don't know Brian J. Phillips, don't worry. You'll soon see and hear a lot more about him! At this year's convention, he was nominated and ran for Chair as a member of the newly-formed "SOS" (Serious Organization Slate) Team. After an extensive question-and-answer period, he edged-out Ken Chazotte and was elected Chair by 4 votes in a two-way race.

Previously, Brian had headed the 2005 NJLP Campaign Support Team. This year, all 80 Assembly seats are up for election, and his team recruited almost enough NJLP members to run for every position. Since ascending to Chair, he has had to delegate responsibility for that function to Darren Young. Later this year, Brian will lend his name for the NJLP ballot as a candidate for NJ State Assembly in the 9th District.



Tom Abrams, member of the "S.O.S." team, defends his nomination for Vice Chair at the NJLP 2005 Convention business meeting.

An NJLP member for many years, Tom volunteered to serve the NJLP as a member of the "S.O.S." ("Serious Organization Slate") team. At the convention, Tom was elected as Vice Chair over Emerson Ellett, and was selected as Chair of the Hunterdon LP. Tom has appeared on the ballot often, running for Mercer County Freeholder, NJ State Senate, Princeton Township Committee, and Congress. In 2005, he will represent the NJLP as an Assembly candidate in the 23rd District. Tom and his wife live in Ringoes in Hunterdon County.

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Left: Emerson Ellett, acting NJLP Chair, moderates the NJLP 2005 Convention business meeting.

Emerson Ellett has been a L/libertarian for the better part of a quarter-century, and has served as NJLP Secretary for much of that time.

In late 2004, Emerson was appointed acting Chair after Victor Kaplan resigned for personal reasons. At the convention, Emerson accepted nomination for Vice Chair, along with Tom Abrams ("S.O.S." Team). Tom was elected NJLP Vice Chair, while Emerson was subsequently selected NJLP Secretary by acclamation. Emerson has run for several offices, including US Senator, and is a frequent panelist on "Third Point of View".

Emerson lives with his wife in the Asbury Park area of Ocean County.

Right: Ken Chazotte campaigns for NJLP Chair at the NJLP 2005 Convention business meeting.

Ken is well known in the NJLP. He has been active in Monmouth County, where he lives and works, and at the state level, for several years.

In 2004, Ken ran for U.S. Congress in NJ's 12th District. At the NJLP 2005 Convention, Ken was nominated along with Brian Phillips for NJLP Chair.

After a thorough question-and-answer period, Brian Phillips was elected to the position by a margin of only a few votes. While Ken will not lead the state party, he was re-elected to Chair the Monmouth-Ocean County LP.

Ken lives in Marlboro with his wife and son.



Left: Darren Young defends his nomination for candidate for Governor at the NJLP 2005 Convention business meeting.

In the early 1990's, Darren ran for Congress (CD-7) against ex-NJ Assemblyman Bob Franks. At the NJLP 2005 Convention, Darren was nominated for the party's Gubernatorial candidacy. Jeff Pawlowski was selected as the NJLP's candidate while Darren received other responsibilities; Darren was selected to represent Union County on the State Board, and he was confirmed as a candidate for State Assembly in the 21st District. Darren has since been appointed to head the "NJLP 2005 Campaign Support Team" by newly elected NJLP Chair Brian Phillips.

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Left: Liz Macron gives the NJLP Platform Committee report to the membership during the NJLP 2005 Convention business meeting.

Liz Macron is chair of the NJLP Platform Committee. She was also elected as an at-large member to the NJLP Steering Committee at the NJLP 2005 Convention.

Right: Bill Hunsicker refers to his notes after nominating himself for At-Large Representative to the Steering Committee.

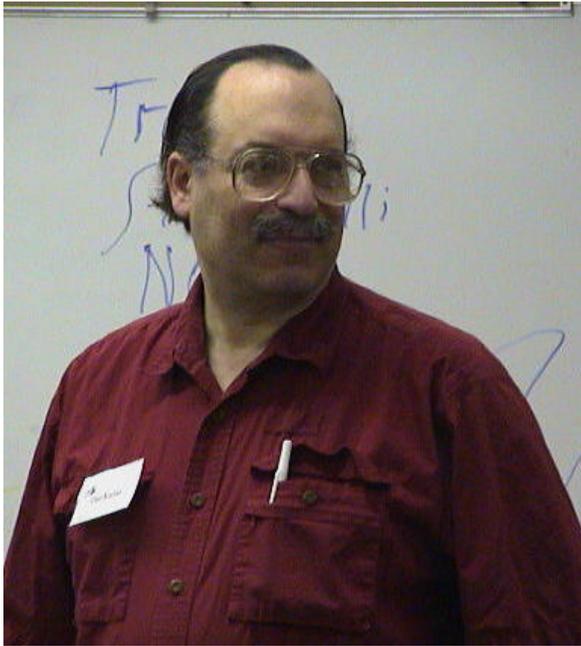
Bill Hunsicker has been active in the LP since November 2004. This was the first convention Bill attended, and he was elected Chair of the Mercer County LP. He nominated himself for At-Large Representative to the Steering Committee; but he did not receive enough votes to win in a six-way race. But Bill will still represent Mercer LP as their Representative to the State Board. Later this year, Bill will be on the ballot for Assembly in the 14th District. Bill lives in Mercer County.



Left: Len Flynn, At-Large Representative.

In 2004, Len Flynn was elected as an At-Large Representative to the NJLP Steering Committee. At the NJLP 2005 Convention, he was re-elected to this position by petition. He also served as Secretary to the business portion of this year's convention. (Len is wearing the blazer and tie; behind Len is Bob Hull, NJLP Membership Coordinator and Webmaster).

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Left: Dan Karlan delivers his report from the LNC (US Libertarian Party/Libertarian National Committee) to the NJLP 2005 Convention.

Throughout his long membership in the NJLP, Dan Karlan has promoted L/libertarian ideals by serving on countless NJLP committees, as a candidate, NJLP Secretary, LNC rep, and other contributions of time and talent.

Right: Bill Goerke, member of the "S.O.S." team, addresses the NJLP 2005 Convention business meeting.

A relative newcomer to the NJLP, Bill volunteered to serve the NJLP as a member of the "S.O.S." ("Serious Organization Slate") team. Initially challenging Lou Stefanelli for position of Treasurer, Bill later withdrew his name from consideration. Bill was subsequently nominated and elected to the Steering Committee as an At-Large Representative, and was confirmed as a 2005 NJLP Assembly candidate from the 19th district. Bill is a manufacturing sales engineer, and lives in the Colonia section of Woodbridge Township, in Middlesex County, with his wife and daughter.



Left: Heather Talley, Director of Contraband for Bureaucrash, displaying their political shirts. Heather shared a table with the Free State Project



Heather Talley is Director of Contraband for Bureaucrash. At this year's convention, Heather spoke about their international network of pro-freedom activists who believe that bloated, sprawling governments and the bureaucrats who control them ought to be mocked - mercilessly. Bureaucrash seeks to change political ideology through creative activism, like their shirts printed with anti-statist slogans: "FREEDOM - my Anti-Gov", "Enjoy Capitalism" (in Coca-Cola font), "Smoking is better than Fascism", etc. Visit and join them at <http://www.contraband.bureaucrash.com>.

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SOS Team Campaigns at 2005 Convention

(SOS Team handout distributed by Brian J. Phillips at NJLP Convention, March 19, 2005; verbatim transcription by Ray Babecki; formatting is per the SOS handout)

(cover page)

SOS!!! SOS!!! SOS!!!

THE
2005
SERIOUS
ORGANIZATION SLATE

For NJLP Steering Committee

The People
The Purpose
The Platform

For Chair: Brian Phillips
For Vice Chair: Tom Abrams
For Secretary: George Kalfas
For Treasurer: Bill Goerke

At Large: Dameyon Beaman
Chris Patten

(second page)

SOS!!! SOS!!! SOS!!!
2005 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF THE
SERIOUS ORGANIZATION SLATE
for the NJLP Steering Committee

The NJLP has been in existence for over thirty years. It is past time for the NJLP to become a potent political player to be reckoned with in the State of New Jersey.

Accordingly, it is the declared goal of the SOS to make the necessary internal institutional and organizational reforms that will permit the NJLP to become a major, legal, political party before the end of the decade.

The SOS intends to transform the NJLP into a real political organ by creating vital and ongoing county organizations; and, by recruiting, screening, nominating and eventually electing NJLP candidates to office in New Jersey.

The SOS intends to thrust and insinuate the NJLP into the roiling and ongoing public debate on the issues that regularly confront the residents and citizens of New Jersey.

The SOS intends to mold the future of the NJLP by giving our members a stake in our Party through providing a myriad and diverse array of opportunities for each member to become and remain active.

Continued on Next Page

SOS Team Campaigns at 2005 Convention

(third page)
SOS!!! SOS!!! SOS!!!
2005 PLATFORM OF THE
SERIOUS ORGANIZATION SLATE
for the NJLP Steering Committee

NJLP Serious Internal Organizational Reform

The SOS recognizes the need to expand and empower the internal organizational structure of the NJLP. We propose to appoint and empower two new officers to the new positions of County Organizer and Media Relations Officer. The SOS recognizes the need to accomplish our goals through Standing Committees. We propose to create and staff both an NJLP Candidate Screening Committee and an NJLP Platform Committee. The SOS recognizes the need to provide members with an annual objective evaluation of the Party's fiscal affairs. We propose to conduct an annual independent audit of the NJLP's books and financial records.

NJLP Serious Local Organizational and Recruitment Reform

The SOS recognizes the need to recruit qualified candidates for all elective offices in the State of New Jersey. We propose to revivify and empower the NJLP Political Director to locate and recruit NJLP candidates and to coordinate ballot drives and petition efforts. The SOS recognizes the need to establish County affiliates in each and every one of our 21 counties. We propose to reach out to new and existing members to locate county leaders and to aid in the establishment of permanent County organizations. The SOS recognizes the need to encourage development of and affiliation with libertarian college groups throughout the State. We propose to maintain an ongoing and systemic contact with all libertarian college clubs and to encourage formal establishment of such groups in every college in the State.

Bio, Brian Phillips

By Brian Phillips

Brian Phillips has lived in Toms River, NJ for over 25 years. He was born in Brooklyn, NY in 1956. He attended St. Vincent Ferrer Elementary School and later Brooklyn Technical High School. He completed his secondary education by attending Carndonagh Community College in county Donegal, Ireland. He attended the New University of Ulster studying history and education.

While at the New University of Ulster he was elected to the Student Council where he served on the Executive Committee and as the councils External Relations Officer. He served as a delegate to congresses of the Union of Students in Ireland and the National Union of Students (UK).

Returning to the USA he gained employment within New York's insurance industry specializing in ocean marine loss and claims adjusting. He continued his education by attending the College of Insurance where he studied insurance and management. He worked for the Fireman's Fund Insurance Co, the Kemper Group and AIG finally attaining the position of Asst. Vice President. Wishing to work in NJ due to family obligations he is presently employed by Children's Specialized Hospital where his oversees facility security and safety.

He has maintained a strong interest in Irish history and culture and joined the Ancient Order of Hibernians. He served three terms as Vice President of Ocean County Div. # 1 and as AOH NJ state organizer. In 1989 he was elected NJ State President of the AOH. During his term a recruitment drive was launched and three new divisions were established. He founded the Ocean County Irish Festival which is now in its 12th year.

Joining the NJLP he noticed that our state platform was last updated in 1997 and urged that the matter be corrected by the establishment of a platform committee. He was the originator of the idea of a campaign support for NJLP candidates and he is presently serving as chair of the NJLP 2005 Campaign Support Team where he has engaged in candidate and campaign worker recruitment, fund raising and in organizing various support workshops for candidates and campaign workers. He remains a frequent writer for the New Jersey Libertarian. He is presently a NJLP Assembly candidate for district 9 (Ocean County). He hopes to establish a functioning county NJLP county organization in Ocean and is presently working towards this goal.

Draft Minutes -- New Jersey Libertarian Party Annual Convention

March 19, 2005

By Len Flynn, acting secretary for the business meeting

The business meeting was called to order at 9:07 AM by NJLP Vice Chair Emerson Ellett. Quorum was noted to be present shortly after, when recent convention registrants were directed to the meeting room. The agenda was reviewed and approved as presented after two motions to change the proposed agenda were defeated. The minutes of the February Steering Committee meeting were accepted as presented. The treasurer's report and 2005 suggested budget were then reviewed and discussed. A motion by Victor Kaplan that the 2004 books of the NJLP be audited at no cost to the party and the results presented at the next convention was passed. An all-volunteers audit committee will be formed to implement this resolution.

The delegates then elected new officers and At-large Representatives to the Steering Committee. This year's convention elections proved to be a spirited affair as there was a slate of candidates led by Brian Phillips for Chair that challenged most of the seats on the Steering Committee. These members titled themselves the "Serious Organization Slate"(SOS). The election results were as follows (* denotes SOS candidates):

Chair: Brian Phillips* 20

Ken Chazotte 16

Vice Chair: Tom Abrams* 22

Emerson Ellett 14

Secretary: Emerson Ellett by acclamation (accepted without objection by all delegates)

Treasurer: Lou Stefanelli by acclamation, following withdrawal of challenger Bill Goerke*

At-Large Steering Committee Representatives (top three elected):

Elizabeth Macron 24

Bill Goerke* 24

Virginia Flynn 19

Dameyon Beaman* 15

Len Flynn 14

Bill Hunsicker 6

At 9:55 AM the members agreed to adjust the scheduled meeting timetable by adding 20 minutes to subsequent agenda times, effectively extending the convention to around 12:30 PM. At about 10:15 AM the convention delegates recessed for county caucuses.

The convention reconvened at 10:25 AM. The results of the county caucuses were as follows:

State Board Representatives were chosen by the following counties:

Dameyon Beaman, Burlington

Dan Iannetta, Camden

Bill Hunsicker, Mercer

Jay Edgar, Monmouth

Bill Gfroehrer, Ocean

Frank Warren, Somerset

Darren Young, Union

The counties also chose these officers:

Burlington, Dameyon Beaman, Chair

Camden/Gloucester, Kevin Ferrizzi, Chair

Hunterdon, Tom Abrams, Chair

Mercer, Bill Hunsicker, Chair

David Trend, Vice Chair, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer,

Ray Cragle, Recording Secretary

Monmouth, Ken Chazotte, Chair

John Taylor, Vice Chair

Jay Edgar, Secretary

Virginia Flynn, Treasurer

Somerset/ Middlesex/Union

Chair, "Vacancy"

Frank Warren, Vice Chair

Howard Schoen, Treasurer

John Paff, Secretary

Minutes continued on Next Page

Draft Convention Minutes, Continued

The delegates then selected candidates for the 2005 election. The NJLP candidate for governor is Jeff Pawlowski, who defeated Darren Young for the nomination. The delegates also approved 35 candidates for New Jersey Assembly:

Glenn Campbell, 2nd District	Richard Westbrook, 4 th
Kevin Ferrizzi, 5 th	Dan Iannetta, 6 th
Dameyon Beaman, 8 th	Brian Phillips, 9 th
George Kalfas, 10 th	Shad Woolley, 11 th
Lou Stefanelli and Michelle Mitchell, 12 th	Ray Cragle & William Hunsicker, 14 th
Adam Reed & Jason Scheurer, 15 th	Ken Bliss & Joseph Cabanas, 17 th
Art Goodstone, 18 th	Bill Goerke, 19 th
Darren Young, 21 st	Frank Warren, 22 nd
Gary Landstrom & Tom Abrams, 23 rd	William Kane & Harvey Michelman, 24 th
Kris Del Mauro & Bernard Pearl, 25 th	Ken Kaplan & Tony Pio Costa, 26 th
Stanley Ost & Alexander Kachmar, 27 th	Joshua Scher, 34 th
Lou Jasikoff, 35 th	David Daly, 38 th
James Conway, 39 th	Tom Wright, 40 th

The delegates approved a motion to allow the Steering Committee or the State Board not only to fill vacancies among the assembly candidates but also to implement the substitution or replacement of any candidate. This expanded authority for the Steering Committee (or State Board) was authorized, because a few of the candidates may not have been adequately interviewed.

Following the exhaustive review and approval of NJLP candidates, the delegates began to hear standing committee reports at about 12 noon. Elizabeth Macron reported for the Platform Committee that it is undertaking an extensive review and updating of our platform. A motion was made that the convention reaffirm the current NJLP platform as it is currently written. The motion passed. This was done because the 1996 adoption date may appear outdated.

The delegates heard a report from the LP National Committee by retiring LP Regional Representative Dan Karlan. Difficulties with the national LP handling of new members and membership renewals in New Jersey were noted.

Brian Phillips reported for the Campaign Support Committee that two candidate workshops were planned in addition to the one held at today's convention. One will be held on April 30 and another on September 10, 2005.

Robert Hull reported for the Bylaws Committee that proposed amendments to the NJLP bylaws submitted by Brian Phillips are under review and the results will be presented shortly.

Emerson Ellett reminded county leaders that April 15 was the annual LP tax protest day. Members are preparing their annual leafletting at post offices.

Under new business Emerson presented certificates of achievement to all 2004 candidates. The convention delegates also recognized the late Mike Buoncristiano's contribution to the Libertarian movement in New Jersey. Len Flynn noted that Mike's dedication to the gubernatorial campaign in 1997 allowed enough money to be raised (\$210,000.00) to assure our candidate access to the televised debates. Flynn noted that the best way to honor Mike's memory is to dedicate ourselves this year to repeating this achievement for our gubernatorial candidate Jeff Pawlowski. (The minimum fund raising level to be included in the debates and obtain 2:1 matching funds is \$300,000 this year.)

Emerson called for NJLP members to volunteer to help either as candidates or campaign workers.

Announcements: Ray Babecki reported on the libertarian public access cable television program "Third Point of View." Ray Cragle mentioned that the NJLP would have a presence at the Trenton Computer Festival this year. Dr. John Taylor is currently serving on his local school board. He thanked the NJLP Steering Committee and members of the Monmouth County Libertarians for their help in the two elections that paved the way for him to have the highest vote total among all the candidates for the school board in the last election.

Future meetings: (All meetings start at 1:00 PM unless noted otherwise.)

April 17, 2005 Steering Committee at Chair Brian Phillips' home in Toms River.

May 21 State Board meeting at Tumulty's in New Brunswick.

June 19 Steering Committee at a location to be determined.

July 9 Annual NJLP Picnic at Pawlowski's park location (same as last year).

Adjournment: At 12:30 PM the convention was adjourned.

State Board Meeting

Following the convention the NJLP State Board held a brief meeting. The single item on the agenda was approval to contribute \$3,000 from the NJLP State Fund to the Pawlowski campaign for Governor. The motion passed. It was noted that this amount represents 1 percent of the amount needed to put Jeff in the televised debates with the Democrat and Republican candidates.

P.S. In the afternoon Len Flynn presented a nominating petition to the NJLP Secretary with 49 signatures for him to be an At-Large Member of the NJLP Steering Committee.

Karlan to Remain as LNC Rep

Dan Karlan had this to say on the Convention, and he has this update as of March 26:

When I got up to report on the status of the LNC and related matters, my resignation was just a few hours old. It had been motivated in large part by the emergence of a significant degree of open hostility, expressed in quite personal terms, to the dues increase passed by the LNC at the Portland meeting at the end of February -- and not a little to the ballot vote that was used to cast the votes for or against the measure. (There was also an issue that applied only to UMP states, not relevant to the NJLP.) I explained why I voted for the ballot vote (derogatorily called a "secret ballot", with the "secret" being in fact redundant and employed to make the process seem worse than it was). My explanation was accepted.

However, I was especially pleased by the rest of the Convention business, which I saw as exempting the NJLP from the mean-spiritedness and "presumption of malice" that drove my resignation.

Between my return home and the following afternoon, I was lobbied by certain members of the LNC, who tried to persuade me to reconsider my resignation, arguing that my role on the LNC was too valuable to do without. In these arguments, there was no attempt to suggest that my perception was inaccurate. The arguments finally wore me down, and on Sunday afternoon I sent notes to the LNC and to the Region 1E Chairs withdrawing my resignation. A teleconference among the Region 1E Chairs was arranged to address the confusion, as at least one Chair argued that I had not withdrawn my resignation in time. The rest of the week was spent partly with me trying to lobby the Chairs in New England and New York that I had effectively withdrawn my resignation. At the teleconference, the participating Chairs voted 5-0 to accept my withdrawal of my resignation, leaving me as the Region 1E Representative.

But the factors that so dispirited me remain, and I have enlisted the cooperation of those LNC members who twisted my arm to get me to remain on the LNC in an effort to address the climate of mistrust. Certainly part of that climate has been driven by the LNC itself, even though we gave ourselves 3 more meetings to fix what we 'broke'. Clearly there is some part of the relation between the LNC and the affiliates that needs mending. But I am more sure that the 'presumption of malice' existed before and independent of our action, and must be addressed at all levels.

With that said, I note with pride that I saw just the opposite at our Convention, as evidenced by the cooperation and agreeability of the selection of new officers -- and the unprecedented candidate slate that was approved.

And I have learned one important lesson: don't make such important decisions in the wee hours of the morning.

Dan Karlan
(still) Region 1E LNC Representative

Draft Minutes, State Board Meeting of March 19th, 2005

The NJLP State Board met very briefly during the 2005 convention. The draft minutes of that meeting are as follows:

The meeting was called to order at 12:25 pm

Resolved, that the NJLP allocate \$3,000 from the State Fund to Jeff Pawlowski's gubernatorial campaign, when funds are available.

The meeting adjourned at 12:28 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Emerson Ellett
Secretary

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read the njl at
njlp.org/newsletters/**

New NJLP County Organizations Are Forming

By Brian Phillips

Efforts are underway to form new NJLP county organizations in Burlington, Camden/Gloucester, Hunterdon and Ocean.

The contact persons for these efforts are as follows:

Burlington County: Dameyon Beaman /
dameyonbeaman@yahoo.com /
609-893-6590

Camden/Gloucester: Kevin Ferrizzi /
litlbigthumb@snip.net /
856-845-5630

Hunterdon: Tom Abrams / atabrams37@yahoo.com /
908-782-2040

Ocean: Brian Phillips / chair@njlp.org / 732-914-0037

If you live in one of the counties shown above please offer your help in our organizing efforts.

If anyone is interested in working to establish a NJLP county organization we can offer you help and support. Our aim is to have all of our states 21 counties organized as soon as possible. For further information please contact Brian Phillips at chair@njlp.org or by calling 732-914-0037.

REVIVE! RECRUIT! REBUILD!

Liberty in our Lifetime Free State Project

Free State Project What is the Project About?

The Free State Project is a plan in which 20,000 or more liberty-oriented people will move to the state of New Hampshire and work within its political system to reduce the size and scope of government.

The Project will reduce burdensome taxation and regulation; reform state and local laws; opt out of federal mandates; and press for the restoration of constitutional federalism.

The Free State Project will show the world what liberty can accomplish!

Free State Project Liberty in Our Lifetime

We don't want to wait decades for most citizens in the US to realize that the nanny state is an insult to their dignity. For those of us who already understand the debilitating effects of a government bent on reducing liberty rather than increasing it, the Free State Project aims at liberty in a single state.

What do we mean by liberty? We believe that being free and independent is a great way to live, and that government's maximum role should be to help individuals defend themselves from force and fraud.

Free State Project Where & Why?

The state where we will move was decided by a vote of the FSP membership after we reached 5,000 commitments. Population was the critical factor. Our research so far indicates that 20,000 activists could heavily influence only states with under about a 1.5 million population, or which spend less than \$10 million on political campaigns in any given two-year election cycle. New Hampshire met the population criterion, and its distaste for big government and a generally welcoming attitude toward the Free State Project were pluses.

Free State Project Get Involved!



Join the Free State Project and take part in a rapidly growing movement aimed at securing liberty in our lifetime. To learn more, you're invited to visit our website at www.freestateproject.org. Check out our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page, and visit our articles sections which contain more detailed information about the project. Whether you wish to become a full-fledged member or are sympathetic but unable to relocate, the Free State Project wants you!

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NJLP Continues to Demand “Openness” and Seeks \$1,000 Fine Against DYFS

On March 18, 2005, the New Jersey Libertarian Party filed its *second* complaint with the state Government Records Council (GRC) in order to force the Division of Youth and Family Services to give the party a computer-readable copy of a DYFS “field manual.”

The NJLP submitted its first request for the manual on March 9, 2004 under the Open Public Records Act (OPRA). The party specifically asked for the manual to be “mailed or emailed to us on a CD or floppy-disk in MS Word, WordPerfect or other generally available file format.” John Paff, who is managing the case for the party, said that having the manual as a computer file is preferable to having it in paper form because computer files are text-searchable and easy to duplicate.

Instead of producing the manual, DYFS sent the party of list of public libraries and said in a May 24, 2004 letter “your request for the Division’s policy manual entails thousands of pages. I was going to suggest that you review the CD-Rom copy of the Division’s policy, which is located at several libraries. This would allow you to leisurely select the passages that you needed and limit the cost greatly for you.”

The NJLP complained to the GRC, arguing that since large amounts of data can be put on one or two CDs, DYFS’ concern that the manual contains “thousands of pages” is irrelevant. The complaint also challenged DYFS’ “questionable determination that it would somehow be more ‘leisurely’ for us to trek to a distant library than it would be for us to view the material on our home and office computers.”

In a January 2005 decision, the GRC agreed with the party and ordered DYFS to provide the party with a copy of its field manual on a CD.

Despite the GRC’s order, DYFS is still fighting for its right to suppress public information. In a January 31, 2005 letter to the party, DYFS stated “in order to read the CD-ROM, software that is manufactured by a third Party is required. Therefore, to access . . . the CD-ROM, the purchase of a software license is required. The current cost of the software is \$139.00. The Division also charges an additional \$6.79 to cover the cost of preparing the CD-ROM and the CD-ROM itself. The total fee, therefore, is \$145.79.”

The NJLP, in response, filed another complaint against DYFS with the Government Records Council. In the second complaint, the party expressed its frustration that DYFS did not identify the software supposedly needed to read the CD-ROM. “It is possible that the Libertarian Party already owns the necessary software or could purchase it for less than the \$139 Custodian demands,” states the complaint.

The complaint then accused DYFS of intentionally obstructing the request, charging that DYFS’ “failure to identify the software package, if not a violation of ORPA within itself, is evidence of a knowing, willful and unreasonable attempt to block or delay our access to a government record.” The NJLP requested the GRC to fine DYFS’ record custodian \$1,000, as permitted by OPRA, for willfully obstructing access to a public record.

The NJLP will continue to fight the government for the “openness” that is supposedly guaranteed. The result of the current complaint will be shared in the New Jersey Libertarian, whenever a conclusion has been reached.

To the Editor

I read Joshua Sher's article "That Freedom is Better is Irrelevant" with alarm. Joshua's thesis is that "the strongest argument for freedom is not that it is better, but that it is right." He claims that the alternative argument for freedom - that it works better - has the odds stacked against it "because people allow emotions to override reason". The article goes into a detailed analysis of auto insurance regulations as an example. He has it exactly backwards. History is strewn with examples of reasoning that was "right", but fell short of reality. Joshua's attitude is one of the reasons why the Libertarian Party can't even get its candidates elected for dogcatcher, let alone have any meaningful success in elections for positions of power.

During the mid-20th Century, intellectuals the world over knew that Marxism was "right". They overlooked the failures of the Soviet system because they were convinced by the reasoning of Scientific Marxism. The French Revolution was based on Reason. Back in the 1600's the Divine Right of Kings was justified because God's bestowing power on a ruler made his rule Right. The Greeks had justifications for their democracies and Rome knew its Republic was right.

The reason that we are so much better off today than back in the Middle Ages was due to the Enlightenment. The Enlightenment worked not just because of its reliance upon reason but also on the use of empiricism. Joshua seems to forget this.

Quantitative sciences such as physics show the superiority of arguments based on what is better rather than on what is right. Medieval astronomers had all sorts of reasons why a geocentric universe was right. Galileo looked through his telescope and proved them wrong. Einstein knew that a static universe was right and introduced the Cosmological Constant into General Relativity to make it right. Hubble looked through his telescope and showed the universe was expanding. Rutherford and Bohr came up with a planetary model of the atom. Later experiments showed the flaws in that theory. These examples show that reasoning by being right often leads to stagnation. It was right before, so it is still right. Instead of science, we end up with dogma.

The problem with knowing that you are right is that without empirical justification, we can create any castle in the air and call it "right". Joshua claims that the average person's tendency for emotions to override reason is why they reject the answer to "what is better" as opposed to "what is right". I submit that it is impossible to have reason not tinged with emotion, and that his arguments about "what is right" are just as emotion-laden. Modern psychology has shown that people who are disconnected from their emotions make bad decisions. Emotions are not just unavoidable, they are a necessary component of reasoning. In analyzing auto insurance Joshua has claims such as "we can avoid the risks by abstaining from driving, but that would limit our lives a great deal." Well, if we abstain from driving, we become pedestrians. This does not avoid risk; if anything it increases them. The terms "abstain", "limit", "a great deal" all carry emotional baggage.

The Libertarian party is led astray by a reliance on pure reasoning. I would like to present two examples, an example of how emotions play into reasoning and another on empiricism. First, there are many Libertarians who believe that taxes are a form of confiscation. This argument seems to make fellow Libertarians happy. I know I bought into it. But it is greeted with skepticism in the real world. Our attempts to frame this debate have led to some success, but not for us - for the Republicans. We need to take seriously the analysis by George Lakoff who points out that the language that frames the ideas contains the emotions. We Libertarians need to reframe our attitude. I think that Lakoff's "paying our fair share" will lead to better acceptance with the voters and - who knows - even lead to our winning elections.

Where Libertarians believe what is "right" without empirical validation is on the issue of gun control. I personally take my basic principles from Thomas Jefferson, who talked about "a wise and frugal Government, which shall restrain men from injuring one another, 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." The very purpose of Government to restrain men from injuring one another is made impotent without some form of gun control. Statistics have shown that gun violence is one of the major causes of death in this country compared to other countries. Limiting gun control because it is right, it has resulted in a society that is in no way better because of it.

I am not a purist. I believe in the scientific method more than I believe in any one theory. This applies to politics as well as it applies to physics, chemistry and psychology. I am not going to be doctrinaire about whether medical care should be in private hands or not. Currently, the facts are that countries with socialized medicine have a lifespan longer than the United States has, even though we spend more. If we Libertarians believe that freedom is better, then it behooves us to come up with a model that is more successful. We haven't yet. And until then, I am willing to trade privatization for a longer lifespan.

The Libertarian Party prides itself that it is the Party of Principle. Principles be damned. If you want to see where principles get you, look at Maoist China. As far as I'm concerned, I side with Deng Hsiao Ping who said, "it doesn't matter if the cat is black or white as long as it catches mice." The evidence shows that freedom was needed to create this modern age. The evidence shows that the amount of freedom in a country is approximately proportional to its success. I am a member of the Libertarian Party because I am convinced that Freedom is better - but a Freedom tempered by pragmatism. That Freedom is better justifies my belief it is right, not the other way around.

Antony Van der Mude, Hackettstown NJ

Send your letters to the editor to Deb Sackett at editor@njlp.org, or to P.O. Box 870, Malaga, NJ 08328.

Libertarians in Print

Printed in the *Herald News*
March 11, 2005

Return to wisdom of founding fathers

There has been a great deal of misconception among those in the press, in politics and elsewhere concerning the meaning of a noninterventionist foreign policy. These individuals claim that non-interventionism is nothing more than a fancy word for isolationism. It is nothing of the sort. Isolationists don't seek alliances with other nations, whereas non-interventionists seek temporary alliances in case of emergencies, such as war. Non-interventionism is the policy of not getting involved in the quarrels of other nations. It maintains that a government should seek peace, free trade and open markets with all and not get involved in the disputes of other countries.

It is also the belief that a nation must only enter a war if it is attacked or when its vital, national interests are at stake.

Non-interventionism was the foreign policy of the United States for more than 100 years. That changed in 1898 when then-president William McKinley annexed the Philippines, got involved in the Spanish-American War in Cuba and also annexed Hawaii (then not a state). Since then, the United States has followed an interventionist foreign-policy line.

Throughout the 20th century, the United States involved itself in conflicts that many non-interventionists believe have not been in America's interests. The examples they cite include World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf War, and invasions of Panama and Grenada.

Non-interventionists always seek their wisdom from the U.S. Constitution. In that document, they point out that while the president is commander and chief of the armed forces and is responsible for the conduct of foreign affairs, Congress has a great foreign policy role as well. Under the Constitution, Congress is authorized to vote on treaties, allocate funds for the military and declare war.

Non-interventionists also seek their wisdom from the words of Founding Fathers such as George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and John Adams.

The United States today is engaged in a war on terror, a war against Islamofacism. This enemy had not only declared war against the United States, but against Western civilization as a whole.

I have no doubt that these forces will be defeated and scuttled. When they are, that will be the time the United States will engage in introspection to evaluate its overall foreign policy and its relations with other countries. I hope then that the United States will take a second look at the words of the founding fathers and the words of the founding documents and take them into consideration.

Alex Pugliese, Kenilworth

Printed in *Suburban Trends*
February 27, 2005

In Support of Free Speech

I'd like to commend *Suburban Trends* for its pro-free speech and anti-censorship editorial of Sunday, Feb. 20.

I often wonder if Congressman Rodney Frelinghuysen and the others in Congress, who voted to strengthen the FCC powers over what is "decent" or "indecent," have ever actually read the Constitution of the United States that they are sworn to uphold and defend upon taking office.

When it comes to free speech, the First Amendment's first five words are "Congress shall make no law..." "No" is a simple two-letter word. Why do our legislators have trouble grasping that concept?

Government censorship of any kind has always been the hallmark of dictatorships throughout history and it is very disturbing to see our nation going down that road too.

Sadly there have always been groups in America's history who don't really believe in the heritage of liberty given to us by our forebears and who will seize any opportunity to undermine our rights for what they claim is the "greater good".

While the current drive to give more enforcement power to the FCC seems to be coming from the "holy roller fundamentalists" who make up the "Religious Right," the "Liberal Left" isn't exempt, either. For example, we have a situation in which the animal rights activists of the "BEAR" group were able to kill the broadcast of a program on NJN which took an objective look at the bear problem here in New Jersey and might have been considered to be mildly pro-hunting.

A government agency that is powerful enough to silence someone you disagree with will one day silence you as well. If Howard Stern can be driven off the air so can Pat Robertson or Billy Graham. What goes around comes around they say!

The only solution is the abolition of the FCC and the complete privatization of the airwaves. The broadcast media should have the same First Amendment rights as the print media. This is a position that we Libertarians have been advocating for years. It's very sad that so many other Americans seem afraid of freedom!

Mark Richards, West Milford

Libertarian Links

Pawlowski2005.org Website for the NJLP's Candidate for Governor

NJLP.org Website for the New Jersey Libertarian Party.

The New Jersey Bartender (http://www.cjnj.org/html/the_nj_bartender.html)

This is a great web site, created by our own John Paff. Know a lawyer? Need to hire one? The Bartender is a wonderful tool. "A list of New Jersey lawyers who have been formally charged with or sanctioned for ethics violations or who have otherwise been the subject of action by the New Jersey Supreme Court."

Reason Online (<http://www.reason.com/>) *Reason* is the monthly print magazine of "free minds and free markets." It covers politics, culture, and ideas through a provocative mix of news, analysis, commentary, and reviews. *Reason* provides a refreshing alternative to right-wing and left-wing opinion magazines by making a principled case for liberty and individual choice in all areas of human activity.

Advocates for Self-Government (<http://www.theadvocates.org/index.html>) The Advocates for Self-Government is a non-profit, non-partisan libertarian educational organization. Founded in 1985 by Marshall Fritz, our current president is Sharon Harris.

Libertarianism (<http://www.libertarianism.org/>). A primer by David Boaz.

International Society for Individual Liberty (<http://www.isil.org/>) The International Society for Individual Liberty (ISIL). ISIL is one of the major pioneers in the creation of the worldwide libertarian movement – today's fastest-growing philosophical/political movement.

Heartland Institute (<http://www.heartland.org/>) The Heartland Institute is a genuinely independent source of research and commentary founded in Chicago, Illinois in 1984. It is not affiliated with any political party, business, or foundation.

Laissez Faire (<http://www.laissezfaire.org/>) Liberty book store.

The Future of Freedom Foundation (<http://www.fff.org/>) The mission of The Future of Freedom Foundation is to advance freedom by providing an uncompromising moral and economic case for individual liberty, free markets, private property, and limited government.

The Free State Project (<http://www.freestateproject.org/>) Liberty in our Lifetime.

Drug Policy Alliance (<http://www.dpf.org/homepage.cfm>) The Alliance is the nation's leading organization working to end the war on drugs. We envision new drug policies based on science, compassion, health and human rights and a just society in which the fears, prejudices and punitive prohibitions of today are no more.

The CATO Institute (<http://www.cato.org/>) The Cato Institute was founded in 1977 by Edward H. Crane. It is a non-profit public policy research foundation headquartered in Washington, D.C. The Institute is named for Cato's Letters, a series of libertarian pamphlets that helped lay the philosophical foundation for the American Revolution.

The National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) (<http://www.natlnorml.org/>) NORML is a nonprofit, public-interest lobby that for more than 30 years has provided a voice for those Americans who oppose marijuana prohibition.

Fully Informed Jury Association (FIJA) (<http://www.fija.org/>) Our mission is to inform all Americans about their rights, powers, and responsibilities when serving as trial jurors. Jurors must know that they have the option and the responsibility to render a verdict based on their conscience and on their sense of justice as well as on the merits of the law.

This list is just a small sample of the resources available online. For more, check out the NJLP.org/links.php site. Got a great link? Share your favorites by emailing the web address to editor@njlp.org.

Internal NJLP Investigation

Editor's note: The following was received via electronic communication from Brian Phillips, NJLP Chair, after deadline and while the NJL was in its final proof stage. Let it be known that the text in this communication is entirely from Brian J. Phillips, and Mr. Phillips' "announcement" does not in any way necessarily reflect the views, comments, opinions, positions, actions or inactions of the New Jersey Libertarian newsletter, its editor, publisher or printer.

The New Jersey Libertarian celebrates the cherished right to free and unfettered speech in its contributions, but must strongly disassociate itself from content that infringes on other, equally cherished rights. Although the New Jersey Libertarian does not wish to ever print unproven accusations against individuals, whether named specifically or by association, Mr. Phillips informed the NJL that if it did not print this announcement he would use his power as State Chair to send out his announcement via a special mailing, to every NJLP member, using party funds for the expense. The NJL therefore agreed to print his announcement, but informed the Chair that a disclaimer would accompany it and that "officials or quasi-officials" would be given the opportunity to respond. That response appears on the next page.

To: All Members of the NJLP
From: Brian J. Phillips Chair, NJLP
Re: Internal NJLP Investigation

Dear Fellow NJLP Member:

I was elected NJLP Chair at the recent March 19, 2005 NJLP Convention. As I was settling in to the job and perusing some official records, I discovered that some as yet to be identified NJLP official or quasi-officials may have wrongfully withheld the payment over to the national LP of dues monies the NJLP collected for that very purpose.

Simply put, we may have failed to pay some of your dues to the National Party entrusted to us by you for that very purpose in a prompt and timely fashion. This will likely explain why some of you may have received national LP renewal notices and perhaps no copy of the monthly LP News for some time even after you paid your national LP dues through the NJLP. I am uncertain as of writing this to you how many members are (sic) effected. I intend to ask for a full and complete accounting as a matter of the utmost urgency.

In response to my discovery, I have taken the following immediate steps:

(1) I have issued an unconditional and immediate directive of the Chair to the NJLP Treasurer, Membership Coordinator or any other NJLP official to immediately pay over to the National LP any NJLP members' national LP dues monies they may be currently holding or withholding for any purpose whatsoever; and,

(2) I will appoint a special Committee of Investigation empowered to conduct an official and complete investigation of this entire matter and to report its findings directly to the Chair and to the general membership.

As the newly-elected Chair of the NJLP, I want you to know that I will not tolerate nor will I abide any violation of your trust. I will keep you apprised of further developments in this matter as information becomes available to me.

I felt it of the utmost importance that I advise all members immediately of this situation.

Brian J. Phillips, Chair
New Jersey Libertarian Party

Wondering why the hard copy edition of the NJL shows up weeks after the online version is available?

That's why they call it "snail mail"! Anyone, including prospective and non-members of the New Jersey Libertarian Party can read the NJL online, anytime, at www.njlp.org/newsletters/

If you decide you like the full-color, up to the minute version online, and that you'd like to forgo the hard copy edition, let Membership Coordinator Bob Hull (rhull@wallnet.com) know, and he'll stop your hard copies (other than 4 a year that we send to everyone). You'll be saving the party a few bucks that could be going to campaigns or outreach, and getting your newsletter sooner!

Response to "Internal NJLP Investigation"

To the NJ Libertarian Editor:

You have asked that I respond to Brian Phillips' public announcement that I, as a yet-to-be-identified official of the NJLP, may have been involved in possibly wrongfully withholding member dues money from the National LP.

But since I may not ever be named and may not even be involved, it is more than a little bit difficult to fashion a reasoned response to so many hypotheses.

Mr. Phillips doesn't actually allege anything about any particular individual, but in so doing he has stacked the deck. Anyone who participated in the suspect former Steering Committee is already guilty by association. Anyone who rises to defend themselves from his non-accusations must have something to hide. Mr. Phillips has set the stage and anyone who lights upon it assumes the role of villain, while Mr. Phillips has cast himself as avenging hero, tirelessly working for truth, justice and unmolested member dues dollars.

So let's start with the truth. The truth is that, since his election as Chair, Brian Phillips has had no access of any kind to any official NJLP records. (I imagine he characterizes what he read as "official records" to give what he is about to reveal the air of unquestioned authenticity. But, perhaps we should ask him why he feels the need to hype his sources.)

What he actually read was a compilation of previously circulated emails detailing several matters of unfinished business that came before the prior Steering Committee. This email was assembled as a service to the new Chair to help him get up to speed on pending matters by one of my yet-to-be named co-conspirators, Len Flynn.

One of the issues described in Mr. Flynn's email was a problem we are having with getting the National Office to update our member records and return confirmation of the same to us. We have been pursuing resolution of this problem directly with the National Office and through our National Committee contacts. Dues dollars have been withheld from National since December as a means of protecting the funds and to force attention to the problem.

There was, however, disagreement on the Steering Committee over this last tactic. A motion by Mr. Flynn was circulating, but not yet passed by the Steering Committee, to make it our policy not to withhold National dues dollars.

This is what Brian Phillips "discovered" by reading his email. If he was interested in learning more about the issue, he could have asked someone...anyone. Instead, he decided to seize upon this molehill to make his mountain. He could have gathered some facts and listened to both sides of the controversy. Instead he decided to shoot from the hip and make his announcement, brimming with innuendo, that something might be wrong, but, by gum, he and he alone won't tolerate it.

What then is the controversy? Mr. Flynn argued that National dues sent to the NJLP was money given in trust that must be turned over to National as soon as practicable and that NJLP had little discretion in the matter to do anything else. Those on the other side of the question argued that the NJLP receives National dues dollars as an agent, which imposes a much higher duty. Agents and principals are each legally responsible for the acts of the other. So if, for example, National was not extending memberships for the dues dollars sent to them, the NJLP would still be responsible to refund the money.

Both sides have good faith arguments and the matter was pending when Mr. Phillips came along. But to hear Mr. Phillips tell it, something wrong may have happened and everyone involved is suspect.

Now let's talk about justice. Brian Phillips claims to have launched an investigation on this serious matter. This is a favorite trick of Congress whenever they want to feel holier than everyone else on some issue like corporate malfeasance or baseball players who use steroids. Every once in a great while, however, someone like a Howard Hughes or Oliver North comes along and turns the tables on them. Mr. Phillips won't say who his investigators are. If they are investigating something, it must be in a vacuum. Neither I, nor anyone I know who is involved in membership renewals has been asked anything by anyone. In fact, Brian Phillips has no power to appoint anybody to anything without the approval of the Steering Committee and no such authority has been sought. He has forbidden anyone to talk about this matter while it is "under investigation" and refuses to let it be considered at the next Steering Committee meeting.

What does all that mean? Will the Star Chamber meet in secret, consider facts known only to Brian Phillips and issue a complete report? Will Mr. Phillips and the Committee of Investigation conduct a séance to contact the spirit of Joseph McCarthy who will guide their efforts to route out the evildoers? I guess we will have to wait and see.

In the meantime, good members, I leave it to you to decide what is really going on. Is this a case of clear and massive wrongdoing on the part of the former Steering Committee? Or a manufactured crisis designed to marginalize holdover Committee members while the new Chair consolidates his presumed powers. Is there a secret cabal of NJLP Officials and Quasi Officials who have been carrying on with member dues dollars at the witching hour? Or a new Chair with an overactive imagination and a tendency to hear bumps in the night?

But whatever you decide, kids, don't touch that dial. Stay tuned for the next exciting adventure of Brian Phillips, Chair Par Excellence! And don't forget to use your secret decoder rings to find the hidden message in Brian's announcement.

Lou Stefanelli
(Dastardly) NJLP Treasurer

Show your true colors in NJ

At long last, you can register as a Libertarian. Fill out the form below and mail it to your county election board.

Atlantic County

1333 Atlantic Ave., 4th Floor
Atlantic City, NJ 08401

Bergen County

1 Bergen County Plaza, Room 310
Hackensack, NJ 07601

Burlington County

P.O. Box 6000
Mount Holly, NJ 08060

Camden County

P.O. Box 1066
Camden, NJ 08101

Cape May County

10-12 W. Mechanic Street
Cape May Courthouse, NJ 08210

Cumberland County

60 Broad St. W., Suite 210
Bridgeton, NJ 08302

Essex County

33 Washington Street
Newark, NJ 07102

Gloucester County

P.O. Box 352
Woodbury, NJ 08096

Hudson County

595 Newark Avenue
Jersey City, NJ 07306

Hunterdon County

P.O. Box 2900
Flemington, NJ 08822-9952

Mercer County

P.O. Box 8068
Trenton, NJ 08650

Middlesex County

777 Jersey Avenue
New Brunswick, NJ 08901-3605

Monmouth County

300 Halls Mill Road
Freehold, NJ 07728

Morris County

P.O. Box 900
Morristown, NJ 07963-0900

Ocean County

P.O. Box 2006
Toms River, NJ 08754-2006

Passaic County

311 Pennsylvania Ave.,
Room 103
Paterson, NJ 07503

Salem County

90 Market Street
Salem, NJ 08079-9856

Somerset County

20 Grove Street
Somerville, NJ 08876-1262

Sussex County

18 Church Street
Newton, NJ 07860-9965

Union County

271 North Broad Street
Elizabeth, NJ 07207

Warren County

413 Second Street
Belvidere, NJ 07823



State of New Jersey Political Party Affiliation Declaration Form

I, being a registered voter at the address listed below, do hereby declare that I wish to affiliate with the following political party:

Democratic* Republican*
 Green Party Libertarian Party Natural Law Party
 Reform Party U.S. Constitution Party

OR

I, being a registered voter at the address listed below, wish to formally disaffiliate with any political party:

Independent

Last Name _____
First Name _____ Middle Initial _____
Date of Birth: (month) _____ (day) _____ (year) _____
New Jersey Residence:
Street _____ Apt. No. _____
Municipality _____
County _____ Zip Code _____

Signature or mark of registered voter _____ Date _____

**If you are a registered member of the Green Party, Libertarian Party, Natural Law Party, Reform Party, U.S. Constitution Party or an Independent, you cannot vote in either the Democratic or Republican Primary.*

Declaration must be filed no later than 50 days preceding the primary in which the voter wishes to vote. A newly registered voter or a voter who has never voted in a primary election, can affiliate with the Democratic or Republican Party on the day of the Primary.

v11.12.02



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Elections**
www.NJElections.org



Brett Griffiths of Pokerface (www.pokerface.com) at the 2005 Convention. Photo by Jay Edgar.



**Free State
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Meeting**

April 25th

Trenton Area

**For more information, contact
Robert Hull at rhull@wallnet.com**

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Donation

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

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

