

New Jersey Libertarian



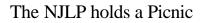
NJLP Chair Vic Kaplan addresses members at the July 10^{th} picnic and annual meeting.

Photo courtesy of John Paff

Jeff Pawlowski, LP Candidate for Sayreville Borough Council.

Photo courtesy of John Paff

More picnic pictures throughout this issue. Many thanks to John Paff!



By Vic Kaplan

On Saturday, July 10, the NJLP held an annual picnic at 209 William Street in South River. The attendees mingled in a friendly atmosphere, and enjoyed the delicious pork roast, courtesy of Jeff Pawlowski.

At 3:30pm, the General meeting was held. Petitioning for Michael Badnarik, and a plan for a full slate for state Assembly was discussed. Ten people volunteered to run for State Assembly next year.

John Paff spoke on a lawsuit proposal, while Jeff Pawlowski, a former Councilman, expressed confidence in winning a Sayreville City Council seat. Our Sayreville team's website is http://www.liberty123.org

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Calling All Libertarians!

By Vic Kaplan NJLP Chair

Like you, I want to make the NJLP a party to be reckoned with in Trenton. Like you, I want the NJLP to receive extensive coverage in the press from Bergen to Cape May County, so that the word "Libertarian" would become a household name in New Jersey. Our party needs to make a splash, and you can make it happen!

Next year you can help put the New Jersey Libertarian Party on the map by lending your name on a ballot. By achieving a full slate (80 seats for state Assembly, 2 members for each of the 40 districts), the NJLP would receive the maximum coverage possible in the press, making the 10% total of the vote (5% for each candidate) a doable goal. The press coverage itself should aid us in this endeavor. Furthermore, I propose that the NJLP adopt a 10-point contract, on what our candidates would do if elected. This contract would be advertised before the press. A full slate for any alternative political party would be unprecedented. If we achieve 10%, this would mean that the NJLP would have a permanent column on the ballot along with the Republicans and Democrats. In 1995, the New Jersey Conservative Party nearly achieved a full slate with fewer members, with some candidates receiving 5,6, and 7% of the vote. Their success was helped by the press, which covered the NJCP extensively. However, they lacked a gubernatorial candidate. Because the NJLP intends to field a gubernatorial candidate, our Assembly candidates would bring the vote totals of each other up. It matters not if you do not intend to run an active campaign. Your name on the ballot is what counts! All you have to be is a registered voter and a party member. Please contact me at vikaplan@hotmail.com, and provide your address so that I know which district you live in. Let's start now, so that we can accomplish a full slate. Let's make the New Jersey Libertarian Party a household name!

August, 2004, Volume XXVIII, Issue 8 The New Jersey Libertarian ©2004 The New Jersey Libertarian Party ISSN 1093-801X Editor, Deb Sackett The New Jersey Libertarian is the official monthly publication of the New Jersey Libertarian Party. Opinions, articles and advertisements published herein do not necessarily represent official NJLP positions unless so indicated. Material appearing in the NJL may be reproduced, as long as credit is given the author, the New Jersey Libertarian, and tear sheets are furnished to the address below. Commentary and advertising may be submitted to the editor by the 10th of every month.

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



Pawlowski and Koszalka give Sayreville a Choice

By Jay Boucher

With the announcement of Libertarian candidates running for council in Sayreville, NJ, voters in the largest borough in New Jersey finally have a chance to be heard in government. With the announcement that former Democratic Councilman Jeffrey Pawlowski and political newcomer Chris Koszalka have thrown their hats into the ring, November's council elections promise to be exciting. Following the collection of enough signatures to be on the ballot, Sayreville at long last has reputable third party.

Pawlowski, a former Democratic councilman, Planning Board member, and active member of the community said he decided to run as a Libertarian because "The town may change from Republican to Democrat, but there's really no difference. Nothing changes." He added that with the addition of a third party, the people of Sayreville have an opportunity to find a party that really represents "their values, their needs, and their desires." As a man of exemplary public service, Jeff is a well-known member of the community. His decision to run as a Libertarian shows his desire to make life in Sayreville better, and also shows that there is a credible alternative to the traditional two-party charade. By choosing Chris Koszalka as his running mate, Jeff believes that he has found someone who shares his views and someone Libertarians can depend on to make their values known to voters.

"Government must be open to the public so that the collective wisdom of the residents can solve the problems," Koszalka stated. "For too long now, people look only at the two big parties to answer their needs. In return, the parties have taken their constituents for granted; they do what's in their own interests." Koszalka, a business and political science student at Villanova University, decided to enter politics after realizing that some people are not at all interested in their government. "Now, even if we end up in second place, people will become more involved and aware of government matters, and the Libertarian Party will become known."

Among their issues, the candidates believe that the council and mayor's health benefits should be eliminated, as they are an unnecessary strain on the borough's budget. "No other part-time employee receives health benefits. Not only would it save the town \$70,000, but it would also send the right message." Also, Sayreville's vacant waterfront property should be developed in a manner that best benefits the town, rather than any particular individuals. Last, but not least, all of Sayreville's town meetings should be televised so that Sayrevillians can see their government in action.

In addition to planning the NJLP Summer Picnic, our candidates are organizing several other public outings to get the word out to voters. Although we are still months from Election Day, Pawlowski and Koszalka are already swinging into action. "Why do we think we can win? Because we are mixing youthful vigor with steadfast experience in an attempt to give people something that want so desperately: an honest, open government, for the people by the people, run by individuals who hold themselves personally accountable. Lack of accountability is what plagues public service today," Koszalka said. Pawlowski added, "We hope to change the discussion in this race. If we do that, we have succeeded."

With the election of these two great candidates, the Libertarian Party's commitment to individual liberty and personal responsibility will be represented in Sayreville, NJ. This election will deliver not only a higher level of attention to our party and its issues at the local level, but will, at long last, give voters an alternative to the two-party system's empty promises.

You can learn more about Koszalka and Pawlowski at http://www.liberty123.org. You can send donations to: Jeffrey Pawlowski, 28 Miara Street, Parlin, NJ 08859. Please make your checks payable to "Liberty123".



Calendar

General meeting Sunday, September 19 1 pm 361 George Street, New Brunswick (Tumulty's Pub)

Libertarian Activism Coverage in Star-Ledger

Thursday, July 08, 2004 BY SUE EPSTEIN Star-Ledger Staff

A judge has ordered the Perth Amboy City Council to provide more information to the public before it goes behind closed doors. Superior Court Judge Robert Longhi, sitting in New Brunswick, told the city if the council is going into closed session to discuss pending litigation, it must list the actual names involved in the case. If the matter has to do with real estate transactions, the location of the property, its name or both must be included.

Longhi said yesterday that Perth Amboy agreed it was not complying with the Open Public Meetings Act, also known as the Sunshine Law, by only listing the general areas it planned to discuss that fell within the exceptions of the law."

The Sunshine Law requires public bodies to hold public meetings, but it includes certain exceptions in which the Legislature recognized the subject may be too sensitive to hold in public such as personnel matters, pending litigation, land purchases and contract negotiations.

The hearing in court Tuesday ended litigation brought by John Paff, secretary of the (LPCNJ) New Jersey Libertarian Party and a Some rset County-based activist.

Paff was investigating complaints that Perth Amboy police routinely enforced the city's loitering ordinance, which his political organization believes is vague and invalid.

He said he was discussing the issue with members of the city council at a December meeting and was told the council would order its attorney to investigate his complaints about the ordinance.

"I was told the attorney would report back to the council on January 14, but I was out of the state for several months and couldn't attend the council meeting," Paff said.

He said when he returned, he could not find out what the city attorney reported to the council because it was discussed in executive session -- behind closed doors.

Paff said he could not determine what occurred at the Jan. 14 session, and "I got the runaround" from the city clerk, Elaine Kiczula, and council members in trying to find out what, if any, decision had been made about his request the council consider repealing the loitering ordinance.

When he looked at the meeting notices for closed sessions, "they were so vague, I couldn't determine which ones I should request minutes from," Paff said.

Alberto Rivas, the city attorney, could not be reached for comment yesterday on the judge's decision.

Paff said he still does not know what the city council decided, if anything, regarding the loitering law, but he acknowledged the council has not taken any action to repeal it since he brought the subject up in December.

Sue Epstein covers Middlesex County. She can be reached at sepstein@starledger.com or (732) 404-8085.

This story was also covered in the Home News.



Ginny Flynn, longtime NJLP member from Monmouth County, enjoys good weather and conversation at the 2004 Picnic and General Meeting.



Another longtime NJLP member, Tony Federici from Sussex County



Ken Kaplan, At Large Steering Committee member

Corporations, Persons?

By Joshua Scher

Every once in a long while, an event takes place that focuses even our "liberal" (i.e. Democratic Party friendly) media's inquisitive attention on a problem that has been virtually ignored. But, since those whose charge it is to hold up a mirror to the world have not done this, and have failed yet again to bring into the public forum the distinct role of corporate America, despite the recent attention to ex-CEO Kenneth "Kenny "Boy" Lay's indictment, libertarians must add yet another issue to the long list of items that America needs to examine and possibly rethink. Corporations enjoy a unique privilege, now legally a right, that other proprietors do not: the right to personhood; a recognition under the eyes of the law of many of the same rights afforded individual citizens that were earned in revolution by our beloved libertarian forefathers. It is hardly clear whether or not this is problematic enough to warrant repeal, but at bare minimum, this recognition—instituted for the purpose of promoting entrepreneurial activity—demands another look.

Corporations have been in existence since long before the Unites States came into being. Centuries ago, the Dutch East India Company was immensely successful, even by today's standards. In America, however, a country that was initially wary of large centralized powers, states kept corporations in check, granting the limited liability status only as they saw fit. This changed as the 20th century approached with a Supreme Court decision that granted these business entities many of the same rights American individuals are thought to have. If people are free, and corporations have personhood, then they are free as well. With freedom comes responsibility. Therein lies a predicament. A corporation is an entity unto itself, separate from those individuals who comprise it. An owner, or shareholder, is only liable to the extent of ownership. Such is not the case for the local mechanic whose sole proprietorship status makes him personally responsible for his practices. His children's college savings can easily be seized if circumstances permit. The argument for the protection of limited liability is to promote entrepreneurial activity, an important point that cannot be dismissed. People will be more adventurous with less responsibility, and risk taking is paramount to business. In a country that prides itself on its "capitalism," the trade-off might even seem requisite to some. A corporation's only goal is to be as profitable as possible within the framework or parameters of the law. To be moral, or work towards the betterment of society is only relevant to the degree it is consistent with making money. From this alone the issue becomes clear. As corporations grow, government must also grow concurrently in order to police them.

In addition to acceptance as people, corporations enjoy some rights that individuals do not; one might argue to the point of a double standard. Death and taxes, known to be the only two certainties in life are anything but for corporations whose charter does not necessarily have to expire. Inevitably, any individual worth a specified amount will have to pay a tax on their estate (though the Tax Act of 2001 calls for the end of the federal estate tax, it will take Congressional approval to keep it from returning). Corporations do not find themselves in a position where they necessarily have to engage in estate planning. In addition, as has been the case in Jersey City, corporations can negotiate with a municipality the rate at which it forks over a piece of its profits (taxes). Expenses of sustenance are written off as business expenses against profits. Individuals cannot do the same. Food, rent, transportation, insurance, etc. are not reportable. That which is required to survive is legally less burdensome for corporations (as well as other business forms). This includes fines as well as political party contributions, making it even easier for corporate America to manipulate government, ensuring the status quo.

Bankruptcy, another hot topic in hard-core libertarian and anarcho-capitalist circles, become another potential avenue for corporate abuse. Per Gary Norgaard, a small business bankruptcy attorney in Bergen County for more than 20 years, individuals can incorporate, obtain financing, default, declare bankruptcy, and then shortly thereafter reincorporate under a new name, within the same industry, at the same location, with a new credit report that does not reflect previous dealings. Mr. Norgaard was quick to add, however, that in practice this simply does not happen. It is the exception when it does. Be that as it may, the framework for abuse is in place.

One can surmise that the reason the corporate status goes unchallenged is that big media is comprised of these very corporations. The idea of corporations being due the rights of individuals is now ingrained in mainstream America to the point where "Widespread acceptance of the fiction makes it seem illegitimate to challenge corporate decisions the law defines as private, despite obvious differences between the corporation and the individual of size, power, motivation, and impact," as stated by college professor and writer Dennis Fox, Ph. D. It is up to the libertarian movement to address this issue. In a libertarian world where government's role is limited to that of referee, favoring one person over another is unacceptable. It is even more problematic when that party's personhood is in question.

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.

<u>Atlantic County</u> 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

<u>Camden County</u> P.O. Box 1066 Camden, NJ 08101

<u>Cape May County</u> 10-12 W. Mechanic Street Cape May Courthouse, NJ 08210

<u>Cumberland County</u> 60 Broad St. W., Suite 210 Bridgeton, NJ 08302

Essex County 33 Washington Street Newark, NJ 07102

<u>Gloucester County</u> P.O. Box 352 Woodbury, NJ 08096

<u>Hudson County</u> 595 Newark Avenue Jersey City, NJ 07306

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

<u>Mercer County</u> P.O. Box 8068 Trenton, NJ 08650

<u>Middlesex County</u> 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

Democratic* Republican* Green Party Libertarian Party Natural Law Pa Reform Party U.S. Constitution Party OR Lost name Last Name First Name Middle Initial Date of Birth: (month) (day) (year)
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) (year)
OR I, being a registered voter at the address listed below, wish to formally disaffiliate with any political party: Independent Last Name First Name Date of Birth: (month) (year)
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)
First NameMiddle Initial Date of Birth: (month)(day)(year)
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 Independe you cannot vote in either the Democratic or Republican Primary. Declaration must be filed no later then 50 days preceding the primary in wh 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.

Passaic County 311 Pennsylvania Ave., Room 103 Paterson, NJ 07503

<u>Salem County</u> 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

Pacifying Islamic Fundamentalists

By Tom Palven

Almost all of the two dozen or so conflicts in the world today involve Muslims - Muslims fighting against Christians in Bosnia, Indonesia, and Chechnya, against Hindus in India, Buddhists in China, and against Jews and other Muslims in the Mid-East. Islam appears to be aggressive, and is said to be the only religion in the world that is expanding. How can Americans prevent the spread of Islamic fundamentalism here?

1. Judging from events elsewhere, passing laws infringing on Islamic activities, or harassment by the police and FBI would be counterproductive.

2. Trying to weaken Islam by attacking it in print as an evil or violent religion is also bound to fail because, firstly, Muslims know that Islam is arguably less violent than Christianity was in its Middle Ages heyday, with its Crusades and Inquisition, and later its pogroms in Russia and ethnic cleansing in Germany. But, more importantly, attacking any religion seems to strengthen it. As has often been said, people use religion as a crutch, and as George Smith says in his book "Atheism: The Case Against God", when you try to pull crutches away from people they hold on all the more tightly.

3. Killing Islamic fundamentalism with kindness. It may sound farfetched, but it just might work. In the good old days when all the Christian sects were persecuting each other, many sects fled to The New World. If while growing up you and your parents are persecuted, disenfranchised, ridiculed, disliked, or just ignored due to your religion, you are likely to take your religion seriously than otherwise. Even in most of the 20th Century it was rare for Catholics and Protestants and/or Jews to intermarry. Today only the most devout worry much about it. In Scandinavia where there is little sectarian religious rivalry, Christianity has all but died out, and Church membership and political influence is in decline almost everywhere else.

Thus, we can hope and/or pray that success will also spoil Islam. As Shad Woolley, host of the libertarian TV talk show "Third Point of View" has stated, Iran is a case in point. After overthrowing the CIA-installed Shah of Iran in 1979, Iran installed a Shiite Muslim theocracy that quickly started moving toward democracy as students and others found that freedom to fully practice the Shiite faith wasn't enough, and agitated for more freedom. In 1997 Mohammed Khatani, a moderate, was elected president, but this progress was halted when President Bush declared Iran part of the "axis of evil" and embraced Ariel Sharon, "The Butcher of Shabra", Lebanon. However, progress could be made again if the US were to take an even-handed approach to both Iran's and Israel's pursuit of nuclear weapons and an even-handed approach to the Palestinian conflict.

Woolley has said he would welcome the theocracy in Iraq that the US seeks to prevent, just as some welcomed the communist overthrow of the Tsar in Russia and the communist overthrow of the Emperor in China as interim steps toward freedom. Perhaps the overthrow of America's allies, the Kings of Jordan and Saudi Arabia, and the Emir of Kuwait by religious zealots could also be interim steps to democracy. When our Declaration of Independence states that "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal", it referred to the British caste system wherein Kings are more equal than Princes who are more equal than Dukes who are more equal than Lords, and so on. The US, whose current leaders claim that there is "no moral equivalence" between Muslim countries and America, which is as pure as the driven snow, should have the moral courage to stand against royalty and for democracy. If the royalty falls to Islamic fundamentalist first, so be it. Since women cannot drive cars and must wear religious clothing and so forth in these Middle-Eastern fiefdoms, how much worse would Islamic theocracies be? If the economy or other things didn't go well there, the people could blame the mullahs and not the USA. Perhaps Muslims would no longer view Americans as enemies, and Islam, at least in its more virulent forms, would no bnger continue to spread.

Libertarians in Print

NJLP member and co-founder Fred Stein had the following letter-to-theeditor published in the 07/19/2004 <u>Home News Tribune</u>.

[supplemental: NJ Constitution Article I,(1.) [abridged] "All persons ... have certain natural and unalienable rights ...acquiring, possessing, and protecting property ... ".]

Historic character be damned! Give me my house!

It's unfortunate that a historic housing district has been created in Kingston. At one time, the popular belief was that a house was one's castle. We lived and prospered with fundamental property rights. Those rights have been under constant attack by coercive government. In a so-called historic district, if one wants to make improvements to the exterior of old houses, they must beg before a planning board. Today government wants control of the exterior of the house. In the near future, it will want the power to control what you do inside.

Why should someone be forced to live in a house from another age? Why should they be frozen in time? The ability to change has led to the advancement of our society. New Victorian-style houses are being built every day. If one wants their house to look old or live in the past, they should have that freedom. At the same time, if one wants to improve their house, a political gang shouldn't impede their property rights.

Fred Stein, Dayton.

Thanks to Ray Babecki for sending this in. – Ed.

From The Chair By NJLP State Chair Vic Kaplan

The New Jersey Libertarian Party is in the process of collecting signatures for Michael Badnarik, our 2004 presidential candidate. (Website: www.badnarik.org)

On July 10th, the NJLP hosted a Picnic in South River. The attendees enjoyed a delicious pork roast and sauce, courtesy of Jeff Pawlowski. The General Meeting was held the same day. My thanks go to Jay Boucher and Jeff Pawlowski for making this enjoyable event happen.

Ken Chazotte, our 12th congressional district candidate (http://www.kenforcongress.com) has been invited to participate in 2 debates in the months of September and October. The details are to follow.

Vote for Badnarik in a straw poll at:

http://www.uselectionatlas.org/USPRESIDENT/GENERAL/CAMPAIGN/2004/mock04.php. Help turn New Jersey yellow!

Next year, 80 seats for state Assembly (2 members for each of the 40 districts) will be contested. I want you to help put the NJLP on the map of New Jersey, by lending your name on a ballot. By achieving a full slate, the NJLP would receive the maximum coverage possible in the press, making the 10% vote of the total (5% for each candidate) a doable goal. A full slate for any alternative political party would be unprecedented. The press coverage itself should aid us in this endeavor. Furthermore, I propose that the NJLP adopt a 10-point contract on what our candidates would do if elected. This contract would be advertised before the press. If we achieve 10%, this would mean that the NJLP would have a permanent column on the ballot along with the Republicans and Demo crats. In 1995, the New Jersey Conservative Party nearly achieved a full slate with fewer members, with some candidates receiving 5,6, and 7% of the vote. Their success was helped by the press, which covered the NJCP extensively. However, they lacked a gubernatorial candidate. Because the NJLP intends to field a gubernatorial candidate, our Assembly candidate would bring the vote totals of each other up. Please contact me at vikaplan@hotmail.com and provide your address so that I know which district you live in. It matters not if you do not intend to run an active campaign. Your name on the ballot is what counts! All you have to be is a registered voter and a party member. Let's start now, so that we can accomplish a full slate. Let's make the New Jersey Libertarian Party, a household name!

The next Steering Committee meeting is on Sunday, August 15, 2004 at 1 pm at 13 Barn Owl Drive, Hackettstown, New Jersey (The Victor Kaplan residence).

The next General meeting is Sunday, September 19, 2004 at 1 pm at 361 George Street, (Tumulty's Pub), New Brunswick, New Jersey.

I can be reached at 908 887-0669 or vikaplan@hotmail.com

NEW JERSEY LIBERTARIAN P.O. BOX 56 PARTY TENNENT NJ 07763 CALL TOLL FREE 1800 201-NJLP Lwant to become a member of the Libertarian Party! I have checked the level at which I want to join and have enclosed the corresponding dues. I certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force to achieve political or social goals. Citantum menuined for membership only. X	Donation Donation Enclosed is my additional contribution of \$to help the NJLP in its efforts to expand individual liberty. Send to a Friend I have a friend who might be interested in the
(Signature required for membership only) X Name Address	NJLP. Please send a complimentary copy of the <i>New Jersey Libertarian</i> to:
City State ZIP Telephone () Email Email	·
Occupation & Employer Federal law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, and occupation and name of employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. Political contributions are not tax deductible. Please send me a Voter Registration Form Please send me a Voter Declaration of Party Affiliation Form	
Membership Level: S40 - Both National LP & NJLP S25 - National LP only Newsletter subscription(s) are included with your membership(s). Make check payable to NJLP and mail to: NJLP c/o Robert Hull 400 Higgins Ave Ste B Briel	

NJLP Members Enjoy Annual Picnic

Photos Courtesy of John Paff



NJLP Treasurer Lou Stefanelli and Ray Cragle, NJLP Member from Mercer County



Kickin' Back – NJLP Membership Coordinator Bob Hull



New Jersey Libertarian Party PO Box 56 Tennent New Jersey 07763 800-201-NJLP www.njlp.org

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