

FLP NEWS

BIMONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE FREE LIBERTARIAN PARTY - AUGUST 1983

Convention Countdown

The biggest libertarian event ever to be held in New York is less than four weeks away. On August 29th, an estimated 1000 libertarians from around the country will begin gathering at the Sheraton Center Hotel for the LP's 1983 Presidential Nominating Convention. Delegates will be selecting the party's 1984 Presidential candidate and the party's next National Chair. They will also have an opportunity to debate a variety of movement issues during the course of several hours of platform debate. But just as importantly, delegates and non-delegates attending the convention will be in for an eight-day long libertarian extravaganza. Several dozen informative lectures, debates and workshops will be held during the convention as well as a number of entertainment programs, a series of breakfasts featuring talks by leading movement figures and a gala banquet. A detailed schedule of convention events appears in this newsletter, beginning on page six.

Your Platform

At its April convention the Free Libertarian Party ratified a party platform.

The full text of the platform appears on pages four and five. The committee which drafted the platform included Bill McMillen, a party member from the Albany area and a State Committee member. The following is the first in a series of articles on the platform written for the FLP News by Mr. McMillen...

I OFTEN HEAR libertarians say that they are in substantial agreement (90%-95%) with the national party platform. Other libertarians overhearing such statements will jump on the occasion to pronounce their 100% agreement with libertarian principles and the platform; and inquire as to which libertarian principle the original speaker is in disagreement with. The discussion will ultimately lead to an argument over who is more libertarian.

During the 1981 National Convention platform debate, one such discussion regarding the wording of certain platform language led to one delegate suggesting that the form and content of a particular paragraph would decide which one of them could remain in the party; the implication being that disagreement with the language of a single paragraph would be reason enough to resign or to be purged from the party.

Continued on Page 2

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If every member of the party had to register a certain percentage of agreement with the platform, the deliberations of the platform committee and support by the delegates to the convention of numerous platform amendments might constitute sufficient disagreement with the platform as to warrant their separation from the party. Were such a position valid or asserted often and loudly enough, membership in our party would be severely limited.

When one is elected to office, it is necessary to subscribe to an oath to "support and defend" the governing instrument of that body; which in public office, is the United States Constitution and/or the Constitution of the State of New York. What such an affirmation means depends upon the context in which it is made. Administered as a "loyalty oath", such an affirmation implies 100% acceptance and agreement with the policies of the government. In proper context, such an affirmation means one will operate for change according to the procedures outlined within the governing instrument; which for the National and State Libertarian parties is the by-laws, which one may also wish to change.

The establishment of an amendment process is an implicit recognition that an organization in order to grow must change. It is an understanding that at any given point in time, substantial numbers within an organization may disagree with a section of the platform or with the impression that it leaves. It is hoped by the founders of an organization that its essential purpose, in our case as outlined in the Statement of Principles, will not be subverted by the amendment process; and to discourage such from happening, the by-laws of the national party require that seven-eighths of all registered delegates agree to an amendment of the Statement of Principles. Therefore, one may reasonably expect that any person considering membership in the Libertarian Party to support the Statement of Principles; but it need not mean that they are enamoured with "...the cult of the omnipotent state."

The New York state platform committee, upon which I had the honor to serve, attempted, in parallel form, to identify the essential elements upon which all that was to follow would conform, the basic principles, the "Preamble" we called it; the essence of which we would expect all members of the Free libertarian Party to agree upon. From that point on, we trust there will be substantial agreement that the principles have been consistently applied and that we have addressed those issues central to the political challenge we face.

In future issues, I expect to discuss particular aspects of the platform, differing viewpoints, and offer some alternative interpretations and challenges of my own. Please send your views and comments to William P. McMillen, 41 Weston Drive, Clifton Park, NY 12065.

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Your State Committee Representative At Large Wishes To Hear

From You!!!

*Bill McMillen
41 Weston Drive
Clifton Park, NY 12065*

*(518) 371-2366
For best results,
call before 11PM.*

Editor's Notes

Although only two months have past, the incident has already faded from the national memory.

On June 3rd government agents mowed down Gordon Kahl, a man guilty of no crime other than the defense of his person and property.

Like other libertarians, Kahl equated taxation with robbery. But unlike most of us, Kahl chose to resist the State's thievery, and for this he was imprisoned. After his release, Kahl refused to report to his parole officer - a justifiable action in view of the fact that he had done nothing wrong. Nonetheless, federal agents came to his home intent upon returning him to prison. But this time Kahl defended himself - violently. The resulting deaths of the two federal agents were regrettable, however Kahl acted well within his rights. A man may justly slay his would-be kidnappers, especially after they have already invaded his property. For more than three months Kahl was a fugitive, successfully avoiding an intensive FBI man-hunt. Finally, in June agents traced him to Arkansas, attacked his stronghold and murdered him in cold blood.

Kahl's actions threatened the ideological underpinnings of American government. His life - and his death - exploded the myths of a voluntary tax system and of a government resting upon the consent of the governed. Like all States, the American government rules through intimidation and finances itself through extortion. Gordon Kahl is dead, but his insight and his will to resist live on.

IN OTHER NEWS... Frontlines, the monthly libertarian newsletter, ceased publication with its May issue. Frontlines' publisher, the Reason Foundation, cited the newsletter's inability to turn a profit as the cause of its demise. While the loss of Frontlines is a blow to the libertarian movement, the impact is being cushioned by the vast improvement of a competing newsletter, Update. Effectively shedding its image as a movement scandal sheet and factional organ, Update has become a first-class libertarian monthly. Leading the way out of mediocrity has been Roy Childs' Sound and Fury column, which reviews articles from a broad range of American periodicals, and even an occasional book, from a libertarian perspective. It's a delight to read. Meanwhile, a new publication has joined the ranks of libertarian periodicals. The Pragmatist, published by Pennsylvania libertarian activists Jorge Amador and Hans Schroeder, puts forth the utilitarian case for liberty. For more information, write: The Pragmatist, Box 392, Forest Grove, PA 18922.

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(518) 371-2366

41 Weston Drive
Clifton Park, NY 12065

Platform of the Free Libertarian Party

Preamble

The Free Libertarian Party, whose object is the extension of individual freedom to its furthest limits, affirms the following principles:

- ★ that each individual possesses the inalienable right to life, liberty and justly acquired property;
- ★ that no person or institution, public or private, has the right to initiate the use of force or fraud against another;
- ★ that individuals are entitled to choose their own life styles so long as they do not forcibly interfere with the lives of others;
- ★ that the only moral purpose of government is the preservation and protection of individual rights;
- ★ that the voluntary exchange of goods and services is essential for a free and prosperous society of individuals of diverse beliefs.

I. Crime

Recognizing the right of individuals to be free from the initiation of force by others, we hold that such initiation of force must be prohibited. We therefore advocate effective laws prohibiting violations of individual rights, such as murder, rape, kidnapping, assault and robbery.

We oppose the initiation of force against individuals engaging in consensual activities. We therefore favor the repeal of all "victimless crime" laws. Specifically, we call for:

(1) the repeal of all laws against the sale, possession, manufacture or use of drugs. In addition to protecting the rights of people who decide to use drugs, this will reduce the exorbitant drug prices of the black market, thus reducing real crime which is now committed by drug addicts to pay these black market prices;

(2) the repeal of all laws regulating or prohibiting gambling;

(3) the repeal of all laws regarding consensual sexual relations, including prostitution and solicitation, and the cessation of state and local oppression and harassment of homosexual men and women, that they, at last, be accorded their full rights as individuals;

(4) the repeal of all laws regulating or prohibiting the production, distribution, sale, possession or use of sexually explicit material, independent of "socially redeeming value" or compliance with "community standards;"

(5) the repeal of all laws regulating the production, sale and use of alcoholic beverages, and an end to the restriction of liquor sales through licensure. Repeal of such laws would eliminate identifying as criminals those who did not commit acts of aggression against others.

We note that such repeals would unclog

the overburdened court calendar, free police resources to concentrate on real crime, and alleviate the overcrowding in the prison system. Repeal of laws against consensual activities would eliminate the huge profits organized crime reaps from prohibited activities.

II. Rights of the Victim of a Crime

We support restitution for the victim, to the fullest degree possible, at the expense of the criminal or wrongdoer.

III. The Right to Keep and Bear Arms

We advocate full recognition and respect for the right to keep and bear arms and other means of self-defense.

We oppose all laws restricting the manufacture, sale, transfer or ownership of weapons, and all attempts at licensing the owners and registering the weapons.

IV. The Economy and Unemployment

Regulation of the economy imperils both personal freedom and material prosperity. Such regulation is a major cause of unemployment and economic dislocation. We therefore advocate the repeal of all laws which prohibit, restrict or dictate the terms of commerce. When parties cannot agree, a voluntary transaction will not occur, and action of government to compel such trade is a violation of individual rights.

To preserve and protect a free market, we advocate the dissolution of all regulatory bodies and agencies.

We advocate repeal of licensing laws. Such laws effectively prohibit individuals from engaging in economic activity of their choice. We call for the repeal of the New York State minimum wage law, which prevents many unskilled people from engaging in economic activity at any level, by denying them employment at a negotiated wage.

V. Taxation

Taxation is theft. No organization, including the government, has the right to take the property of anyone without his or her consent. Accordingly, we call for the abolition of personal income, sales, excise, property, corporate franchise, estate, gift, and all other taxes.

Libertarians recognize that those services performed by government which are truly necessary will continue to exist, whether performed by government (financed by voluntary contributions, charges or fees) or by individuals or private companies. Enormous economic benefit will be gained by the elimination of government agencies created to regulate various sectors of the economy. The real effect of these agencies is the restraint of competition and innovation, while consuming

private wealth through taxation.

VI. Education

We advocate the separation of education and state. We call for the termination of government ownership, operation, regulation or tax-paid subsidy of all schools. We advocate the end to compulsory education and teacher licensing laws.

VII. Welfare and Social Services

As Libertarians, we believe that each individual is responsible for his or her own life. We advocate the withdrawal of government support and regulation of health and social services, in order to encourage the expansion of private care social services for the poor, unemployed and homeless. We favor the repeal of all laws which prevent the entry of individuals into the health and social service industry, such as professional licensing and state code regulations.

VIII. Transportation

We support the repeal of all laws and the dissolution of all government agencies restricting transit competition, such as those granting taxi, bus, and other public transit monopolies.

IX. Housing and Property Rights

The right to justly acquired property carries with it an implied right to use or dispose of such property, so long as such action does not violate the equal rights of others.

Accordingly, we advocate the repeal of all zoning and land use laws, which only restrict the exercise of legitimate property rights.

We advocate the sale of all government owned housing, the cessation of all government housing subsidies and the repeal of all rent control laws.

X. The Environment

We are concerned with the quality of the environment, and we maintain that polluting another's property or person is a clear violation of individual rights.

We therefore advocate that disputes concerning pollution be resolved in the context of property and individual rights and that all laws which exist to protect the environment without regard to the rights of property owners be abolished.

We advocate that individuals and organizations be held fully liable for actions which adversely affect the legitimate rights of others. We advocate full liability for personal and property damage resulting from nuclear power plant operations.

XI. Utilities

We urge repeal of all laws granting

exclusive franchises to utility companies and organizations. All laws limiting entry of new companies or organizations into the utilities market should be repealed. We call for the repeal of rate control laws and the dissolution of rate control agencies.

XII. Consumer Protection

The best protection consumers have is the free and open competition among suppliers of goods and services.

Government activity in this area creates only illusions of quality and safety, and adds to the cost of doing business, which increases the price paid by the consumer.

We support effective laws against fraud and misrepresentation. However, we oppose government regulations which dictate to consumers, impose prices, define standards for products, or otherwise restrict risk taking and free choice.

XIII. Abortion

Recognition of one's right to one's own life requires acceptance of absolute dominion over one's own body. We support the right of women to exercise a personal choice regarding termination of pregnancy, and oppose all attempts to undermine such rights by requiring consent of parents or prospective fathers, or administrative procedures such as a waiting period or required counseling. Libertarians are opposed to financing abortions by coercive taxation. We call for repeal of laws preventing mothers from selling their trusteeship of unwanted babies.

XIV. Membership in the Party

The Free Libertarian Party accords full respect and recognition of individual liberty to all people, without respect to sex, race, creed, age, national origin or sexual preference.

We do not seek, nor would we accept, tax-supported subsidies to enable us to expand our influence, and we oppose all public funding of political campaigns.

Membership in the Party is open to all people who are in substantial agreement with the Preamble of this platform, who support the political, economic, and social goals contained herein, and who oppose the initiation of force as a means of achieving such goals.

Omission

Our silence about any particular government law, regulation, ordinance, directive, edict, control, regulatory agency or machination should not be construed to imply approval.

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1983 LP PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATING CONVENTION TENTATIVE PROGRAM SCHEDULE 1 JULY 1983

DAY 1 MONDAY 29 AUGUST 1983

02:00-03:00 DEBATE/Abortion
 03:00-04:00 PANEL/Proposed Platform Changes
 04:00-05:00 DEBATE/Tax Credits & Enterprise Zones
 Decontrol or Government Planning/
 Ernsberger vs Gottlieb
 07:00-09:00 DEBATE/Foreign Policy
 Childs, Dunn, Greenberg, Others

DAY 2 TUESDAY 30 AUGUST 1983

BUSINESS MEETING

08:30-09:30 CLASS/Basic Economics #1	
09:30-10:30 PANEL/Proper Roles of Chair, NatCom, Director/Baures, Bennett, Johnston	
10:00-01:00	BY-LAWS COMMITTEE MEETING
10:30-11:30 PANEL/Children's Rights in a Free Society Ahmad, Flynn, Northrup, Walker	" "
11:30-12:30 DEBATE/Privatization/Poole vs Hocker	" "
12:30-01:30 CLASS/Cutting Taxes #1 Tax Shelters/ Pendergast	" "
01:00-02:00 LUNCH	LUNCH
02:00-03:30 DEBATE/Unilateral Disarmament/ Friedman vs Hummel	BY-LAWS COMMITTEE MEETING
03:30-05:00 PANEL/LP Strategy #1/Franzi, Grossberg, Herbert, Nathan, Shipman	" "
07:00-09:00 PANEL/On the Path to Liberty Mapping the Ethical Mine Field #1	

DAY 3 WEDNESDAY 31 AUGUST 1983

BUSINESS MEETING

08:30-09:30 CLASS/Basic Economics #2	
09:00-01:00	BY-LAWS COMMITTEE MEETING
09:00-02:00	CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE MEETING
09:30-10:00 SPEAKER/Repudiating the National Debt/ Less Antman	" "
10:00-10:30 DEBATE/Flat Rate Income Tax Breakthrough or Booby Trap/Nolan vs Herbert	" "
10:30-12:00 DEBATE/Defending the Free Society/ Dunn, Hummel, Poole, Others	" "
12:00-01:00 SPEAKER/Libertarian Class Theory/Tom Palmer CLASS/Cutting Taxes #2 Avoiding the Audit/ John Northrup	" "
01:00-02:00 LUNCH	LUNCH
02:00-05:00	BY-LAWS COMMITTEE MEETING
02:00-06:00	LAST 1981-1983
02:00-02:30 SPEAKER	NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING
02:30-03:30 PANEL/Middle East/Ahmad, Childs, Greenberg	" "
03:30-05:00 PANEL/On the Path to Liberty Mapping the Ethical Mine Field #2/Antman, Friedman, Guida, Others	" "
07:00-09:00 PANEL/ LP Strategy #2/Bergland, A Clark, Crane, Randolph	

DAY 4 THURSDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 1983**BUSINESS MEETING**

08:00-09:30 BREAKFAST/Douglas R Casey
 09:30-10:00
 10:00
 10:00-11:00 CLASS/Basic Economics #3
 PANEL/Telecommunications & the 1st
 Amendment/Evers, Grossberg, Mueller
 10:00-10:30
 10:30-11:00
 11:00-12:00 PANEL/Is Reagan a Keynesian?/
 Johnston, Reynolds, White
 12:00-01:00 Class/Cutting Taxes #3 Churches & Taxes/
 Ralph Fucetola
 Speaker/Health Hazards of Heroin Laws/
 Dr Herbert Berger
 01:00-02:00 LUNCH
 02:00-02:45 SPEAKER/Mises, Keynes, Friedman, Laffer-
 The Current Perspective/M Rothbard
 02:45-03:15 SPEAKER/What Does a Libertarian
 Economist Do?/David Friedman
 03:15-04:00 WORKSHOP/Free Media Coverage
 PANEL/Libertarians In Office/Lanham,
 Siano, Others
 04:00-05:00 DEBATE/Candidates for Chair
 07:00-09:00 SOCIAL/Brooklyn Bridge Party & Show/
 Off Premises Party & Tour

KEYNOTE ADDRESS/Dick Randolph
 CALL TO ORDER/Alicia Clark

REPORT OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE
 ADOPTION OF CONVENTION RULES
 BY-LAW DEBATE

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LUNCH
 BY-LAW DEBATE

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DAY 5 FRIDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 1983**BUSINESS MEETING**

08:00-09:30 BREAKFAST/The Supreme Court & Individual
 Rights/Henry Mark Holzer
 09:30-10:00 SPEAKER/Ed Clark
 09:30-10:30 CLASS/Basic Economics #4
 10:00-10:30 SPEAKER/Bill Hunscher
 10:30-11:15 SPEAKER/The Impact of Serious Fiction
 Erika Holzer
 11:15-12:00 SPEAKER/Jennifer Roback
 11:15-12:00 WORKSHOP/Draft Counseling
 12:00-01:00 CLASS/Cutting Taxes #4 Tax Tips/
 Timothy Condon
 WORKSHOP/Public Speaking
 01:00-02:30 SPECIAL EVENT LUNCH
 02:30-03:15 SPEAKER/Latin America/Roy Childs
 WORKSHOP/Introduction to Microcomputers
 03:15-04:00 WORKSHOP/Fielding the Tough Questions/
 Ed Clark, John Northrup, Rebecca Shipman
 PANEL/Libertarians in Washington/
 Doug Bandow, Lew Rockwell, Others
 04:00-05:00 DEBATE/Candidates for President
 07:00-08:00 SOCIAL/Cocktail Party/
 Salute to REASON & INQUIRY
 08:00-10:00 PANEL/Foreign Policy/Past Candidates for
 President & Vice President

PLATFORM DEBATE

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LUNCH
 PLATFORM DEBATE

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DAY 6 SATURDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 1983

BUSINESS MEETING

08:00-09:30 BREAKFAST/Dr Thomas Szasz
09:30-10:00 SPEAKER/Robert Bleiberg
10:00-01:00

NOMINATIONS OF PRESIDENTIAL &
VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES
LUNCH
PLATFORM DEBATE

01:00-02:00 LUNCH
02:00-03:00 CLASS/Cutting Taxes #5 Constitutional
Rights/Irwin Schiff
02:00-02:45 SPEAKER/Peter Breggin
02:45-03:30 WORKSHOP/Internal Education/David Walter
03:00-03:30 SPEAKER/Free Market Building Codes/
Kate O'Brien
03:30-04:15 PANEL/Association of Libertarian Feminists
CLASS/Basic Economics #5
04:15-05:00 SPEAKER/Earl Ravenal
WORKSHOP/Fundraising
07:00-08:00 SOCIAL/Cocktail Party
08:00-12:00 PRESIDENTIAL BANQUET

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DAY 7 SUNDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 1983

BUSINESS MEETING

08:00-09:30 BREAKFAST/The Passion of Ayn Rand/
Barbara Branden
09:30-10:15 SPEAKER/Affecting Public Policy/Ed Crane
SPEAKER/A Strategy for the LP/David Nolan
10:15-11:15 PANEL/The Psychology of Disobedience/
Allen, Breggin, Presley
11:15-12:00 WORKSHOP/Advertising Techniques
WORKSHOP/Campus Organizing
12:00-01:00 SPEAKER/Richard Cobden, Our Libertarian
Heritage/Camille Castorina
01:00-02:00 LUNCH
02:00-03:00 PANEL/The New Industrial Policy
Bartlett, Palmer, Richman
03:00-05:00 CLASS/Campaign School/Chris Hocker
05:00
05:15-08:00
07:00-10:00 SOCIAL/Cabaret

ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE
NATIONAL PARTY
" "
" "
" "
LUNCH
ELECTION OF MEMBERS-AT-LARGE &
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES
" "
ADJOURN 1983 CONVENTION
FIRST 1983-1985
NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING

DAY 8 MONDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

09:00-09:45 SPEAKER
09:45-10:30 SPEAKER/The Presumption of
Unconstitutionality/Mike Kessler
10:30-11:15 SPEAKER/7 Myths of Gun Control/Don Feder
11:15-12:00 SPEAKER/How to Convince a Socialist/
Bill Evers
12:00-12:45 SPEAKER

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P R E S C O N 8 3 O R D E R F O R M

Orders must be postmarked by August 15th to qualify for these special rates. Payment must be enclosed with orders. Please make checks payable to PRESCON 83 and mail to P.O. Box 429, Canal Street Station, New York, NY 10013.

	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. <u>THE EVERYTHING PACKAGE--\$295 (\$350 after 8/15)</u> Includes all speaker, food and entertainment events from Mon. 8/29 to Mon. 9/5/83. Over 75 events including all 5 Tax Seminars, 4 Breakfasts, cocktail parties, the Brooklyn Bridge trip and the Cabaret.	_____	_____

2. <u>THE FIVE DAY BUSINESS PACKAGE--\$250 (\$320 after 8/15)</u> Includes all speaker, entertainment and food events from Thurs. 9/1 to Mon. 9/5 including 3 Tax Seminars 4 Breakfasts, the Brooklyn Bridge, the Cabaret and the cocktail parties.	_____	_____
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3. <u>THE EIGHT DAY FOODLESS PACKAGE--\$150</u> (\$195 after 8/15) Includes all speakers, panels workshops and convention floor events. Does not include Tax Seminars, or food or entertainment functions.	_____	_____
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THE ABOVE PACKAGES INCLUDE REGISTRATION. THE BELOW REQUIRE PAYMENT OF A SEPARATE REGISTRATION FEE (ITEM 8).

4. <u>THE TAX SEMINAR (Tues. thru Sat.)--\$100</u> (\$125 after 8/15)	_____	_____
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5. <u>THE FOUR BREAKFAST SET (Thur. thru Sun.)--\$100</u> (\$65 after 8/15)	_____	_____
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6. <u>INDIVIDUAL BREAKFASTS--\$15 (\$18 after 8/15)</u> Circle one or more. Casey (Thur.) Szasz (Sat.) Holzer (Fri.) Branden (Sun.)	_____	_____
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7. <u>PRESIDENTIAL BANQUET (Sat.)--\$50 (\$65 after 8/15)</u>	_____	_____
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8. <u>REGISTRATION--\$20 (\$25 after 8/15)</u>	_____	_____
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Name _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

Address _____

Any questions? Can you
volunteer any of you time
before or at the convention?
Call us at 212-226-6483.

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GOALS FOR THE FLP

John Francis

Since assuming office as your state chair for this year, I have been hard at work trying to tighten the state organization. This can be achieved by increasing membership and widening the scope of the organization.

In order to do this the state committee has formulated a series of inter-related goals:

1. Increase membership by 50% by the time of the next convention.....
2. Have county organizations and/or chapters in at least 40 counties by November 1, 1983.....
3. publish a newsletter....
4. establish a media, election, and membership person at every chapter.....
5. run 20 people for local office throughout the state.....
6. assign each chapter a statewide job, e.g., Albany for Capitol watch, NYC for membership, etc...
7. cut the expenses of state HQ.....
8. prepare changes for our next convention.....
9. establish a network throughout the state via phone numbers.....
10. follow up on what everyone around the state is doing.

Some of these goals have already been met, e.g., newsletter. Others are in the process, e.g., membership. While others still need to be worked on.

I and the state committee do not believe that these goals are unrealistic. They can be achieved. However, your help is vital. A few active members cannot accomplish these tasks. If we are to grow and be taken seriously by the electorate, we must get about the business of becoming a well run political organization.

Please remember-----do not hesitate to call the office (we have an answering machine that is checked daily) with any suggestions.

7. PRESIDENTIAL BALLOT (\$20) (815 after 8/15)

8. REGISTRATION--\$20 (815 after 8/15)

TOTAL ENCLOSED

Any questions? Can you volunteer any of your time before or at the convention? Call us at 312-338-6483.

Name _____

Address _____

FROM THE REGIONS...

On the night of April 15th, the New York City Chapter leafletted last-minute taxpayers filing their returns at the General Post Office in Manhattan. About ten taxpayers responded, requesting information about libertarianism. ...On June 23rd, the Chapter elected Sieglinde (Siegie) Kress to the office of Chapter Chair. Kress replaces Beth Gottlieb, who resigned earlier this year. ...On July 29th Gary Greenberg debated the New Alliance Party's Fred Newman on the following questions: "Does individual liberty still offer the answer to the economic and social problems of today? Should government provide welfare and unemployment? And what will yield more housing - the free market solution or the not-for-profit solution?" The debate was organized by Joseph Kleinman. ...On Friday, August 26th, the Chapter is planning a pre-Convention wine and cheese party and film, to which the public will be invited. The time and place will be announced.

On June 28th, Dick Savadel and Steve Schneider debated the issue of children's rights at a meeting of the Nassau County chapter. Schneider argued that children should have the same rights as adults while Savadel contended that some parental control is necessary. At the same meeting, the party announced a tentative slate of candidates for Hempstead Town offices. The chapter has probable candidates for six of the town's seven offices. ...The Nassau FLP holds monthly meetings on the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Jolly Swagman Inn, 100 West Nicholas St., Hicksville. The next meeting will be August 23. The chapter also publishes a newsletter. Sample copies are available from Scott Cameron, 4 Meadow Lane, Hicksville, NY 11801.

The Westchester County chapter is planning a series of public policy debates for the fall. The debates will most likely be held at the State University of New York at Purchase.

FROM THE STATE COMMITTEE...

The latest meeting of the State Committee was held on June 26th in Endicott. Party membership was reported at 360, and under the leadership of membership chair David Greene systematic attempts are under way to solicit applications from non-member New York State libertarians. Also, John Sproul has been appointed media coordinator.

The Free Libertarian Party
225 Lafayette Street
New York, NY 10012