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# OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEW YORK

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# Free New York

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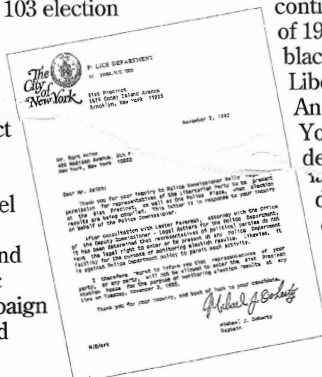


**W**ith 98% of the votes unofficially tallied by Associated Press, that's how many Norma Segal had for U.S. senator from New York. That's two-thirds greater than the Libertarian Party of New York's previous statewide record, which was for presidential electors in 1980. Norma together with votes for Mohammad Mehdi and others, kept the re-elected Al D'Amato from getting a majority.

Also with 98% tallied, our presidential electors received

16,386 votes.

With 102 of 103 election districts reported, Douglas Friedman had 516 votes for assembly from the 45th District in Brooklyn. Doug's 2.1% is considerably above LP's usual level of support in the metropolitan area, and reflects an energetic and thoughtful campaign by our candidate and volunteers.



The News Election Service continued its policy of 1988 and since, blacking out Libertarian votes. And the New York City police department's ~~never again~~ denied us official access to the unofficial return of canvases. However, Associated

Press collected, totaled and reported all candidates' votes. We thank Sam Boyle in AP's New York bureau.

Official counts, always slow in New York (because of the City), will probably be available by mid or late December, including Joseph Brennan's write-ins for assembly. Expert ~~pieces in our~~ figures from those reported above. *Free New York* also solicits your analysis of the vote pattern.

The congratulations go without saying! ★



## Libertarian Party of New York

I am in substantial agreement with the following principles:

- Each individual possesses the inalienable right to life, liberty and justly acquired property.
- No person or institution, public or private, has the right to initiate the use of physical force against another.
- All individuals are entitled to choose their own lifestyles, as long as they do not forcibly impose their values on others.
- The only moral basis of politics is the preservation and protection of individual rights.
- The voluntary exchange of goods and services is fundamental to any socio-economic system which provides for the harmonious integration of divergent value systems.

SIGNATURE

DATE

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

PHONE, WORK (optional)

PHONE, HOME (optional)

COUNTY

OCCUPATION (government requires we ask)

## Check one:

- Regular ☐ \$15 ☐ I don't want to be a  
Sustaining ☐ \$25 ☐ member but want to  
Sponsor ☐ \$40 ☐ continue to receive  
Patron ☐ \$100 ☐ *Free New York*  
Life Benefactor ☐ \$250 ☐ for a year. ☐ \$15 ☐

Enclose check for the full amount, payable to:  
**The Libertarian Party of New York**  
Mail to: LPNY,

P.O. Box 1664, New York, NY 10013-1664.  
For more info: (212) 966-5772.

## FROM THE STATE CHAIR

## The Segal Sequel

by Ludwig Vogel

New York Libertarians owe a debt of gratitude to all our supporters, who made possible our strongest showing at the polls yet. Norma Segal's vote total deserves special note—if our gubernatorial candidate gets a little over half the votes Norma got, we will have a line on the ballot, and all the advantages legal recognition as a political party can bring.

To make that hoped-for day Election Day, 1994, we need to start work now. First, please help rebuild our state and county organizations by renewing your membership now. Then, reach out and recruit two more new dues-paying members. This sounds like a tall order—but the Presidential election has shown how disaffected Americans are, and the next few months will certainly give your friends more to feel disaffected about.

Already, there is talk of a ban on high-dose vitamins and amino acid preparations, to make it necessary, for example, to get a doctor's prescription to buy vitamin C in the dosage you may use to fight the common cold.

There is also talk of a national ban on semi-automatic firearms that would subject the sort of .22 rifle that parents upstate now give their children as 12th birthday presents to the same sort of controls as now apply to machine guns—or ban semi-automatics altogether.

The Cold War is over.

Young men must wonder why they have to register for the draft—and if certain advisors of our President-Elect have their way, these young men may soon discover that Yugoslavia and Somalia are awful places to die.

And come April 15 after next, everyone will be feeling the bite of taxes which were supposed to soak only the rich.

There will be plenty of reasons to become a Libertarian in the next few months. We must be ready to move with the issues. Every time we speak out, we become a little stronger. Please, speak out for us.

Finally, remember that a party is only as strong as its candidates. Norma's strong showing proves we can get voters to pull our lever once. We must give New Yorkers the chance to pull it again and

## Help! Send Money!

When Clay Conrad (now regional rep to LP national) moved to Massachusetts, nobody assumed his commission-paid job of getting and keeping members for LPNY. (W. Gary Johnson volunteered only to keep the address list.) As a result, income was almost zero for 1992.

Meanwhile as a result of election campaigns, we know of about **4000 people** in New York state who've recently expressed some degree of interest in the Libertarian Party. Opportunity and problem. We don't have money to mail solicitations to recruit these people. We don't

have any money, period.

Becky Akers is now on the job (see minutes). LPNY City has sold some envelopes on credit to LPNY. Other individuals are lending money for a seed mailing, which is expected to bring in contributions to make more solicitations possible.

You can help; send in your 1993 dues now. (LPNY is on a calendar year, Jan.-Dec. membership cycle.) Though almost all who receive this *FNY* are members of LPNY or of the press, we reproduce above the form for new joiners. Please encourage others to join or contribute to LPNY, or to subscribe as non-members to this newsletter. ★

About Free New York  
by Robert Goodman

Only after the October meeting of the state committee did Rick Wolff find we still owed \$480 for printing and postage of the previous issue of *FNY*. This exceeds LPNY's treasury, holding the newsletter indefinitely.

Not long, fortunately. As treasurer of the LP of New York City, I pointed out at our November executive committee meeting that, for a change, LPNYC was more flush than the state party. So we resolved to lend from the LPNYC treasury the amount needed for LPNY to pay

again. Only by running Libertarian candidates in every race we can enter can we hope to get people into the habit of voting Libertarian.

But we can't even start without your help and financial support now.

So I ask all of you: if you have

enough of its bill to Chase for the company to extend credit for another issue.

The article on NYC's water still awaits research by Margaret Fries. Also coming is much news from Dottie-Lou Brokaw, and reports of school clubs and events. Thanks for other submissions and suggestions.

Considering LPNY's bank account, I should not set a deadline for the next issue, though we expect to get dues renewals with the turn of the year. I'd like larger and more widely distributed *FNY*s with the same frequency, but it's a question of what we can afford.

not yet renewed your State membership, renew it now with the coupon in this issue of *Free New York*. If you have renewed, give the coupon to a friend.

Help make the coming year a success. We will make you glad you did. ★

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LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEW YORK

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# Oct. 25 Minutes

by Gail Bova, LPNY Secretary

Former treasurer Bill Stocker's report showed that, as of October 20, there was only \$383 in the treasury. The State Committee decided that an aggressive fund-raising campaign was needed to increase membership as well as collect membership renewals. Becky Akers was named membership director, and will be responsible for sending out literature to prospective members. The state party phone will operate out of her home. Send your prospective members to Becky, c/o P.O. Box 1664, New York, NY 10013-1664, or call her at (718) 615-1981.

The board thanked member-at-large Vicki Kirkland for having the phone in her home over the past year.

To fill the vacancy left by Steve LaBianca, former Suffolk County state representative Pam Haberkorn in absentia was elected treasurer over the strong objections of some who wished to continue with Bill Stocker in his interim capacity.

With the state treasury barely in the black, concerns were raised about the future of *Free New York*. The cost of printing 500 copies of a four-page issue is \$400; postage is \$108. Vicki

Kirkland will try to raise \$200 towards publishing a November issue. Mark Axinn, Gail Bova, Vince O'Neill and Ludwig Vogel all contributed \$100 towards that goal, with half of that coming from Mark. [See "About Free New York" for revised financial data. —Ed.]

The committee is pursuing the possibility of holding the next state convention upstate. Some possibilities mentioned as speakers were Dr. Mary Ruwart, Dick Boddie, Thomas Szasz and David Nolan. Vice Chair Joseph Brennan will get the new catalog featuring libertarian speakers from ISIL.

Nassau County Chair Keith Sauter reported that, during a joint Nassau-Suffolk meeting, an auction raised \$1200 toward Marrou-Lord campaign video ads which ran in Nassau and Suffolk counties.

## NEW BUSINESS

Mark Axinn discussed two lawsuits of interest to Libertarians. One, in Federal District Court in Manhattan, is a New Alliance Party challenge to its position on the ballot. Mark argued before Judge Ward that a fair system should be applied to

all parties but would cause irreparable harm if changed during this year's ballot. (Our literature states "Vote Row F.") The present method, which subjects all below-the-line parties to a lottery, put us on Row F anyway, whereas a method measuring previous vote totals for all but new parties would put New Alliance ahead of us. Mark said he is willing to appear

minimally in court to state our position. The board applauded his efforts. The second suit involves

a New Alliance Party challenge to the tax-exempt status of the Commission on Presidential Debates for not including Dr. Lenora Fulani and other minor-party candidates in the presidential debates. The suit was thrown out of court on the basis of no grounds. Mark will continue to monitor its status.

Status of still another lawsuit: Tom Stevens of the New York Young Republican Party had asked if the LPNY State Committee would like to file suit against the 50,000 signature threshold for governor ruling. He also plans to invite the New Alliance Party and the ACLU to join the suit. Stevens would donate his legal talents for free. Joe Brennan said they are holding off on this suit until after the elections. Gary Greenberg had sued to have our 50,000+ presi-

dential total in 1980 apply to ballot status in 1982; we failed to get timely relief to avoid a petition drive.

Member-at-large Rick Wolff discussed some Libertarian media coverage. An article on Libertarians appeared in the publication from the New York Taxpayers' Alliance. CAGW's *WasteWatch Journal* had an article where Democrats, Republicans and Libertarians stand on fiscal waste. Rick also reminded us of his plans to hold an anti-tax rally and sheep-shearing in front of the White Plains IRS building.

Because Joe Brennan did not collect enough signatures to get on the ballot in Nassau County, he ran a write-in campaign. He got the most applause at a recent civic association meeting, where he was the only candidate to arrive on time and stay for the entire meeting.

Campaign manager Vicki Kirkland reported on Norma Segal's Senate race. Norma received a call from Ross Perot's United We Stand organization regarding a debate among senatorial candidates. Both Alfonse D'Amato and Norma have accepted. It will be held Wednesday, October 28 in Brooklyn.

The next meeting of the State Committee will be Saturday, January 23 at 1:00 p.m. in the offices of Chase Communications, 25-35 Beechwood Avenue, Mount Vernon, (914) 699-2020. ★

# Remembering Roy Childs

by Douglas Rasmussen, PhD

I believe it was 1968 or 1969 when I first heard of Roy Childs. A fellow participant in the local Objectivist discussion group was passing around an essay by Roy challenging the Randian account of government. I think the essay was from Robert LeFevre's old publication, *The Rampart Journal of Individualist Thought*. This was an important event, because my intellectual development had since 1966 of my junior year of high school been as much from such discussion groups and publications as from anything discovered in school. So, I encountered Roy Childs very early in my intellectual life.

By the late '60s (or was it the early '70s?) it was apparent to all but the most extreme true

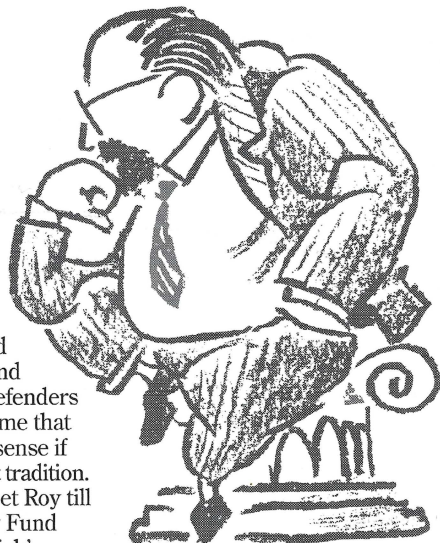
believers that Galt's Gulch only existed in *Atlas Shrugged* and that Ayn Rand and Nathaniel Branden were not the same as the heroes of that novel, and—though it was not necessary to throw over everything that one had learned from Rand—it was time for those who were indeed interested in becoming "new intellectuals" to strike out on their own. Yet, in what direction should one go? Once again, I encountered Roy Childs.

Roy Childs was extremely valuable to me at this point in my intellectual life. His articles and reviews in various libertarian publications introduced me to various thinkers. Most importantly, given my philosophical interests, he introduced me to neo-Aristotelian-Thomistic

thinkers—particularly, Henry B. Veatch.

Introducing me to thinkers of this tradition had a profound effect upon my understanding of Objectivism, and though I did not at first see that Rand was not as systematic and clear a thinker as her defenders claimed, it was clear to me that Rand really only made sense if interpreted through that tradition.

I did not actually meet Roy till 1976. It was at a Liberty Fund seminar on Robert Nozick's *Anarchy, State, and Utopia*. We discovered there and in later conversations that we had a common intellectual intuition—namely, that the best hope for a systematic defense of individual



rights rested in some form of neo-Aristotelian thought. Though Roy was not a specialist in philosophy, he realized that much of Rand's thought was

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



nothing more than an updated version of a naturalistic Aristotelianism and that any use of Rand would have to be a philosophically sophisticated one.

I probably talked with Roy only once or twice a year. We were not close friends. When we talked, they were conversations in which he asked me to summarize where the fads and fashions

of philosophy were taking it, and whether I still thought philosophy worthy of pursuit. I would always say "yes," and encourage Roy to pursue a degree in philosophy. About seven months before Roy's death, I had invited him to take some graduate courses from me at St. John's University. He seemed quite interested in this possibility. (Though I knew Roy was a very large man, I did not realize until his death the extent of the diffi-

culty he had in going places.)

In our conversations over the years, Roy would periodically ask about what progress was being made on developing a sophisticated argument for individual rights. I would talk about the various projects that different philosophers of a libertarian persuasion were undertaking. By and large, the conversations were for the purposes of "touching base." Roy knew that I and Douglas

Den Uyl had a book project. He wanted to know where our philosophical investigations were taking us. I was glad to oblige and was quite amazed how quickly this "nonprofessional" knew where an argument was leading and what problem it was trying to address. (I am sure that Roy had similar conversations with other philosophers of a libertarian persuasion and that they were similarly impressed.)

Despite our conversations over the years, I was completely surprised when Roy called me in the late summer of 1991 telling me how much he liked *Liberty and Nature: An Aristotelian Defense of Liberal Order*. But this surprise was nothing to what I experienced when I read Roy's review of our book in the March 1992 catalog of Laissez Faire Books. Though the praise was wonderful, what was especially satisfying was that he showed an awareness of the book's subtleties. He really understood the careful use of the Aristotelian tradition that we were making and that our argument for individual rights was more than a rehashing of Rand's views. To convey all this is very difficult to do in a review, let alone in a review for a publication whose sole purpose is to sell books! Roy succeeded mightily.

As it turned out, Roy's review of our book was one of his last. When I learned of his death, I was angry that I had not found the time to see him again. In the last two years, our conversations had increased, and I kept promising to get into Manhattan for a visit. Yet, what I will always remember about Roy was his intellectual dedication to discovering truth and his belief that liberty was best defended when morality was championed.

I worry about the cause of liberty without a Roy Childs; for an ability like his to summarize and communicate the essentials of a complex argument is not easy to find. I also worry because I have lost an important intellectual ally; for Roy truly believed that a well-argued philosophical defense of individual rights is essential if the cause of liberty is to succeed.

I miss him. ★

Dr. Douglas B. Rasmussen is a Professor of Philosophy at St. John's University in Queens.

# Overhaul Discrimination Plank

by Fred Cookinham

*Individual rights should not be denied, abridged, or enhanced at the expense of other people's rights, on the basis of sex, wealth, race, color, creed, age, national origin, personal habits, political preference, or sexual orientation by the laws at any level of government. Protective labor laws, Selective Service laws, and other laws that violate rights selectively should be repealed entirely rather than being extended to all groups.*

*Discrimination imposed by the government has brought disruption in normal relationships of people, set neighbor against neighbor, created gross injustices, and diminished human potential. Anti-discrimination enforced by the government is the reverse side of the coin, and will for the same reasons create the same problems. Consequently, we oppose any government attempts to regulate private discrimination, including discrimination in employment, housing, and privately owned so-called public accommodations. The right to trade includes the right not to trade — for any reasons whatsoever.*

—FROM 1992 LIBERTARIAN PARTY NATIONAL PLATFORM

The LP's present plank on discrimination ends with the ringing statement that "the right to trade includes the right not to trade—for any reasons whatsoever." This suggests that the LP is not at all concerned about the victims of discrimination, but only with the freedom of the discriminators.

Our platform must show that it will help the victims overcome discrimination. This can be done with a plank that puts the blame for discrimination on government. Economics tends to reduce discrimination, because a businessman cannot afford to turn away customers, renters and good workers just because they are not his favorite color. Therefore, if discrimination in housing, employment and public accommodations persists, it is because threats are being made, by the more violent racists, against those businesses that fail to discriminate, and government is failing in its job, which is to protect us all against makers of threats. Let a Libertarian government do its proper job of defending our rights, and let the job of destroying the myth of

Black inferiority be undertaken by all of us, but especially by those groups formed for the purpose outside of government.

Of course, this is not 1964, so the issue is not whether to pass that year's Civil Rights Act. The issue is finding a reason for women and ethnic minorities to vote for us if we plan to take away their group privileges. This can be done only if we point out that group privileges always come with a price that shows up a few years down the road. For African-Americans, the sticker shock is David Duke and all that he represents, and the argument that it is suicidal for a minority to rely on any sort of quota system, since a minority must always inevitably get the short end of any numbers game, since it is a minority. We must also attack the principle of collectivism—of any policy that confuses the individual with the collective. In this case, we must say that a policy that gives you money or jobs because of what your ancestors suffered must first take away money and opportunity from the productive, thus penalizing and choking produc-

tivity. Lack of productive freedom makes us all suffer in the here and now. Our alternative is to reward individual productivity, which will mean more money in your pocket than all the calculations about whose ancestors did what to whom when.

But let us have something in the platform for the victim, rather than for the racist. ★

*Editor's note:* Until the 1979 convention, the plank contained the following sentence: "We condemn bigotry as irrational and repugnant." Before the 1975 convention, the word "unjust" was used instead of "repugnant."

The 1993 National Convention is slated to consider only deletions from the Platform.

Fred Cookinham joined the Libertarian Party in 1972, and edited a predecessor of this newsletter called *The Free Libertarian*. He is moving from Brooklyn to Southfield, Michigan with Nancy Wilson. Best wishes, Fred! LPNY will miss you as one of its most persistently active volunteers; many of us will miss you as a friend, too.