

Free NY

WORKING TO ACHIEVE LIBERTY IN OUR LIFETIME



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEW YORK

VOL 4 OCT 2003

NEW YORK LIBERTARIAN PARTY ACHIEVES MAJOR VICTORY IN VOTER ACCESS ENROLLMENT

In a NYS legal landmark case, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York has struck down the unconstitutional laws imposed by the New York State Board of Elections (BoE), see *Green Party of N.Y. v Board of Elections*, 02-cv-6465 ED/NY, in its Sept. 18 Decision by Hon. John Gleeson, USDJ; see downloadable NYS Voter's Registration Form at: <http://ny.lp.org/enroll/Decision-Compliant-Voter-Registration-Form.pdf>

The subject laws had formed a bulwark against equal inclusion or empowerment of any third party attempting to participate in the election process in New York State, and instead had provided special

treatment, voter data access, and privileged services to only some political parties, but denying the same treatment to other, less politically powerful parties.

In the scheme enforced by the BoE, a state agency entirely controlled by NYS Republican and Democratic Parties, New Yorkers were only permitted to officially affiliate and enroll themselves as Republicans or Democrats, or as one of the other few parties managing to obtain 50,000 votes in the last gubernatorial election (currently the Independence, Conservative and Working Families parties), or be forced to state "I do not wish to enroll in a Party".

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IRAQ
OCCUPATION:
WHAT WOULD
REAGAN DO?

It was quite surprising to hear President Bush seemingly lambaste the decision of President Ronald Reagan to pull troops out from Lebanon in 1983, during Bush's "give me \$87 billion, or give me death" address. I used to think paying homage to all things Reagan was a minimum requirement for being a legitimate conservative in the post-Gipper era. Perhaps Bush's remarks signals the formal eclipse of that legacy.

Despite the best efforts of some to dismiss any and all misgivings about the War on Terror and U.S. interventionism since 9/11 as liberal nonsense or Anti-

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FREE STATE PROJECT CHOOSES DESTINATION STATE

Free State Project members across the United States celebrated on October 1, 2003, with the official announcement of the state of choice for FSP emigrants.

The FSP, a daring social experiment sure to rile established political power structures, is a freedom seeking endeavor developed by FSP President and Yale political science professor Jason Sorens (jas.on.sorens@yale.edu), the goal sought is to concentrate 20,000 liberty-oriented voter/activists in one state. There, it is hoped, they will work to enhance and extend its existing culture of liberty.

But until this week, it was anyone's guess which

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**Free NY**

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of the
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Libertarian
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Free NY is currently published 4 times a year. Subscriptions are \$12/Year; To join the LP, and receive this publication free, see Membership Form on Back Page See the NYLP Website for more information on the NY Libertarian Party: www.ny.lp.org. © This work is copyrighted 10/2003, none of this copy or content may be redistributed w/o permission.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WE LUV YA!

Dear Editor:

I read part of your newsletter and its new format at the State Committee meeting in Long Island, and was quite impressed with its readability and content. Keep up the good work!

Dr. Tom Stevens
Mineola, New York

WE HATE YA!

I don't think that the Harry Browne or "anti-Libertarian" articles had any business being in FreeNY. FNY is supposed to be a newsletter about LPNY, not a magazine. There never was a golden age of freedom in America or anywhere else. I am very unimpressed with Harry Browne. FNY was too big, too late. Be more selective. The focus should be on campaigns and candidates.

Rich
Long Island

I LANGUISHED IN MY ANGUISH

(Ed. Note: Bruce & Debbie are the Winners of Last Issue's Rational Recreation Challenge)

Thanks for the fun (and for the rest of the newsletter, too!). Here is our answer to Anguish Languish:

"The number of laws has constantly grown in all countries and owing to this, what is called "crime" is often no crime at all, for it contains no element of violence or harm."
P.D. Ouspensky.

We enjoy these things, and have done many. This one was probably the hardest we've seen.

The skill is somewhat similar to the technique I employ to understand writeups and term papers handed in by so-called college students who have graduated from the government-run High Schools (as well as various other illiterates, including some PhDs at Brookhaven Lab).

The trick, when reading the incompetently-written drivel of such otherwise-intelligent students, is to MOVE YOUR LIPS! (e.g. "Wat im gonnado width this here suto code is ill make it solv a linny ear equate shun, using too vary ables. Then ill tran slate the sutocode into Four Tran.")

We also enjoy the "Lirty Dies" numbers, done by Capitol Steps? Have you heard any of them?

Oh, and our daughter, Crystal, intends to buy a cigar just after midnite this December 1, when she becomes Ann's age.

Yaw sin Lib or Tea,

Bruce & Debbie Martin
Middle Island, NY

REGISTERING LIBERTARIAN? SO WHAT!?

I've been hesitating to write this letter because I don't want to be a wet blanket, and I don't want to diminish whatever it is we won here. If nothing else, it's a victory against a tentacle of the state (the BOE), which is always worth celebrating. I especially want to be clear that I appreciate and value all the hard work that many Libertarians put into this, especially Chris Garvey.

However, I asked this question earlier in the year, and I don't think I ever got a satisfactory answer, so I'm going to try again:

What is so great about being able to register as a Libertarian? Seriously. Where's the beef? So the state now tracks our database of people interested in the LP instead of us doing it ourselves? So what?

Gary Treistman says, "we now have virtually all equivalent status' to a 'recognized' party." How? The real advantage of a recognized party - maybe the only significant advantage - is ballot status, which this doesn't give us.

Bonnie Scott had mentioned awhile ago that if you look at the data from the Green Party, their organized local parties skyrocketed once voters were able to register as Greens. But I don't think that proves a cause and effect. I would suspect that the Greens experienced huge growth in both local organization and voter registrations because they got ballot status.

Secondly, why would anyone even want to register as a Libertarian, seeing as there is no primary to vote in? What's the advantage to the voter? You're just disenfranchising yourself, especially in NYC, where the Democratic primary is the de facto election.

I'll probably register Libertarian just out of sentimentality, but for anyone who isn't already a dedicated dues-paying LP member, I honestly can't see why they would bother.

That being said, I think this court victory is, well, nice.

Jim Lesczynski
Manhattan

THE DOCTOR SPEAKS BACK

To the Editor:

Re: Article in July 2003 newsletter

The other day I received a copy of the July 2003 newsletter of the New York Libertarian Party. In it was an article written by Kevin O'Connell, entitled "Stealth Candidates". The article was directed at me and my campaign for school board in Charles County, MD. In the article Mr. O'Connell has taken half-truths, partial and incorrect data and taken them to a very high level of inaccuracy. Additionally, had Mr. O'Connell even looked into the position of Charles County School Board Member, he would have found that this position is a non-partisan elected position and there is no reference to "political affiliation" either in registering or on the actual ballot, where the names are arranged alphabetically. But this, notwithstanding I felt it necessary to respond to his article.

At no time, before, during or after my campaign did I ever hide my political or educational views. Mr. O'Connell was correct that I was a registered Libertarian in 1991 and did found the Libertarian Party of Charles County. He was also correct that 18 months after I started the local chapter I closed it down but NOT for the reason stated by Mr. O'Connell. I shut the local chapter down because we only had two members, Don White, and myself and Mr. White was not even a resident of Charles County.

Mr. O'Connell stated that I used a "stealth" tactic by changing my registration from Libertarian. This is true but at the time stated by Mr. O'Connell the Libertarian Party was not recognized in Maryland and one could not register as such. I want to point out that throughout this time I was writing a weekly article in a local paper and the articles By-line was "A Libertarian View". I wrote this article almost weekly until the "School Board" voted that individual members of the Board could not write articles for our papers. If I were trying to hide my political viewpoint would I have even written these articles, let alone on a weekly basis?

Furthermore, Mr. O'Connell stated that I hid my viewpoint from the people of Charles County. To this idea I ask, if I were trying to hide my views, would I have kept writing my weekly article? The answer to this would be of course not, but I kept on writing it. Mr. O'Connell also stated that I believed that the "Public School system" should be eliminated. I did and still believe that the "government" school system was and is still failing our children. Even with this view point I would have been a fool to call for the abolition of public schools because there would have been no other system that could have absorbed 20,000 plus school children in the area. I was and still am in favor of vouchers, charter schools, private schools and competition within the public school system and ultimately the creation of a system that gets the results that our children deserve, which might even include some form of "government" schools.

Another point that Mr. O'Connell makes is that the Republican Chair, Marlene Schuster, was unaware of my positions. First of all Mrs. Schuster and her husband were personal friends, living around the corner from me. I also want to point out that for a number of years Mrs. Schuster's husband Dr. Gerald Schuster, who was very

active in the republican Party of Charles County, had been after me to work within the Republican Party, as a member of the Republican Party but with Libertarian views. I was even approached to run for office as a Republican.

Furthermore, Mr. O'Connell states that I did not seek re-election because of my "extreme" viewpoints on public education. This is totally false. The reason that I did not seek re-election was that I was moving out of the county. As a matter of fact, most of the members of the board were encouraging me to reconsider moving and to run again. I have even been asked by current Board members to consider running for the Board again, as I have relocated back into the county.

At no time did I ever try to deceive anyone or hide my position on anything. All Mr. O'Connell would have had to do was to have attended any of the candidate forums to see that I was straight up with the public or even attend a single Board meeting. Additionally Mr. O'Connell states "anything a Libertarian says only makes things worse even when that Libertarian voices disagreement with the party Platform". If Mr. O'Connell knew anything about the Libertarian Party he would know that there exists many viewpoints within the Libertarians ranks. One thing that Libertarians do believe is that we can "agree to disagree" on issues. We are not puppets whose string is pulled by someone above but rather free thinkers who believe in the limited functions of government and individual responsibility.

Furthermore, Mr. O'Connell obviously believes that the public is lacking intelligence when evaluating candidates. Now there may be some truth in this, as I believe that Americans get the politicians and elected officials that they ask for and usually deserve. I also find it interesting that the school board member that was and still is my biggest supporter, home schools his children and he has been elected for three terms.

Mr. O'Connell states that "to be Libertarian one has to be a person of high ethics" and "to use deceptive or less than truthful practices" is what Libertarians tell the voters that they should not vote for. I would tell Mr. O'Connell that before he starts criticizing others, he should get ALL the facts and ALL the truths and get all his ducks in line, before attacking another. What he has done, is exactly what many of our elected officials do, and that is to look at part of the picture and paint a picture that conforms to their agenda rather than what is in the best interests of the people and this nation, as written our Constitution and Declaration of Independence and not as we have today, a government that is intrusive in virtually every aspect of our lives.

Today our elected officials and judiciary ignore the "Declaration" and say that the "Constitution" is what they say it is rather than what it states. Our founding fathers must be turning over in their graves seeing what is happening to the nation that they founded.

Dr. Stephen Ziegler
Waldorf, MD

PS – throughout the article Mr. O'Connell constantly spelled my name incorrectly – it is not Zeigler but rather Ziegler. Maybe Mr. O'Connell, additionally, got a lot of other things wrong too.

OUR PARTY MATTERS

CONVENTION NEWS:

NY Libertarian Party 2004:

A convention location for 2004 has not yet been selected, and is still in planning.

The focus of the LPNY meeting in November is expected to be convention planning for 2004.

A suggestion was made, generally, that Albany should be selected coincident with the NYS gubernatorial elections, New York City every presidential election, and some other available site on other years.

Another promising suggestion was made that convention fees may be waived for any attendee who promises to be a Libertarian candidate in 2004 (subject to the by-laws).

Some questions:

Which chapters might be willing to host the convention in 2004? (It is currently presumed that the convention might take place in the Hudson Valley area.)

Although April has been traditionally the month in which the NYLP has had its conventions, the convention could take place earlier, such as January, February, March.

Local LPNY chapters are invited to submit to the Committee their interest in

holding the convention near their respective locations.

Significant criteria being considered as to viability of the eventual location and dates are:

[1] Cost to LPNY and attendee membership fees, [2] Location and [3] Size to accommodate as many as 200 attendees, [4] Favorable experience with one of our previous convention locations, [4] Competing related events, such as other State/National conventions or freedom themed rallies/happenings/gatherings.

Jen Rog and Rob Robinson of the Hudson Valley LP Chapter have been scoping out locations for the next NYLP Convention in the Hudson Valley areas; some regions/locations there being considered: Sullivan County Catskill Resort areas, Hudson Valley areas, Lake George areas, and some State University hosting sites.

Members, please submit your suggestions and if you'd like to be on the selection committee.

National Libertarian Party

Next year's National Convention is expected to be on May 27-31, 2004, at the Marriott Atlanta Marquis Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia, where the LP nominee for President will be selected.

ACTIVISM SUGGESTIONS

*A Recurring Section, highlighting suggestion(s) made by LP Members as a starting point for NYLP activist projects or activities in the furtherance of LP goals.
(Editor kindly requests topic contributions for this section)*

Suggestion:

In planning petition drives, one problem is that collectors don't get signatures much when the weather is bad outdoors. I was wondering if anyone has tried having a table, especially during petition period, at indoor flea markets.

For example, I spoke today with Tri-County Flea Market & Jewelers Exchange in Levittown. The cost would be \$967 to rent a booth for a month, which is a lot but on the other hand one

has a place to gather signatures several hours a day into the night for 7 days a week. Maybe next year we will try it.

I think it might be safer too, especially for women, and perhaps easier to get volunteers.

I wonder 1) How much traffic do they get?2) How many different people visit?

#1 can be measured with a counter on different day/time periods. #2 is probably just conjecture.

Submitted by Rich Cooper

POINTS OF NOTE

AN OVERVIEW FROM THE NYLP CHAIR,

JOHN CLIFTON:

THE NEXT STEP

There are a couple of developments to comment on this time, including:

A) Functional Organization:

Here is where LPNY is at present with regards to its filling spots in our functional organizing, based on the three category schema I proposed (mostly from the draft June meeting minutes):

Political Director:

Chris Garvey was originally considered, but declines this position. Jak Karako was mentioned and considered.

Political strategy:

Jim Harris agreed to work on this.

Candidate recruit/support:

Bonnie Scott agreed to work on this, focusing primarily on support.

Petition drives: (Unassigned)

Election law knowledge:

Jim (Harris or Lesczynski?) for state. (Unclear)

Track of state legislative bills: (Unassigned)

Communications Director:

Thomas Ruks has agreed to work on this.

Communications strategy:

John Clifton will work on this area.

Media contacts:

Rich Cooper has agreed to work on this.

News Releases:

Gary Popkin was considered and should be asked if he will work on this.

Website:

Bonnie Scott, with the help of Catherine Ruks, has agreed to work on this.

Youth Outreach:

Thomas Stevens has since agreed to work on this.

Operations Director:

Bonnie Scott has since agreed to work on this.

Affiliated County organizing: (Unassigned)

Membership:

Thomas Ruks has since agreed to work on this.

Fundraising/Development: Werner Hetzner (?)

Convention:

Jen Rog and Rob Robinson are already working on this.

Special Projects: (Unassigned)

I am very pleased about Thomas Ruks and Dr. Tom Stevens recently volunteering to be membership and youth coordinators, respectively. There was unclarity as to where certain subcategory functions belonged, or whether a different basic structure would be preferred. Some of the suggested people 'under consideration' have yet to confirm their interest, and some committee members have not assigned/volunteered to perform functions. But the substantial progress made in having most of the listed responsibilities taken up, means that movement can now begin on each area.

By concrete movement I mean I hope to see the functional directors begin to present outlines or proposals for consideration by the LPNY state committee, now or by the next scheduled meeting (November 15), with progress reports thereafter. These proposals should indicate how long (1-2 years) it may take to achieve the goal outlined, and how long they expect to contribute in that capacity.

Those LPNY members who have interesting ideas of their own for development, membership, etc., should submit them to them to the identified directors, and/or consider volunteering to be part of subcommittees working with that director.

I prefer to schedule a very short list of items for the agenda of the next meeting (convention, legal update, function planning, budget) to ensure these issues get adequately reviewed. Let's start building this party!

As far as the 2004 LPNY convention planning, the date and location of which should be decided on by or before mid November.

If you have a city or hotel site in mind, and have gotten preliminary information on cost for rooms, meals, etc., reserved space (and deadlines), please submit them to Rob Robinson, Jen Rog or to the committee email list ASAP. Suggestions as to the wisdom or schedule for a one day, or two day event are encouraged. Still other issues to be worked out concern deciding on a fixed location (e.g., Albany) for the con every year, or fixed rotation of places to hold the convention each four year cycle (for example, Presidential year---NYC metro area, Post Presidential year---Central NY, Gubernatorial year---Albany, Post Gubernatorial year---Western NY). Repeat---comments are needed by or before November.

B) Budget/Multi-year Planning:

The input provided for and proposals adopted in

the functional areas will allow LPNY to better grasp what kind of annual budget scheme should be finalized by the state committee. A budget spreadsheet template has been developed to help determine a stable spending plan for LPNY to pursue towards putting the party in a better position to support candidates, initiatives, increased membership, regular fundraising, and obtaining permanent ballot status by the next gubernatorial election.

Another factor delaying concentration on budgeting issues has been the uncertainty over the outcome of the Green Party suit and the US Supreme Court's ruling on BCRA. Final rulings will give LPNY a clearer idea about preparing to meet campaign reform act requirements, or mounting a full-scale registration drive; for now, we are limited to contingency planning for each issue.

C) Initiatives:

The Anti-Smoking Ban petition drive spearheaded by Richard Cooper has produced a strong response, with much positive publicity generated for the LPNY (especially upstate). If you run across additional news stories or TV/Radio spots that mention the

drive please bring it to the attention of Mr. Cooper. I regret that additional funding for significant advertising was not approved to help further advance the effort. I hope each LPNY member receiving Free NY takes the enclosed Petitioning form and collects as many signatures as possible.

If you are a regular patron of a restaurant, you may be able to persuade the manager to prominently display the petition forms at their establishment.

Members who would like to propose similar initiatives about other issues where the party can impact the general public, are very welcome to present an outline of their idea so that state or local chapters can promote it. Any project that can potentially improve LPNY's profile and membership, or even "change the result" in combatting bad laws or regulations, is a good project for the LP to take up.

Those interested in contributing volunteer or contracted work in the above areas should contact myself, John Clifton, or other state committee members immediately. My email is johnclifton@netzero.com.

-----Peace & Freedom, John-----

"What would Reagan do?" Cont'd from Page # 1

Americanism, I would like to take this opportunity to critique the Bush war effort from the right, as a veteran and as a conservative libertarian. I voted for Ronald Reagan in 1984. It was largely on the basis of sheer gratitude that, putting aside the instances of expected compromises during his first term as President, on balance here was a rare politician who actually tried to keep his word about reducing government force.

Tax rates were significantly cut, and efforts to cut or at least slow down federal spending were mounted. Most significantly, there was an instance where Reagan actually REDUCED intervention in response to a problem: the Lebanon episode. On October of 1983, terrorists bombed the barracks where U.S. Marines were stationed, killing 241 soldiers. Reagan did not respond to this by launching a "War on Terror," to complement the absurdly expensive and failing War on Poverty, or the War on Drugs. Rather than pledging to fight abstractions, Reagan offered to temporarily maintain the peacekeeping force in place, but within a firm context of quickly replacing the troops with a UN force, as the U.S. presence was proving to be a provocation for escalating violence. The sparing of lives was deemed a more significant goal than hand-ringing over "what it looked like" (cutting and running) in the eyes

of some. Reagan "stayed the course" in getting us out of that mess.

Once again, this was different. It has served as a sore point, and stuck in the craw of the war-hawks ever since, that the premiere conservative political figure of our generation even entertained a non-interventionist approach to resolving a foreign policy issue, let alone carried it out.

When either Bush (the elder or the younger) says "we will get our troops home as soon as possible", unlike Reagan, it's just rhetoric. Both Bushes have been experts at cynically converting Reagan's conservative policy into pure style, with token substance; both have favored indefinite, "whatever is necessary" foreign engagements that continue forever once commenced.

Perhaps the Gipper's battle is already over, in that Republican leaders are at last openly dropping the facade of even nominally opposing the growth in central state power. GOP Chairman Ed Gillespie, as related by the New Hampshire Union Leader in August, said in no uncertain terms that "the days of Reaganesque Republican railings against the expansion of federal government are over. No longer does the Republican Party stand for shrinking the federal government, for scaling back its encroachment into

Announcements, News, Past and Present:

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Uzo Akujuo (www.clhm.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LIBERTARIANS PRESENT SPEAKER ON
 "LONG ISLAND GOVERNMENTS VERSUS
 PROPERTY RIGHTS & AFFORDABLE HOUSING"

Westbury, NY 7/23/03: Journalist Uzo Akujuo returned from his parents' Nigeria to find when he worked on Long Island that governments here also practice arbitrary and tyrannical interference with individual liberty and property rights. He shares what he learned as editor of Freedom and Property newspaper in his talk "Long Island Governments Versus Property Rights and Affordable Housing" before the Libertarian Party of Nassau County at its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 19th, 8-9:00 pm in the lower level conference room of 230 Hilton Avenue Hempstead. Free and public to all.

For information; 516-767-4688 or email nylibertarian@hotmail.com.

Akujuo worked for the Queens Tribune chain before becoming editor of Freedom and Property, the newspaper of the Coalition of Landlords, Merchants & Homeowners. Akujuo charges "Unconstitutional practices by Huntington, Brookhaven, and Freeport are obviously intent on making sure that the non-affluent, minority or otherwise, are unable to afford to live in their neighborhoods by driving up the cost of renting out space through the roof or forbidding rentals altogether. These are only a few of the many practices that the towns and villages of Long Island have used to ensure a lack of affordable housing on Long Island." Akujuo is both bemused and bewildered by Long Island governments. "Living out in Queens, I had no idea how bad things were. I had never heard about limits on the height of lawn grass. I had never heard about laws against torn screens. I had never heard of registration requirements for cars parked on private property. Come to think of it, I had never heard of any of these things in military ruled Nigeria. As one Salvadoran Coalition member pointed out to me, in many of these oppressed countries, no one ever goes into private homes asking the owners to account for whether the residents are family members or tenants."

The Libertarians championed the cause of St. Luke's Pentecostal Church in New Cassel, dispossessed by North Hempstead Supervisor May Newburger's urban renewal scheme.

On September 25, 6:30-8:30pm, "Rockefeller Drug Laws' Effect on Prisoners and Ex-Prisoners", a panel was

sponsored by the Seven Neighborhood Action Partnership/JusticeWorks Community. It was held at the Metropolitan Community United Methodist Church, 1975 Madison Ave., New York, NY.

Call (212)348-8142 or (718) 499-6704 ext. 208, visit <http://www.justiceworks.org> or e-mail snapjwc@msn.com for info.

On October 2, Amnesty International will hold a hearing on racial profiling, chaired by Hon. Timothy K. Lewis, former Judge of the US Court of Appeals for the 3rd Circuit, in New York, NY. Visit:

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/events/fall2003hearings.html>

or call (202) 544-0200 for further information.

On October 22, 7:00pm, the forum "Against All Odds: Cops Fighting the War on Drugs," with Jack Cole of Law Enforcement Against Prohibition will be held in at Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY.

Sponsored by Reconsider: Forum on Drug Policy and Syracuse University Students for Sensible Drug Policy.

For further information contact Gerrit Cain at caingerrit@hotmail.com or Mike Smithson at (315) 243-5844 or speakers@reconsider.org.

On November 5-8, the biennial conference of the Drug Policy Alliance will be held, at the Sheraton Meadowlands Hotel and Conference Center, 2 Meadowlands Plaza, East Rutherford, NJ.

Visit <http://www.drugpolicy.org> for further information.

SATURDAY OCT. 25 1-4

THE LONG ISLAND LIBERTARIAN CONVENTION

"The Value of Liberty to Society"
 LIBERTY & SECURITY: The NRA's Tony Giammarino discusses the right to keep and bear arms in a post-9/11 world.
 LIBERTY & PROPERTY: The Land Institute's Clifford Sondock tells us why local government is increasing its attacks on our homes and property - and what we all can do before it happens to you.
 LIBERTY & TECHNOLOGY: The Liberty Coalition's attorney Christopher Garvey defends modern industry and makes the case against global warming.

Checks payable to:

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 12 Wichard Blvd Commack NY 11725

Tian Tian All-You-Can-Eat Buffet
 6092 Jericho Turnpike (Rte. 25) Commack, NY 11725
 (1/2 mile W of Commack Rd. in the
 NYSportsClub shopping center near the
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\$19.99 pre-paid * \$25 at the door

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEW YORK (516) 767-4688
PO BOX 728, BELLPORT, NY 11713

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NYLIBERTARIANSBLASTPOLITICIANS'"MENTALPOWER FAILURE" IN THE NORTHEAST POWER BLACKOUT
Bellport, NY 8/20/03

Members of the Libertarian Party of New York have labored to set the record straight about the power system in the days following the region-wide power blackout on August 14. LPNY Chair John Clifton has questioned why so many officials felt compelled to make ill-considered statements, such as the initial erroneous speculation that a lightening strike in Niagra caused a grid failure that spread to 21 power plants.

Likewise shaky, said Clifton, was the rush of many to blame "deregulation" for the transmission failure, "as it's far more accurate to say that utilities were re-regulated under the sham reforms of the last decade," with no net decline in total government involvement. "It's as if the politicians are suffering from a mental power failure, to match the electrical one New Yorkers experienced," he charged.

Other Libertarians, such as Buffalo area attorney James Ostrowski also noted the oddness of blaming "deregulation" for the grid failure, considering that the transmission grid is the one aspect of the power system still firmly under government control. Ostrowski points to state-imposed artificial price caps on the industry, that have delayed upgrades to the overburdened network. "The New York Times backs up my analysis of the power problem," he says, citing its 8/17 editorial which revealed that "the companies that transmit the power are regulated by the State Public Service Commission, and would invest in new transmission lines only if rate increases were approved, something the commission has been reluctant to do"---for political reasons, Ostrowski suggests.

Problems with inadequate power grid back-up systems are thus more likely the result of government neglect. Drawing on his naval background, Mr. Clifton explained that "unlike the electric utilities, the military designs its hardware with redundant features, to help it survive once parts of it are damaged or compromised. On a ship, if the 'port' power bus fails, the 'starboard' bus takes over immediately to maintain service. But there seems to be only one consumer grid, or bus to transport power across entire regions of the U.S. When it comes to the energy distribution system, vast sections of the country appear to be operating on one engine."

The mystifying inability of officials and experts to account for just how 50 million Americans across one quarter of the U.S. could be deprived of electricity is highly suspect, Clifton says. "When I worked on submarines, the computer sys-

tems performed self-diagnostic tests 8 times per second, and instantly printed out the exact location of any component that failed. That was 12 years ago. Post-Y2K, post-9/11, how could no one know what went wrong on August 14, 2003?"

By contrast, Libertarians point to the resilience and clarity of the market, as displayed by the extraordinary courtesy New Yorkers showed each other in the crisis, and by the "spontaneous negotiations" that transpired between stranded commuters and car drivers in Manhattan, to work out ways to get home. Such voluntary transactions demonstrate that non-coercive private exchanges are far more effective at solving problems than public sector, centrally-planned systems that, one week later, still can't quite figure out what happened. The path to long term improvement in the reliability and supply of consumer energy lies with free market solutions and the true, full and complete deregulation of the power industry.

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEW YORK
(516)767-4688

PO BOX 728, BELLPORT, NY 11713

website:<http://www.ny.lp.org/>

Contact:

Christopher B. Garvey Esq. (516) 365 9802 (o);

Don Silberger 914-255-8819

John Clifton (718) 276-4630x139 (o) ;(917) 798-0025
(voicemail)

email:johnclifton@netzero.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LIBERTARIAN PARTY LAUNCHING "FREE
NEW YORK" VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE
IN RESPONSE TO FEDERAL COURT VICTORY

Bellport, NY, 9/24/03

Libertarians all over New York rejoiced last weekend because of a court decision reached September 18 that permits voters to register "Libertarian" for the first time in the state's history. The state voter registration form was ordered to be revised to allow New Yorkers to write in the name of a political party for enrollment. Voters are no longer limited to the choices designated by the state on the form.

The state will now accept enrollments and keep records for any political organization that has run a candidate for governor in the last gubernatorial election. If the gubernatorial candidate received over 50,000 votes, the party is considered a Party by the Board of Elections and is listed by name on voter registration forms.

The ruling establishes an "other" line on the voter forms and prevents the purging of data for the three parties which lost official Party status during the last gubernatorial election. The ruling by US Eastern District Judge Gleeson in Green Party NYS vs. NYS Board of Elections, which becomes effective immediately, agreed with the amicus brief submitted by the Libertarian Party of New York (LPNY) that

New York's Board of Elections should allow voters to enroll as members of any party that has organized for recent gubernatorial elections. After Judge Gleeson's preliminary injunction, LPNY filed an intervention, which was required to obtain relief specifically for the LPNY.

With the September 18 ruling, Gleeson established that the Libertarian Party's electoral record met this criterion, "it means voters can now enroll as Libertarians on revised registration forms that are compliant with Hon. Gleeson's decision, and can now carry official NYS Voter Cards with "Libertarian" as the enrolled party" said Ulster County activist Gary Treistman, who developed the brief with Mr. Garvey. The LPNY has posted a downloadable version of a registration form compliant with the September 18 decision on their website, at <http://ny.lp.org/enroll>. It also plans to mount a major voter registration drive this fall to capitalize on the ruling and to realize the party's mission to "Free New York."

"The Libertarian Party of New York has been on the ballot in nearly every election for the past thirty years, yet our supporters have been prevented from enrolling as Libertarians," said LPNY State Chair John Clifton. "The old form provided an unfair, state-subsidized advantage to the 'official' parties by allowing voters to enroll as members of those parties only. This change in the form removes an artificial barrier that has held back our growth for decades. Now we can build a membership and fund-raising base on a more level playing field. Our time has come." Donald Silberger, an associate mathematics professor at SUNY New Paltz and veteran party activist, was especially gratified by the ruling. "Our duties as loyal participants in our movement are clear," said Professor Silberger. "Re-register ourselves as Libertarians and carry the new forms to as many people as possible who might do likewise."

Silberger and Clifton expect a rapid increase in identified Libertarians over the next few months.

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEW YORK (516) 767-4688
PO BOX 728, BELLPORT, NY 11713

website: <http://www.ny.lp.org/>

(Please return any inquiries or correspondence to the above address, to the Attn: SMOKING BAN PETITION)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LIBERTARIANS SEEK TO EXTINGUISH NY SMOKING BANS

Bellport, NY- 9/9/03: Libertarians will fan across New York seeking petition signatures to repeal the smoking bans imposed this year. The petition reads "We the undersigned, whether smokers or non-smokers, agree with the Libertarian Party that bans on smoking in restaurants and bars should be overturned. Bar and restaurant owners should have the right to decide whether to permit smoking or not on their property. The public has the right to choose whether or not to patronize or work there. The government should not interfere with their choices." Go to: <http://www.1marketsquare.com/LPNY/Smoking.html> for a downloadable/printable form.

Previously, the Manhattan Libertarians held cigarette giveaways at City Hall and Bryant Park in earlier protests

against cigarette taxes.

Libertarian State Chair John Clifton, a nonsmoking social worker and former drug abuse counselor, sees smoking bans as violating freedom of choice. "The city and statewide restaurant ban on smoking is a blow to free choice for all New Yorkers, whether they smoke or not. Yes, smokers do have a liberty right to "choke others" who have chosen to go where people recreationally smoke. Just as patrons have a right to eat fatty meals in front of dieters who have chosen to be at a fast food restaurant."

The petition was authored by former State Chair Richard Cooper, a nonsmoker who chairs the Nassau County Libertarians. He contends that "We Libertarians are pro-choice on smoking. Who should decide whether there should be smoking in bars and restaurants? We say the property owner, not Mike Bloomberg or George Pataki. Whether to work at or patronize an establishment permitting smoking is a choice too. Private property rights, individual liberty, free markets and personal responsibility should guide public policy on smoking. Smoking bans suffocate a person dedicated to freedom of choice like myself, although I don't like smoking. The Surgeon General of the United States, Richard Carmona, has said he would support banning cigarettes and all tobacco products. The handwriting is on the wall for Americans who cherish freedom and personal responsibility, not just smoking."

MANHATTAN LIBERTARIAN PARTY

18 Greenwich Avenue

P.O. Box 127

New York, NY 10011

www.ManhattanLP.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Libertarians Accuse NY Times, Bank of America of Exploiting Federal 9/11 Relief

9/26/03 – Adding insult to injury, two notorious Manhattan real estate projects are compounding their abuse of eminent domain by seeking "Liberty Bonds" to bankroll their new digs, the Manhattan Libertarian Party charged today.

"The Bank of America and the New York Times are both pursuing federally authorized tax-free bonds that were intended to rebuild lower Manhattan. Both projects are in midtown Manhattan between 40th and 42nd Streets, miles from Ground Zero, on expensive properties that were recently condemned by the Empire State Development Corporation.

"These corporate welfare queens really know no limit to their hubris," said Manhattan Libertarian Party spokesman Jim Lesczynski. "It's bad enough that these corporations destroyed thriving small businesses through blatant abuse of New York's infamous eminent domain laws. But now they have the gall to ask for bonds paid for with our tax dollars that were earmarked for redevelopment of lower Manhattan after September 11th."

Jak Karako, the Libertarian City Council candidate for District 4, concurs. "First the Times and Bank of America stole the property they want to occupy. Now they want you and me pay for the new construction. When will the looting end?"

The Libertarians argue that tax dollars should never be used for the benefit of private interests, regardless of where the projects are located. However, this bait-and-switch involving federal 9/11 relief is especially inappropriate.

A public hearing is scheduled for the Bank of America Liberty Bonds request at 10:00 a.m. on September 29th at 110 William Street. The Manhattan Libertarian Party urges their fellow New Yorkers to join them in speaking out against this latest corporate welfare outrage.

Contact: Jim Lesczynski, Media Relations Director, 646-387-7591

The Manhattan Libertarian Party's annual convention is scheduled for Saturday, January 10, 2004, at the 1050 Restaurant in midtown Manhattan. Highlighted Speakers already confirmed:

* Jacob Sullum (keynote speaker), senior editor of Reason Magazine and author of Saying Yes: In Defense of Drug Use

* David Kaczynski, executive director of New Yorkers Against the Death Penalty and the brother who turned in the Unabomber

*Bernie Goetz, famous defendant, speaking on jury nullification

* A speaker on civil liberties after 9/11 (we can't reveal the name just yet)

Contact:

Contact: Jim Lesczynski, Media Relations Director, 646-387-7591

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NASSAU C/O
LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEW YORK (516) 767-4688
PO BOX 728, BELLPORT, NY 11713

website: <http://www.ny.lp.org/>

John Clifton: nylibertarian@hotmail.com.

Contact: Richard Cooper

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BLACK LIBERTARIAN LEADER CHALLENGES ALL AMERICANS, BUT ESPECIALLY MINORITIES, TO EMBRACE THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY

At the Libertarian Party of Nassau County meeting on October 21st, Tuesday, from 8:00 to 9:15pm in the lower level conference room at 230 Hilton Avenue, Hempstead. Free. Westbury, NY 9/29/03:

John Clifton will challenge all Americans but especially his fellow minority group members (he is black), to consider and embrace libertarianism.

The Queens social worker and Navy veteran chairs the Libertarian Party of New York and served as the party's standard-bearer in the US Senate race in 2000. Clifton will speak on "Black and Libertarian: Why All Americans, But Especially Minorities Should Support Libertarians" at the

He declares "I am a libertarian because I believe in the

maximum liberty of the individual. To fully realize their freedoms and restore the economic prosperity comparable to the rest of America, we must reclaim responsibility for our lives, and cast off the neo-slavery we have embraced during the last two generations. In a word, we must be Black Libertarians."

John Clifton is a social worker who opposes the welfare state, a former drug abuse counselor who opposes the drug war, and a former Ballistic Fire Control Technician on nuclear submarines who opposes the Clinton-Bush policy of military adventurism. John Clifton has

fought for Nassau residents by speaking at rallies on behalf of St. Luke's Pentecostal Church, dispossessed by May Newburger's urban renewal schemes, according to Nassau County Chair Richard Cooper of Westbury

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER ELECTED GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA

Action actor Arnold Schwarzenegger was elected to Governor in California in consequence to a grass roots recall referendum expressing a vote of no-faith for the incumbent Governor Gray Davis.

Possibly signalling a change in political realities, the election might show a trend of the public's willingness to elect less than career politicians, and to entertain other new approaches to government. Schwarzenegger has been sometimes described as a moderate libertarian.

Time will only show whether Schwarzenegger will exhibit a willingness to go against the entrenched status quo, and champion individuals' rights, or whether he will be subsumed by the political machine and become just another placeholder for the office.

Our Party Matters

They demand obedience.

We value choices.

What do you have when you have no choice?

Reclaim your right to choose!

Libertarian Party

www.ny.lp.org/choice

NYLP CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

A SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES, DEVELOPMENTS AND PROGRESSES MADE BY THE NYLP CHAPTERS AND THEIR CONTACTS, AS REPORTED TO FREE NY BY THE CHAPTER'S THEMSELVES. SEE OTHER ACTIVITIES DETAILED IN ANNOUNCEMENTS SECTION THAT ARE TOO VOLUMINOUS TO REPRODUCE HERE. IF YOU ARE (OR WILL BE) A LIBERTARIAN AND YOUR PART OF THE STATE IS NOT REPRESENTED YET, CALL (516)SOS-GOVT TO GET HELP TO SET ONE UP.

Capital District

<http://1marketsquare.com/CapLP/Main.shtml>

Albany and Vicinity

Jeff Russell, JRuss1776@aol.com

518-371-3641

The Capital District Libertarian Party meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Branch Restaurant on Maiden Lane in Albany. Meetings start at 6 PM and usually last about an hour. There are about 50 members of national who live within an hour's drive of Albany. About 10 of them are fairly active, but only 4-5 attend meetings.

Central New York

Onondaga, Oswego, Madison, Cortland

Kevin Delaney, kdzrd@aol.com

Marc Romain, romainpcsi@altavista.com

A business meeting will be held from 2-3pm followed by a discussion group from 3-4pm on the second Sunday of every odd month.

Erie/Niagara Counties

Dr. John Wadsworth, jlwads@concentric.net

716-886-1919

John has been having meetings regularly.

Please contact him to be put on his email list.

Hudson Valley

(Includes Dutchess, Orange, and Ulster Counties)

Don Silberberger, DonSilberger@hvc.rr.com

845-255-8819

Peter Carl

845-679-8340

P.O. Box 66, Lake Hill, NY 12448

Gary Treistman, garyonthenet@yahoo.com

845-679-4770

POB 563, Bearsville, NY 12409

Meets "religiously" on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM at the College Diner in New Paltz, one block east of the thruway exit on route 299. Also read about the attempts to start a new chapter in Dutchess County.

Recently instrumental in intervening NY Libertarian Party into Green Party lawsuit, and origination of new NYS Voter Registration form.

Our chapter recently invited a Green Party candidate to review common cross issues, and endorsed him for the office he sought.

Kings County (a.k.a. Brooklyn)

(We are looking for a volunteer to be a contact)

Meetings are combined with the New York county (Manhattan) chapter until a Brooklyn chapter can be formed.

Livingston County Libertarian Party

Albert Dedicke

aadedicke@yahoo.com

Contact Al to get involved in Livingston County: we will need help with the campaign this year.

Libertarian Party of Monroe County

<http://mnylp.nettsville.com/>

(includes Genessee, Orleans and Wayne counties)

Stephen Healey, easterof1916@runbox.com
585-529-9354

The Libertarian Party of Monroe County recently manned Operation Politically Homeless (OPH) booths at two September motorcycle shows and swap meets where we believed libertarians could be identified. Both events were a success, producing over two dozen new names for our database.

The chapter meets on the third Wednesday of each month for strategy sessions. at Harro East, 400 Andrews St.; Call or visit website for further directions.

Doors open at 7 PM. Meeting starts at 7:30, ends before 9.

New York County (a.k.a. Manhattan)

<http://www.manhattanlp.org/>

Gary Snyder, gary@garysnyder.org

Thomas Ruks, info@manhattanlp.org

Manhattan Libertarian Party

(212) 252-3449

18 Greenwich Avenue

P.O. Box 127

New York, NY 10011

Manhattan is now leading the state in terms of candidates run each year. Join the lpny_manhattan@yahoo.com mailing list to start contributing your ideas about how to make it work. Stop in at our monthly meetings from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month, at Evergreen Restaurant, 10 East 38th Street. The first hour is a business meeting, and it will start PROMPTLY. The second hour is educational/social with dinner and guest speaker.

The meetings get started around 7, and are subject to frequent interruptions from the host.

Also see Announcements for other events.

Nassau County Libertarian Party

Vincent O'Neill

516-676-8029

Meets in the downstairs conference room at 230 Hilton Avenue, Hempstead, at 8:00 PM on the third Tuesday of each month. Also see Announcements for other events.

Libertarian Party of Queens County

<http://members.tripod.com/lpqc/>

Ed Velez, lpqc@ureach.com

info: (718) 707-1421

Meetings are held on the 2nd Saturday of each month, from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm, at Bohemian Hall, 29-19 24th Avenue, Astoria, Queens (Subway: one block north of the Astoria Boulevard N train station, just west of 31st Street.)

Suffolk County

Barry Loberfeld, BLoberfe@suffolk.lib.ny.us

516-543-3510

Contact Barry for meeting times and location.

Southern Tier Libertarian Party

(Includes Cortland, Chemung, Broome, Otsego, Schuyler, Tioga, and Tompkins Counties)

Michael Lurie, mlurie@control.com

607-797-7162

William Kone, _WilliamK@excite.com

322 Pine Tree, Apt #82

Ithaca, NY 14850

Meetings are 1:00pm to 3:00pm on the second Saturday of the month at the Vestal Public Library.

Western New York

(Includes Allegany, Chautauqua, Wyoming, Cattaraugus Counties)

John Wadsworth jlwads@concentric.net

Buffalo, NY

716-886-1919

There are fairly regular meetings in Buffalo at this point--please contact John Wadsworth in Buffalo if you'd like to get involved.

College Chapters and Contacts:**A note from the newly appointed LPNY College Outreach Coordinator:**

I was recently appointed College Outreach Coordinator for the Libertarian Party in New York State. I am an attorney who also teaches on the college level. I seek to provide support for all those LP members active on college and university campuses in New York State. I know we are all busy, but if you would agree to be help me, together we will be able to make a difference.

If you work or go to school at a college or university in New York State and would like to be a designated contact for the Libertarian Party, I would appreciate your contacting me at the E-Mail address noted below.

Perhaps you are a professor who would be willing to serve as an Advisor to a College Libertarian chapter. Perhaps you are a student who is interested in leading a Libertarian Freedom Coalition, an alliance of students who agree with us on a broad range of issues.

Perhaps you are someone who would be willing to put up a notice seeking to identify students who would agree to serve as officers of a Libertarian Party organization at your school. If you can help out in any capacity, please let me know.

Dr. Thomas Robert Stevens
College Outreach Coordinator
LPNY
YRSpartan@aol.com

SUNY Buffalo

Jonathan Smilow, jsmilow@hotmail.com

Columbia University

<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/libertarians/>
Will Thomas wrt2003@columbia.edu
Chis Haynes ckh2001@columbia.edu
Hunter DuBose HunterDuBose@nyc.rr.com
Damian Najman, libertarians@columbia.edu

Cornell University

Justin Peters, jtp22@cornell.edu

SUNY Geneseo

Matthew Ray

NEWS FROM THE MONROE CHAPTER:

In addition to identifying dozens of libertarians and borderline liberals and conservatives, and letting them know we are here, our chapter's OPH booth at two recent Sept motorcycle shows has been an superb outreach tool, and an excellent opportunity to expose people to libertarian ideas in a non-confrontational atmosphere. In addition, we offered Judge Jim Gray books and the LPNY "smoking ban petition". Despite the fact that the

(world's smallest political) quiz is the centerpiece of the booth, we found the bikers to be just as interested in signing the smoking ban petition! The OPH booth is just one tool the LPMC has used to build a contact database that is 300% larger than the list of local members and inquiries maintained by the National Party. Our list includes lapsed members, single issue activists, curious folks, and those who choose not to join National but are sympathetic to the LP. We hope the booth will be making a regular appearance at Rochester events in the spring.

Andy Demers
LPMC (Rochester, NY)

Jeremy Lerch, geneseolibertarians@hotmail.com
Matthew reports that Geneseo students are still up and running, creating a web site and crusading against mandatory student fees at Geneseo.

CUNY Hunter

Chris Delano, Lockjaw47@aol.com
Not a formal organization yet, but Chris is our contact point: drop him a note if you're from Hunter!

Ithaca College

Prof. Kim Gregson
kgregson1@ithaca.edu A new contact as of April, 2003.

New York University

Nathan Gessner, nathan@altalena.org & nsg206@nyu.edu
Capitalist pig? Good, we like you already.
Come check out University Libertarians At NYU Meetings: Wednesdays at 5:30 Loeb Student Center, Room 412 (Usually-Check at Desk)

SUNY Brockport

Adam Chamberlain, kangol@novocon.net
585 395 4665

ACTIVISM SUGGESTIONS

I think we should widely solicit people to "join" the LP by simply signing the pledge and providing a name and address. We should call them "registrants" or something like that to distinguish them from "members", and we can ask them to become members by paying the dues later. In the meantime, though, we start building a list of interested people, who may number in the tens of thousands, and to whom we can send solicitations to become members, flagship editions of the newsletter, requests for volunteers, etc.

Suggestion made by Blay Tarnoff

NY LIBERTARIAN CANDIDATES CURRENTLY RUNNING FOR OFFICE**Meet the Candidates:**

The New York Libertarian Party is currently running 5 candidates for public office in New York. Information as provided by the candidates to the NYLP, and/or FreeNY.



Jacob (Jak) Karako
(212) 314-5640
jak@electjak.org
www.electjak.org
240 E 76th St 5R
New York, NY 10021

Libertarian for New York City Council, Manhattan.

District 4 (Covers Central Park East and South, and generally along the East River from 46th St. to 14th St.)

- ÷ Manhattan Libertarian Party Chair
- ÷ FTAA Director of Jewish-Turkish affairs
- ÷ Financial Reporting Systems Specialist
- ÷ Efficiency Expert
- ÷ Tango Instructor (www.BailaTango.com)

BA in Economics, 1989 Bogazici University
MBA, 1991 Florida Institute of Technology

Knowing both the Jewish and the Turkish culture closely, he serves as a liason between various Jewish organizations and the Federation of Turkish American Associations.

Jak has been working in various financial institutions since 1992. He works for Equitable Life/AXA as a financial reporting manager. He is also a tango instructor. He worked and performed in many dance studios in NY including Ballroom On Fifth, Stepping Out Dance Studios, Dance New York. Currently he teaches/manages for his own tango school "Baila Tango".

Jak is also one of the founding members of the Manhattan Libertarian Party and has been serving as the Chair since its formation.

Campaign issues:**Debt and Taxation:**

Protect and promote small business, by consolidating the application and registration process to a single department, except when it involves public safety.

Roll back the irresponsible and devastating %18.5 real estate tax.

Spending reductions in the city's \$44+ billion budget, and reduction of the city's \$40+ billion debt.

Education:

Outlaw the involuntary drugging of kids using a mostly rare illness "Attention Deficit Disorder" as an excuse. Disruptive kids should not be allowed in the regular class rooms.

School choice with "Teacher owned schools"

Reconsider Rockefeller Drug Laws:

Police resources should be allocated to catch the murderers, burglars, rapists and alike, and leave alone the drug users who may or may not have a medical problem.

Prohibition and criminalization doesn't work; it's time for education, treatment and healing.



Craig Milem
(212) 465-3128
nyc@craigmilem.com
<http://craigmilem.com/>

Libertarian for New York City Council, Manhattan.

District 5 (Along the East River from 49th St. to 91th St., about 4 blocks in)

"My candidacy offers an alternative to our present course. Proper government exists (solely) for the protection of individual rights. To that end, I stand as a voice of reason in defense of individual rights, limited government, and open markets. I hold that men have an ultimate right to their own life, to make decisions for themselves free of government coercion. Spending should be slashed, taxes should be reduced to negligible levels, and bureaucrats should be turned out of office. Utilities, transit, and - especially, schools should be privatized."

Campaign Issues:

- **Cut taxes and spending**
- **Repeal the smoking ban**
- **Institute School choice**
- **Privatize 2nd Ave. Subway**



Dan Finley
(646) 239-4113
dan@danfinley.com

Libertarian for New York City Council, Manhattan.

District Two, (Murray Hill, Gramercy, Union Square, Astor Place, East Village, Alphabet City, Lower East Side)

Priding himself on his principled advocacy of a vision of limited government that serves only to protect the life, liberty, and property of its individual citizens, Mr. Finley calls for an end to the city sales and property taxes, financed by spending reductions -- including a 50% reduction in the salaries of city council members.

Currently a third-year law student at New York University, Mr. Finley holds a bachelor of arts degree in economics from the University of Washington in Seattle. A true political outsider, the 22-

year-old Mr. Finley has previously worked as, among other things, a law clerk, a tutor, a pizza delivery driver, a radio disc-jockey, and a bathroom cleaner.

Campaign Issues:

- **Dedicated to protecting your life, liberty, and property**
- **Taxes: End the city sales and property taxes**
- **Education: Cash for children to spend on private schools and save for the future**
- **Housing: Encourage housing development**

No Image Given

Adam Martin Middle Island, NY

Libertarian Adam Martin is on the ballot in Brookhaven, on the Conservative line.

(No further information was available for publication).

No Image Given

Chris Garvey
cgarvey@collardroe.com
(516) 365-9802
16 Nicoll Ave.
Amityville, NY

Chris Garvey, is running as Libertarian for County Executive in Suffolk County.

No further information was available.

Gary Treistman



(845) 679-4770
garyonthenet@yahoo.com
POB 563
Bearsville, NY 12409

Libertarian for Town Justice of Woodstock, NY

"I was born in Manhattan, (York Avenue, New York County, New York State), and lived there till about 12. I moved to the Woodstock area, and have alternated living in the city and back periodically for several 5 year stretches. I have been a libertarian since I had the wherewithal to think politically/governmentally. From 1986 to 1989 I hosted a libertarian themed talk show on WATV in Woodstock, NY, called Inferism.

I studied law from 1992 to 1994, and subsequently been involved in court legal activities (usually assisting pro se litigants), running the gamut from NYS courts, federal district and appellate courts, civil rights and habeas corpus actions, administrative courts, and more. Recently was instrumental in filing for the NYLP a brief in the Green Party vs BoE efforts to maintain equality for voter registration access to all the political parties.

I currently work primarily as a computer technician, programmer and hardware design and devel-

opment engineer (also working on computer graphics, outline, and some website work), and I also work as a legal associate (legal research, investigations, lawsuit filings and service) for a pro se legal assistance company, helping indigent litigants.

I have a fairly well rounded grasp on effective technologies and sciences, practical and political, and have always tended to unsolicitedly enhance my knowledge on how to get things done. I also currently edit the NYLP Newsletter."

Campaign Issues:

- **Would entertain constitutional claims against invalid govt'l laws or regulations**
- **Would sentence consensual crimes to the lowest permitted by law**
- **Would consider marrying same gendered couples, as permitted by law**
- **Belief in the sanctity of private residents' homes against govt'l encroachment**
- **All litigants in my court would be treated equally w/o prejudice, regardless of social or political status**
- **I will try to stem the rising tide of socialism in our country**

What would Reagan do? Cont'd from Page # 7

the lives of Americans, or for carrying the banner of federalism into the political battles of the day." I guess the resulting modern definition of conservatism is, it doesn't matter how big government gets, so long as Hillary doesn't get to run it.

The bitter truth for the American right in 2003 is, if Bush and the Republican leadership is 'conservative,' who needs liberals?

Upon stepping into office, Bush did nothing to repeal a whopping half million new regulations of Bill Clinton (decreed by executive order) on his way out the door. Domestic spending rose 6-8% a year under Clinton; under Bush, it's 14-15%, not counting adding a trillion dollars to the national debt. Total federal employees have climbed to a staggering 12 million, an increase over the Clinton years. Almost every imaginable form of government largess Democrats have heaped upon America, has been sustained or expanded under this counterfeit 'conservative' administration. In the face of ever rising war costs, even the paltry, phantom tax cut Bush promoted appears to be on the chopping block.

The U.S. is still mired in 140 countries, on 750 bases around the globe, and has added more. It is absolutely impossible to sustain this huge a military machine abroad, without having a massive government at home. This was always the backroom deal between the National Security Party and the Social Security Party, who together keep the welfare-warfare state growing no matter which end of the statist establishment is in power.

The American public, however, is catching on. According to a comprehensive survey of US foreign policy attitudes, released September 9 by the Program

on International Policy Attitudes at the University of Maryland, 64 per cent said that the US military presence in the Middle East increased the likelihood of terrorism, and 77 per cent thought that there were widespread negative feelings towards the US in the Islamic world that enhanced terrorist recruiting.

The Iraq escapade represents the very example of endless occupation and nation-building that Bush specifically advised America what he would NOT be doing, in response to 9/11. And yet, this month \$87 billion in additional occupation money is requested; next spring will it be \$187 Billion? A half trillion? What are all these dollars or lives being committed for---JFK-styled rhetoric "to do what is necessary" so as to not look bad? (The true Reagan right used to stomp on such Camelot-like blandishments, but those days also appear to be over.)

Ah, Necessity, the tyrant's plea. Exactly what is the 'need' to protect "strength" in the first place? Our troops pledged to defend the United States, after all, not the defense contractors. Let us make a clear distinction: "Losing is not an option" when it comes to the defense of the United States. Losing face over backing out of a lousy policy of intervention and occupation that has utterly backfired, however, is an option. Protecting this country and its Constitution against real threats is the actual job of U.S. troops---not playing image consultant. Ronald Reagan never subscribed to wasting American military lives simply for face-saving or crony-protecting purposes. In deciding to withdraw troops from Lebanon, Reagan understood that merely insuring America is always "looking strong," was not worth one drop of blood of a single soldier. How do you tell a grieving military spouse or parent, sincerely, that

their child died, not for America, but "to not embolden terrorists?"

The chicken-hawks who fostered the current Iraq and Afghan quagmires, however, appear to have different priorities. Their schemes and triumphalist rhetoric about "national greatness," and de-facto demonization of all people or populations who decline to accept a U.S. dominating influence everywhere, represents an agenda under which nearly everything becomes subordinate to expressing or projecting American strength. This implausible dogma is naturally leading to a never ending escalation of global bloodshed, and financial hemorrhaging at home to pay for it. This impulse has also caused its adherents to bend the Constitution, 1600 year-old just war principles, and reality itself to make all laws, logic and facts conform to its vision. The resulting strain of this effort on our pocketbooks, civil liberties, troop morale, and our good will around the world has become increasingly evident.

Columnist Paul Craig Roberts, wrote this week: "Sooner or later, even the brain-dead are going to realize that Iraq had no weapons of mass destruction, was not a threat to us (until neo-cons got us mired down there) and had nothing to do with the events of

September 11. We spent a fortune attacking a country that had done us no harm, killing tens of thousands of its people and giving the United States a black eye as an aggressor that starts wars on the basis of lies and disinformation. "The writing is on the wall for George Bush, and it says: Let Reagan be Reagan again, and return to his (somewhat) saner foreign policy. Sack the neocon-men and chickenhawks, or the voters will sack you. Stop lying us into launching undeclared, unconstitutional wars against countries that have not attacked us. Limit military deployments to fight terrorist cells abroad as a truly temporary nature, as Reagan did. Reduce government, on both the welfare and warfare state sides, as a real conservative should. Don't cut and run on the Founding Fathers' neutral, non-interventionist foreign policy, or the Reagan legacy of prudently reducing intervention to contain terror.

Stop 'emboldening the terrorists,' by dangling our soldiers out to them as nice juicy targets, in 120-degrees of heatedly hostile territory. Most of all, stop exploiting our military, by using them as emotional shields to bully people into accepting bankrupt policies. Support our troops, sir, by bringing them home

Article by John Clifton

DIDJA KNOW? -

Buried In the 2001 USA PATRIOT ACT is hidden rider legislation tacked on to the end of the bill, and having nothing to do with terrorism or homeland security.

The law passed therein, not having been reviewed by Congress, or anyone other than the authors, gives civil tort immunity to major drug companies involved in the manufacture/distribution of certain vaccines alleged to have caused serious adverse reactions, due to the mercury based preservative used to stabilize the vaccine. Now, whether or not the injected mercury harmed anyone, the potentially responsible parties cannot be sued at all, by law, in a kind of reverse Bill of Attainder.

SMOKING BANS: THE PROPERTY ISSUE

Even as Mayor Bloomberg's "Smoke-Free Air Act" went into effect last March, it seemed impossible to believe that New York could go the way of Los Angeles... that New Yorkers would stand for such a clear violation of their liberty. But when Albany followed suit over the summer with an even more comprehensive statewide ban, closing what few loopholes were allowed by the city's legislation, it became clear that the draconian public smoking bans spreading across America were going to be unopposed. Smoker's rights groups have been putting in overtime in the city and throughout the country, but still there are now three major US states (California, New York and Delaware) in which smoking is illegal in almost all work places including restaurants and bars, and the way things are headed more will follow.

What is at stake, now that America is on the verge of

becoming a non-smoking nation?

The simple answer: our most cherished freedom of self-determination.

By enforcing a de facto prohibition on the use of a legal substance, the government has betrayed every person it claims to serve; the real victims are small business owners who have been stripped of the fundamental sanctity of their private property.

Thomas Jefferson wasn't being flippant when he wrote: "The true foundation of republican government is the equal right of every citizen in his person and property, and in their management." To which he added that the defense of private property is the criterion by which "every provision" of law is to be judged.

Well forget that the government has proved itself merely uninterested in the defense of private property, to the contrary, it is actively countering the right to manage that property.

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NON TU, DOTTIE-LOU?

Dorothy Louise Hodgkinson Brokaw (Dottie-Lou) died unexpectedly at her home in Woodstock, New York on Sunday, July 13th, 2003. She had been in excellent health, but a fall from a ladder caused a lethal head injury and cardiac arrest. She died instantly.

Dottie Lou was a dynamic and caring person actively involved in the many communities where she'd lived. When her children were young she was an assertive parent teacher leader. Many knew Dottie-Lou for her beautiful singing voice and frequent performances as an orchestral soloist and in light opera. Dottie-Lou was active in Community Theater, and was a founding member of the Uptown Stage Theater Company and the Cortland Repertory Theater. Later on she was a member in several theater productions in Woodstock, New York. Many will remember her as the irrepressible "Suzy Snowflake" at winter solstice parties or as "Lady Liberty" at events advocating for civil society. As a community activist, Dottie-Lou founded cooperatives to enhance neighborhood security, to provide shelter for battered women, to assure pure municipal drinking water, to support those who provided elder care in their homes, and to support the each woman's individual right to choose whether or not to bear a child.

Most of all, Dottie-Lou will be remembered as an impassioned objectivist libertarian – a champion spokesperson for reason and individual liberty. As an honored Life Member of the Libertarian Party of America, she advocated for the insight that Liberty is THE common good – THE moral means for achieving universal peace and abundance. Dottie-Lou provided clear identification of her beliefs. She identified "Liberty" as civil society – society predicated on a public trust of mutual respect for individual property rights in self and peacefully acquired goods. She identified "Justice" as the dual process of restoring

persons and public trust to whole when the principle of Liberty has been violated. She was clear to assert that civil society refrains from revenge and punishment and seeks only to arrest taking behaviors. She identified that the Yin and Yang of Liberty and Justice is a universally superior social ordering principle. In short Dottie-Lou said, "I pledge allegiance to Liberty, and Justice, for All."

Dottie-Lou had been a candidate for Assembly and Lieutenant Governor in New York State, but will be most remembered for her support and nurturing of other libertarians. In the 2002 election period alone she collected over one thousand petition signatures to assure libertarians a forum. Her arguments in the Landmark

Federal Court case of 1994, helped eliminate some of the draconian provisions of the New York State election law. It was her purpose to counter moocher-predator alliances wherever and whenever she could.

In Woodstock New York, Dottie-Lou's home since 1988, she was known by many for her television program "Liberty Enlightening the World". The program, named in honor of the inscription on the statue of Lady Liberty in New York City harbor, closed with the refrain, "This is Dottie-Lou Brokaw wishing you Light, and Love, and Liberty."

Dottie-Lou was predeceased by her father, Ralph Hodgkinson; her mother, Jeane Hodgkinson; and her sister, Mary-Jeane Holman. She will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered by her son Edwin Peacock of Redwood City, California; her daughter Jeane Peacock-Park and husband Bill of Cortland, New York; her sons Glenn Peacock and Joel Palefsky and their son Raphael, of Palomar Park, California; her former husband David Brokaw of Kent, Ohio; and her life partner of last nineteen years, Peter Zeisner of Lake Hill, New York.

Remembrances can be sent to Peter Zeisner (P.O.Box 66, Lake Hill, NY 12448) or email address dottielou@usadatanet.net, or at <http://www.ny.lp.org/cgi-bin/condolences.cgi?Dottie-Lou>. A gathering in honor of Dottie-Lou, was held on August 9-th at Dottie-Lou's home.



Smoking Bans - from Page # 19

It is subjugating the freedom of the individual to do as he or she sees fit in an establishment of his or her own propriety in order to elevate the comfort of some portion of the masses who may or may not even want to patronize that establishment.

But it is not merely for the "benefit" of consumers that Mayor Bloomberg and his Albany counterparts - his nationwide counterparts, for that matter - are banning smoke. Advocates have been consistently vocal on the "right" of employees to work in a smoke-free atmosphere, thus limiting their contact to secondhand smoke. While no one can rightly force another person to work in a polluted environment, neither can one rightly force another person to work anywhere against their will. The circumstances of one's employment can be justly limited only by one's skill and opportunity. However, the employee's right to self-determination can be no more (or less) protected than that of their employer.

Just as one may choose whether or not one wishes to work in a smoking establishment, it is the choice of the proprietor whether to allow smoking. It's worth remembering that the founding Americans, libertarians that they were, did not intend to provide the means

by which a worker could achieve comfort and success any more than they did the means by which a small business owner could achieve independence and solvency. As Benjamin Franklin once quipped: 'The Constitution only guarantees the American people the right to pursue happiness - you have to catch it yourself'

The economic repercussions of the anti-smoking legislation are glaringly obvious.

Despite the suspect statistics of Bloomberg and his cronies, one need only go to one's local bar to see how attendance has dropped since the implementation of the bans. Smokers may account for less than a quarter of New York's residents, but they account for 41 percent of bar goers. and many are deciding to stay home. One gets the feeling that that statistical discrepancy was overlooked by the politicians, in both gathering their facts, and in selling their idea to the public. If Libertarians, whether individually we are or are not smokers, allow this issue to go away, then we shall prove ourselves unwilling to defend the

property rights of business owners. To do that is to be forever at the mercy of legislators and to allow the on inviolability of our very homes to come in to jeopardy.

Article by Nicholas Louras

ACTIVISM SUGGESTIONS

When working within the activism mindset it is important to remember the admonition:

***"It is easier to get forgiveness,
than it is to get permission"***

"Voter Access Victory" - Cont'd from # 1

If a person wanted to call himself, for example, a NYS Green or Libertarian Party member, he was prevented from doing so by law, and denied having such affiliation noted on his NYS voter's card.

The state prohibited NYS residents equal free affiliation with the party of their belief or choosing, or public expression of such affiliation, by outlawing the existence of any political party not explicitly sanctioned by the State. Furthermore, of those parties recognized by the State, such parties enjoyed publically paid services, enabling them to maintain and keep their voting members, such as recording and tabulation of all enrolled voters' demographics and contact information.

The NY Green Party, upon losing its recognized party status last gubernatorial election, challenged the BoE party inequitable status scheme in federal court.

Building upon the NY Libertarian Party's precedential lawsuit in *Schulz v. Williams*, 44 F.3d (2d Cir. 1994), the Green Party asserted that the State's skewed treatment of recognized vs non- recognized political organization violated the US Constitution's guarantees of equal protection, free expression and political association.

On December 12, 2002, the court granted the Green Party a preliminary injunction against the BoE (so as to keep intact its voter registration demographical data), finding the Green Party's substantive claims to have merit.

After the NY Libertarian Party intervened in the case to assert that its equivalent rights be recognized under the court's order, the court convened a hearing to address the NYLP's claims.

The court heard testimony from the NYLP as well as other third parties in New York (Marihuana Reform Party, Liberal, Right to Life), and in its decision noted NYLP Vice-Chair Bonnie Scott's in-court testimony, plaining that:

"We cannot locate our voters and our supporter to mobilize them to get them to vote to raise funds, to organize the party. All these other parties have this database management funded by the citizens of New York State through the money spend in the Board of Elections. The [Board] maintain all the records by age and address where they have access to that information . . ."

The court held that the BoE had unconvincingly argued that treating third parties similarly to the state sanctioned parties would be overly burdensome; in fact the court found that the BoE did not even understand the circumstances of the case, the relief being sought, or the meaning of the court's previous order/decisions.

Cont'd on Page # 23

"Free State Project -Con't from Page # 1"

one of the 10 candidate states would be picked.

Using a complex analysis numerous pertinent variables of possible target states, of the 50 in union the 10 finalist states were: Montana, Wyoming, Delaware, New Hampshire, Vermont, Maine, Idaho, North Dakota, South Dakota, or Alaska (see <http://www.freestateproject.org/state.htm> for the criteria used).

Voting via mail-in ballots, or via photo id verified emailed ballots, after months of feisty debate, Free Staters chose **New Hampshire** as their future home. Similar in precept to the step proto-Americans took against the tyranny of England, it is the hope of the FSP to develop a culture of individual freedom and commerce, both in name and in law, unimpeded and within in its own sovereign state..

Recognizing, as the American forefathers did, that without a sovereign state from which to base such an society, such efforts would be doomed from the start - that the incumbent administrators and courts of the existing government would never let a community (or persons within it) stray far from the existing constraining legal systems - the FSP movement observed that such a possibility lay right in its own backyard; in theory, each state of the union is an internationally sovereign jurisdiction, subject only to the treaties it has explicitly made to the sovereignty of the United States federal government, e.g. adherence to the Bill of Rights, and other explicit agreements made thereon. If such a state could only be made to flex its independence, there should be no legal limit to what freedoms and rights such a state could guaranteed to its citizens.

The major advantage FSP'ers have in contrast to the American forefathers is that the effort they have developed today is entirely legal, does not demand secession, and merely capitalizes upon the representational rights fought for and won in the American Revolutionary War.

Unlike the rough unsettled terrain of early America, FSP'ers additionally have the advantage of an already formed, mostly friendly, and sociologically common modern technological infrastructure to work with.

With this bold plan the FSP grew faster than any other liberty based organizational effort, winning 4700 members since its September 1st 2001 inception at an exponential rate (see http://www.freestateproject.org/member_growth.htm)

According to the time table it developed, the existing membership was recently called upon to vote on which of the finalist states they would most prefer, to which the pledged to move to when the total membership reached 20,000.

The membership election took place through the innovative Condorcet's Method, which allowed voters to rank all states and selected the state that received a higher ranking than each other state from a majority of voters. The runner-up state was Wyoming, which defeated every other state but fell to New Hampshire by the decisive

margin of 55 per cent to 45 per cent."New Hampshire is clearly the consensus choice of Free Staters," commented FSP President and Yale political science professor Jason Sorens. "New Hampshire won a plurality of first-preference votes from every region of the country except the West." "It's not difficult to see the reasons for New Hampshire's victory," adds Vice-President Elizabeth McKinstry, who is originally from New England. "The state boasts the lowest state and local tax burden in the continental U.S., the leanest state government in the country in terms of government spending and employment, a citizen legislature, a healthy job market, and perhaps most important, local support for our movement." Over 100 New Hampshire residents have signed up for the Free State Project already, willing to move elsewhere but hoping to bring the movement to their home state.

In a surprising, yet promising response, New Hampshire Governor Craig Benson even pledged to support the aims of the FSP, and several members of the legislature have signed up as members. With maverick views like this becoming more commonplace in higher offices it might said that deep political change is well being foretold, as partially evidenced by outsider political wins occurring ever more frequently, e.g. Governors Jesse Ventura, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Gary Johnson. According to FSP Director of Member Services and Florida attorney Tim Condon, Free Staters should also be a boon for the economy of New Hampshire. "According to a member survey conducted concomitantly with the vote, 50% of our members have at least a Bachelor's degree, with 18% having done postgraduate work. Seventy-five per cent are under age 50, with 38% between the ages of 18 and 34. Those earning \$60,000 or more per year constitute 44% of all members. The clear picture that emerges is one of a largely young, well educated, upwardly mobile group."

Several hurdles still face the movement, which currently has about 4,700 members pledged to migrate to New Hampshire. These challenges include recruiting another 15,500 members and continuing to build support for their cause within New Hampshire. If current recruitment trends continue, the group expects to reach 20,000 commitments by 2006, after which point members have five years in which to move.

But as Condon notes, "The member survey shows that 53% of members plan to move within three years, not waiting for the 20,000-member benchmark. Early movers should help recruitment by building a record of success."

Where this bold plan eventually winds up may be just a matter for conjecture, but as its message and promise gain momentum and pop culture appeal to those disaffected by our current government(s), this romantic idea will surely attract thousands more participants, and just may find itself succeeding against all odds and despite entrenched political opposition.

(Article by Gary Treistman & the NHLP)

the advent of Hon. Gleeson's decision, now Libertarians in NYS (as well as other third party members) will be permitted to enroll as Libertarians, carry a NYS Voter's Card showing "Libertarian", and be counted in official tabulations as a member of the Libertarian Party of NY.

Conversely, the Libertarian Party of New York will now have equivalent access to the voter registration records of all enrolled NYS Libertarians as any other party, and be able to consolidate and outreach to its members/enrollees as effectively as the major parties in NYS.

The NYS Voter's Registration form, now must contain a line giving the option of "Other Party" for voter's to enroll in; the court's decision dictum recommends that this line should only be filled with party names that had appeared in last NYS gubernatorial election.

This victory promises to equalize the political playing field, and permit unhampered campaigning and election participation by the NY Libertarian Party and all third parties as well.

The BoE has appealed the decision, but given their weak showing at the hearings, such appeal is not expected to prevail. BoE

Spokesman Lee Daghlion said, "The state Board of Elections has not yet decided whether it will pursue the case,"

In the interim, Bonnie Scott attended the State BoE meeting in Albany on Sept 24, 2003, where the federal decision was discussed in the executive session, and the new Voter's Registration was reviewed. However given the magnitude and ramifications of the decision, the BoE did not rule or make any pertinent findings or declared notice of the decision.

Representatives of the NYLP are currently contacting the NYS Dept. of Motor Vehicles where many New Yorkers are offered the opportunity to fill out the Voter's Registration form and enroll in a political party; the form offered by the DMV should be made to reflect the federal court's decision.

Initially, several Libertarians to date have attempted to register "Libertarian" on the Voter's Registration form, only to be met by puzzled stares and we'll-get-back-to-you responses from local BoE clerks and representatives, however it appears that the local BoE's have been notified to begin accepting the new enrollments.

Article by Gary Treistman

RATIONAL RECREATION

ANGUISH LANGUAGE

The object of the Anguish Language challenge is to read the seemingly nonsensical stream-of-consciousness poem written below, and decipher the underlying quotation, saying or exposition that it actually represents. The rules by which it is correlates to the underlying message, are that the words you read in the poem are phonetically similar in enunciation to the original message, although not always exactly so.

For example, as a simple start:

"Gamma Way", when stated aloud, actually sounds like "Get out of my way", or:

Needles Toes Hay", translates to "Needless to say"

Now lets try a slightly more complicated one for you to solve on your own:

"Aye yum sofa king we taw did."

(Didja get it? Do you think its true?)

And now here's the real heavy duty challenge:

§

Deprive hissy end egg nitty afore city zens harbinger aced way bison thyme semper sept tables taps. Tacking into vigil ant leach steep maybe a flit elk on sequence. Boat twin feud essay hole, they are beggin' stew merge assay so cite teak white unliken nee we Hussein - Isis cite teen watch gobber mint mane troddin tooth sick regents half upper suns laugh.

§

(Hint: This is a quotation/statement by a well known Supreme Court Justice)

Last Issue's Challenge was won by Bruce & Debbie Martin.

(Send all comments and/or solutions to FreeNY@hvc.rr.com, or by mail at the Editor's contact address; there is a \$20 prize for the first correct answer before next issue, email or postmark date. Previous Issue's Winners are not eligible for prizes in this issue's Challenge.)

ILPNY is looking for people to get things done. Interested?

Yes! I want to get things done and make things happen in the following area(s):

Be a LP candidate for elected office in my area.

Work in behalf of a LP candidate for elected office in my area.

Work on an LPNY Committee project or task.

Collect petition signatures to get LP candidates onto the ballot.

Contribute money to pay for other people to collect petition signatures.

Other:

Here are some skills or areas of interest I want to tell you about.

Name

Address

City State Zip

Home Phone Work Phone

E-mail address

Send to:

Libertarian Party of New York

P.O. Box 728

Bellport, NY 11713



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