

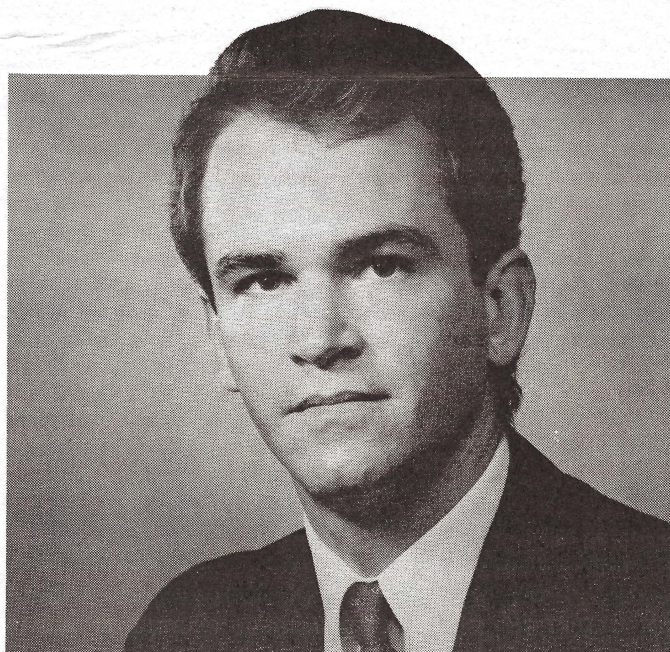
FLP

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John Northrup, 1982 Free Libertarian candidate for Governor of New York.

Its Northrup For Governor

On Saturday, May 1st, the FLP State Convention unanimously endorsed John Northrup, a libertarian activist from Syracuse, as the Party's candidate for Governor of New York.

Northrup, a 30-year-old accountant, plans to make the repeal of New York's personal income tax a central issue in the upcoming campaign. The candidate, who teaches accounting courses at Syracuse University and other area colleges, will also call for tuition tax credits as a first step in the dismantling of the state's public education system.

A cum laude graduate of Princeton University, Northrup was sent during his college years on a White House fact-finding mission to Vietnam. When he returned,

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Tax Protest Day: A Super Success

An estimated 2000 Libertarians participated at 156 sites in an extremely successful Tax Protest Day on April 15th. Approximately 65,000 flyers were distributed as angry taxpayers filed their tax returns at the last minute. Many demonstrations received front page news stories in prominent dailies.

The protest was the first such national event taken on by the Libertarian Party and it looks as if an annual

tradition has been born. Additionally, so much was learned by the mostly novice demonstrators that this year's effort should be only a prelude to a much greater action next year.

The FLP had one of the most successful statewide efforts, with 13 demonstration sites receiving an incredible amount of press coverage throughout the state. The two most ambitious events were conducted in Binghamton and Rochester, where street theater was provided as an extra incentive to the press.

Binghamton Libertarians reenacted the Ride of Lady Godiva, history's most famous tax protest. Several hundred citizens joined the FLP parade through Binghamton streets. Not only was local coverage extensive, but the wire services picked up the story, and it was reported, with photo, in cities throughout the country.

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NORTHROP FOR GOVERNOR (continued)

President Nixon personally appealed to Northrup to go on a campus speaking tour to support administration policy. John refused, telling the President that his policy was a disaster and that he could not in good conscience support the administration's program of continued killing in Southeast Asia.

Northrup is an electrifying public speaker and put his talent to good use with a rousing acceptance speech at the convention banquet on Saturday night. His appeal for financial support resulted in the most successful FLP fundraiser ever. Over \$12,000 was raised from the audience. The speech, which was frequently punctuated with bursts of enthusiastic applause, was so moving that several members thought that the FLP should adopt the text verbatim as a Party platform.

Contributing to Northrup's successful appeal for support was his pledge to conduct a full-time campaign for the last few months of the effort. This meant that he would have to take a leave of absence from his employment, forgoing a substantial income for the time period. Additionally he would have to postpone the completion of his Ph.D. program.

A chief goal of the campaign is to qualify the FLP for permanent ballot status. This can only be done once every four years by getting 50,000 votes in the election for Governor. New York Libertarians believe that this can be done because Ed Clark received 52,000 New York votes in 1980 (the second highest state total for that campaign.)

Appointed to manage the campaign was Howie Rich, who was previously responsible for the successful 50 state ballot drive for Clark, and who is currently responsible for the Campaign '82 effort to recruit 1000 candidates across the country. Rich said of the Northrup candidacy, "I have been involved with the LP since the founding convention in Denver and John is one of the most exciting Libertarian candidates I have ever met."

The estimated budget for the campaign is \$110,000. In order to eliminate all unnecessary expenses, an all-volunteer petition drive is planned: 35,000 signatures are to be collected. A volunteer effort should save the campaign about \$20,000.

Chosen as Northrup's running mate was Dave Hoesly of Rochester. The Rochester FLP chapter is considered by many libertarians to be one of the country's most effect local chapters and Dave has been one of the key reasons for its success. Other candidates selected were James McKeown of Binghamton for United States Senator, Bill McMillan of Albany for Comptroller, and Dolores Grande of New York City for Attorney General. These candidates will be running statewide. Local candidates will be selected later on by the many regional chapters in New York.

Following his nomination, Northrup received a substantial amount of newspaper, radio and television news coverage across the state. ■

TAX PROTEST DAY (continued)

The police informed the FLP that they would be required to clean up after the horse so the local members attached a 1040 form to the face of a shovel and followed behind the horse.

About the demonstration, the Binghamton *Evening Press* wrote, "It's a media event extraordinary; an attention getter to end all attention getters; a prank; a gimmick; street theater that brings back echoes of the 1960s. Call it what you want; tomorrow Lady Godiva rides in Binghamton. The Free Libertarian Party, which opposes most government controls, plans to restage Godiva's famous ride to dramatize its opposition to state and federal income taxes. The first Lady Godiva rode through the streets of Coventry, England, wearing nothing but her birthday suit and long hair. What her modern day counterpart will be wearing—or not wearing—remains a mystery."

The story took up a third of a page and had a three column headline. The next day the *Evening Press* did another story and quoted the co-chairman of the Binghamton Business Association as saying "What a p.r. coup."

In Rochester, Libertarians enacted a skit in which an IRS agent tries to enter heaven, only to be denied admission by St. Peter. When the agent asked why, St. Peter quoted from the Ten Commandments: "Thou Shalt Not Steal." Again local coverage was excellent. One TV station ran the one minute skit in its entirety.

The skit was choreographed by Frank Boring and performed in front of the IRS building. Performances worthy of Academy Awards were rendered by Jim Franz and David Miller. Props were created/provided by Tom Huddle and Dave Hoesly. About 25 protesters carried signs and distributed literature. Press coverage included one daily newspaper, all three local commercial TV stations and four radio stations. That night, at a second demonstration site, another daily newspaper showed up and a TV station carried a live interview with Dave Hoesly which was followed by tapes of the earlier demonstration.

Albany and New York City Libertarians also received TV and other press coverage with their demonstrations.

There were some sour notes during the evening demonstrations at the post offices. In Binghamton, postal thugs threatened to arrest demonstrators if they continued to hand out leaflets. After substantial consultations, the local Libertarians withdrew from the site.

Rochester's post office tried the same stunt, but when they saw Hoesly being interviewed by the press, a local cop countermanded the orders to disperse the demonstration.

In Syracuse, the government thugs again tried to intimidate the demonstrators. But John Northrup would not have any of that. Armed with legal advice from an attorney familiar with civil liberties and First Amendment law, Northrup demanded that the post office cease its illegal activities in violation of the U.S. Constitution. He

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Regional Reports

The **NYC-FLP** has kept up a very heavy schedule of activity. In addition to regular monthly membership meetings, there has been a strong emphasis on internal education and outreach with at least one such event on an almost weekly basis.

On 3/4 **Dave Boaz** delivered a libertarian critique of the federal budget. On 3/11 **Jerome Huyler** conducted a talk on how to discuss libertarianism in a fact to face encounter. On 3/18 **Dr. Thomas Szasz** addressed over 500 people at NYU. On 3/25 there was an open membership meeting to discuss upcoming plans and events. On 4/1 the chapter sponsored a party. On 4/15 members picketed in front of the IRS building and received coverage on **NBC-TV**. On 4/22 there was another open membership meeting. On 4/29 psychologist **Michael Royce Edelstein** discussed Libertarianism and Psychotherapy. On 5/6 there was a talk on IRAs as a tax shelter.

Organizationally, the chapter has set up a preliminary structure for two county subchapters in Queens and Brooklyn. Efforts are now being directed to Manhattan and the Bronx. The two chapters have been holding their own meetings in addition to those above. The club has also created a skills exchange for local members. Chapter subcommittees for outreach and social activities have also been set up.

Upcoming is an outing to Great Adventure Amusement Park and another one to Atlantic City.

Suffolk FLP has been conducting regular weekly meetings of a study group based on the **SIL Principles of Liberty** series. The chapter also covered three demonstration sites during the 4/15 demonstrations.

Nassau FLP has resumed its monthly meeting schedule. Meetings will be held on the 4th Wednesday of each month at the Jolly Swagman Inn in Hicksville. All attendees at the 4/28 meeting were given a copy of **Ed Clark's Book: "A New Beginning."**

Westchester FLP was active in opposing the recent referendum authorizing a county takeover of the electric utilities. The chapter was the only organized opposition. On 3/23 the chapter sponsored a talk by **Bettina Bien**

Greaves, a senior staff member of the **Foundation for Economic Education**. She spoke about why public education has been a dismal failure. On 4/27 local member **Reed Halstead** talked about the tax resistance movement and some of the constitutional arguments being used to avoid paying income tax.

Mid-Hudson FLP staged two anti-tax demonstrations on 4/15, one in Kingston and one in Poughkeepsie. Members were supposed to hear from **Dr. George Wootan** on the Home Nursing movement but he was called out of town. **CBS's 60 Minutes** did a feature on his plight. A substitute speaker was arranged, **Professor David McGraw**, of the Journalism Department at Marist College. Professor McGraw spoke about the problem of newspaper conglomerates. It seems that the Federal Inheritance Tax forces many mom and pop newspapers to sell out to big chains in order to avoid many estate tax problems. At the same time, tax laws also encourage large corporations to buy out these papers. Therefore, the market is prohibited from functioning and editorial control is falling into fewer and fewer hands. The problem of First Amendment freedoms was also raised in the context of broadcast journalism. Since electronic journalism is replacing much of print journalism, yet doesn't possess the same First Amendment freedoms as print journalism, a danger is arising.

Capitol District FLP had a very successful tax demonstration on 4/15 with all three TV stations and two newspapers present. **Bill McMillan** has been actively pursuing press coverage for the chapter and arranged for some over the phone interviews with the Albany press after Northrup was nominated for Governor. The *Troy Record* said they were preparing a Sunday feature on the FLP. Upcoming is the annual picnic, "the oldest established permanent floating picnic in the FLP." The date is 6/26 at the **Davis Farm**. Concurrent with the picnic will be an **FLP State Committee meeting**.

Central New York FLP staged two tax demonstrations on 4/15. On 3/19 members heard **Susan Long** discuss IRS audit selection techniques. On 4/3 the club presented an update from **Vicky Roher** in her fight against state harassment against her home for the elderly. She hasn't met state license requirements nor sought to do so. Despite the desires and wishes of her residents the government is trying to throw the elderly out of her home.

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then returned to leaflet the late filing taxpayers. The government called in the local police and had him arrested on the charge that he was trespassing by standing in an area open to the public. The arrest was carried out in front of numerous reporters who were thunderstruck at the post office's outrageous conduct. The reaction was "if you can't distribute literature at a post office, where can you?" Several press stories supportive of John's rights were published. The Sunday edition of the *Syracuse Herald-Record* ran a 3-column headline "NORTHROP MAY FILE SUIT." The lengthy article quoted Northrup as saying "From time to time government officials need to be reminded that they

are public servants." Another local paper, the counter-culture *New Syracuse Times*, headlined their story "Libertarian Loses Liberty."

Additionally, civil liberties experts have indicated that they would not only represent Northrup at no cost on the trespass charges, they will also represent him for a civil suit against all responsible government agents.

During the arrest, Northrup was held incommunicado for several hours. He was also strip searched before they issued a summons. Upon leaving the building, he was told that if he tried to make a call from the public phone in the lobby, he would be arrested again. ■

State Convention A Great Show

Well over 100 Libertarians attended the first FLP State Convention to be held in Binghamton. Many attendees thought that it was one of the most enjoyable such events they had ever been to. This was due, no doubt, to an outstanding speakers program and the excitement of the 1982 campaign kickoff.

The main business of the Convention was to select statewide candidates for Governor and other statewide offices, and to elect a State Chairman and other members of the State Committee. John Northrup was selected as our candidate for Governor and his infectious optimism generated a real upbeat tempo at the Convention. (See separate story on Northrup.) Also chosen to represent the FLP in the upcoming campaign were Dave Hoesly for Lieutenant Governor, Bill McMillan for Comptroller, James McKeown for United States Senator and Dolores Grande for Attorney General. (Local candidates are chosen by local chapters.)

In other business, Gary Greenberg was elected to his fourth consecutive term as State Chair, Chuck Steber was elected to his fifth straight term as a Vice Chair, and Judith Jones was elected to her first term as the second Vice Chair. Also elected to Party positions were Treasurer Ira Gottlieb, Secretary Charles Kiessling and At-Large Members of the State Committee—Dave Hoesly, Don Davis, Mike Kessler, Steve Schneider and Richard Rosenberg.

There were a number of important decisions made at the business session due to the possible success at gaining permanent ballot status this year. A key fear was that an organized group would try to take over our line for its own purposes. (Republicans and Democrats have regularly raided Country Organizations of the Conservative, Liberal and Right to Life Parties.) The FLP Convention voted a cross-endorsement ban for Libertarian candidates. Any Libertarian candidate that accepts another Party's endorsement will be automatically stripped of the FLP nomination. Additionally, candidates and convention delegates are required to support, in writing, the FLP Statement of Principles. Also it will now take a 7/8ths vote to amend the Statement.

Other Convention business included a request by the attendees to the State Committee to appoint a Platform Committee to pave the way for next year's State Convention to adopt a strong set of platform planks on state issues to act as a supplement to the national platform.

All of the above actions received virtually unanimous support.

On the educational end of the program were several workshops and speeches.

Gary Greenberg and Judith Jones conducted a workshop on fielding questions from reporters; Dave Walter conducted a workshop on Internal Education projects; and Howie Rich conducted a workshop on campaign techniques.



James J. McKeown, 1982 Free Libertarian candidate for U.S. Senate.

Henry Holzer, whose clients have included Ayn Rand and Walter Polavchek, the Russian child who is seeking American asylum, delivered a breakfast speech on the status of the principle of individual rights as reflected in allegedly pro-freedom decisions of the Supreme Court. Listening to quotes from several judicial opinions, the audience was heard frequently gasping at the horrors implied by the language. In summary, the decisions imply that the Constitution provides no philosophical base for the support of individual rights.

Another extremely well received speech was that of Jenny Roback, of the Yale Economic Department, who spoke about the laws that inhibit economic opportunity for minorities. Camille Castorina spoke about the Industrial Revolution and her historical hero Richard Cobden, an early English libertarian. Of particular interest was her analysis of the Pilgrims and the Thanksgiving myth. That is the one that says that the Pilgrims suffered from a harsh winter and couldn't raise food, thus requiring the help of the Indians to avoid starvation. If the weather destroyed the crops how did the Indians get their food? The truth of the matter was that the Indians had to bail out the Pilgrims because the colonists had a collectivist economic structure. She cited the writings of the Pilgrim leader William Bradford to that effect.

The keynote speaker was Ed Crane and the featured banquet speaker was Roger MacBride, our 1976 Presidential candidate. Roger, who was co-producer of "Little House on the Prairie," has put together a Broadway show based on the same themes. The show will open next

season and Roger previewed some of the music emphasizing the pioneering spirit and relating it to the pioneering efforts of Libertarians.

Other convention speakers included Roy Childs, Sheldon Richman, David Boaz and Joe Peden.

At the banquet several awards were presented including a special award to Margit von Mises in recognition of the role her husband played in laying the foundations for the free society. Although illness prevented her from attending, Dyanne Petersen read a touching thank you message from her.

Andrea Millen Rich was presented with a Life Achievement Award for her outstanding efforts over the years on behalf of the LP. She is a former FLP State Chair and LP Vice Chair. She helped produce the Clark campaign commercials and produced the new LP recruitment film, "We Hold These Truths." She is currently a member of the

National Committee and is the new proprietor of Laissez Faire Books.

Mike Kessler was given an FLPer of the Year Award in recognition of his efforts on behalf of the Libertarian Party. Previous winners were Gary Greenberg, Dave Hoesly and Howie Rich.

A new award, called the "Unsung Hero Award" was introduced to honor those who put in enormous amounts of effort with little public recognition of their valuable contributions. Three such awards were given out this year. The recipients were John Sproul, Barbara Kessler and Ira Gottlieb.

The Convention was managed this year by the Southern Tier Chapter (Binghamton). Numerous people deserve a lot of credit for the effort. Among them are Karen McKeown, Linda Jowett and Dan Webster. ■

REGIONAL REPORTS (continued)

On 3/2 John Northrup staged a teach-in on the draft featuring a libertarian who has refused to register. In mid March the chapter hosted a statewide meeting of libertarian activists to lay plans for the coming Governor's race.

Southern Tier FLP, in addition to having their hands full preparing the State Convention, managed to stage two successful tax protests on 4/15. On 3/2 **John Northrup** addressed their first annual chapter convention. On 5/15 they hosted the statewide gathering of activists for continued planning in the Governor's race.

Genesee Valley FLP staged two tax protests in Rochester on 4/15. On 3/3 they heard from **Dr. George Benston** on the subject of SEC disclosure requirements and their failure to protect the consumer. **Alan Burris**, one of the local activists, is readying the second edition of his **Liberty Primer**. It presents the case for liberty from several viewpoints. It is divided into 15 chapters and is filled with many short quotes. The annual Rochester Libertarian picnic will be held on 7/24 starting at noon at Tupelo Shelter in Genesee Valley Park. ■

Press Digest

Not mentioned in the tax protest report was that Tom Palmer had a *NY Times* op-ed piece published presenting the libertarian view on taxation. It was illustrated with a picture of a holdup man committing a robbery. The same day the paper's Washington column mentioned the national tax protest efforts.

John Northrup, who began his campaign prior to the convention, has already been the subject of several stories. On 3/3/82 the Binghamton *Evening Press* ran a good story entitled "Teacher running hard to be next Governor." The Syracuse University paper, *The Daily Orange*, ran a front page feature story, with photo, on his candidacy.

An antidraft rally organized by Northrup on the Syracuse campus also received front page coverage in the *Daily Orange*.

During the convention John did a great many press interviews and received a good deal of local coverage. He was also interviewed over the phone by an Albany radio station and was invited down for an appearance. AP had a reporter present at the convention and a story about the convention was sent out over the wire and picked up at

least in *Newsday* on Long Island and a New York City all news radio station. It probably received widespread attention but it is too soon to verify. The New York *Daily News* ran a short but succinct piece on John's nomination on 5/6/82. The piece mentioned his opposition to the personal income tax and laws against prostitution, marijuana, heroin and gambling.

The Westchester Patent Trader reported that the Westchester-Putnam Free Libertarian Party was the only group to come against the Westchester Utility Takeover Referendum. They quoted chapter chairman Mark Schonfeld as saying "We don't believe that a municipal agency would solve the problem of exorbitant rates." By virtue of their sole opposition to the measure (even the local Con Ed facility wasn't opposed to the takeover plan) the members received a lot of press coverage urging an end to the monopoly structure and calling for competition in utility services. ■

FLP OFFICERS

Chair	Gary Greenberg
Vice Chair	Chuck Steber
Vice Chair	Judith Jones
Secretary	Charles Kiessling
Treasurer	Ira Gottlieb

Szasz Draws 500 at NYU Talk

A lecture by psychiatrist Thomas Szasz highlighted the Spring Semester Program of the Libertarian Student Association of New York University. Dr. Szasz spoke on "The Myth of Mental Illness" on March 18th. The talk drew a paying audience of 547, the largest group to attend a libertarian event in New York City since the 1975 Presidential Nominating Convention of the Libertarian Party.

Szasz argued that the use of the term "mental illness" was not medically correct, and he asserted that so-called mental patients either had brain disorders or no disease at all. Behavior that does not conform to the psychiatrist's subjective standards is not itself sufficient evidence of illness. Szasz, who is an opponent of involuntary commitment of mental patients who commit no crime, frequently defended many of his political views in his speech by alluding to fundamental libertarian principles.

The speech received coverage in the *Courier*, NYU's feature magazine.

The Szasz speech was just the crowning moment in the most effective campus effort for the LSA since its inception. Other speakers brought to campus this semester included Henri LePage (author of *Tomorrow Capitalism*), David Boaz (arguing the case against government aid to universities), Imad-ad-Dean Ahmad (speaking on Israel and the Palestinians). The latter two talks received campus press coverage.

LSA also played an active role in the April 22nd campus rally for Nuclear Disarmament.

The campus group has worked closely with the NYC-FLP to sponsor a regular series of programs with at least two or three gatherings a month for the last several months. Some of the programs were internal education events and some were outreach events. Speakers participating in these programs included Larry White,

George Selgin, Jerome Huyler, David Boaz, and Michael Royce Edelstein.

LSA also published the first issue of its campus tabloid *COMMENT*, with a 6000 copy press run, featuring articles on unemployment, drugs and disarmament. The chapter also issued five editions of its newsletter, *Libertarian Broadside*.

Among the activists responsible for this term's success were Marc Joffe, the coordinator, John McNeill (who edited *COMMENT*), David Greene, Mark Brady, Peter Guida, George Selgin, Bill Stiver, Carmen Codina, Chris Sciabarra, and Wendell Huston. ■

FLP Calendar

- June 10** Laissez Faire Bookstore: from 6 to 8 p.m., author Leonard Peikoff will autograph copies of his new book, *The Ominous Parallels*
- June 12** Anti-nuclear rally at the United Nations building
- June 16** Laissez Faire Supper Club: Nat Hentoff will speak on "The Left and The First Amendment."
- June 19** New York City FLP: Great Adventure outing, \$24
For more information call: 226-6483
- June 23** Nassau County: FLP county meeting at 8 p.m.
Jolly Swagman, 100 W. Nicholai Street
For more information: (607) 798-9874
- June 26** State Committee meeting in Capitol District
- June 26** Capitol District Libertarian Picnic:
Davis Farm, for more info: (518) 371-1718
- July 4** New York City FLP: Campaign kickoff in
Battery Park, Manhattan
- July 24** Rochester Libertarian Picnic: 12 noon
Tupelo Shelter, Genessee Valley Park
For more information: (716) 671-2077

