



Shore Liberty

The Guiding Light for Freedom Loving Americans in Monmouth County

The Official Publication for Libertarians of Monmouth County
Volume 3 Number 2

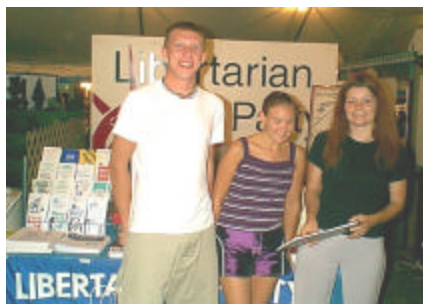
March County Meeting To Be at State Convention

The March meeting of Libertarians of Monmouth County will take place during the county caucus portion of the New Jersey Libertarian Party State Convention on Saturday, March 9.

The convention will be held at the National Conference Center of the Ramada Inn, 379 Monmouth St., East Windsor. This is off of Rt. 33 just outside of Hightstown, on the side street behind Mom's Pepper Mill Restaurant.

The county caucus will come during the morning business session, which will begin at 9 a.m. At that time, we'll elect county officers for the coming year. Current County Chair **Pat Bontempo** has indicated he will not be seeking another term.

Other business during the morning session will include the election of state officers and the awarding of nominations for candidates. As of press time, it's



Jennifer Carter manning the LP booth.

unclear if it will be possible to vote on proposed state By-laws changes because proper advance notice may not have been provided.

As far as nominations go, **Jennifer Carter** and **Joe Conklin** have announced they'll be seeking the nomination to run as a team for the two seats up for election on the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders. **Robert Hull** will be seeking the nomination to run for Monmouth County Clerk and **Keith Quarles** for Congress from the 4th District.



Joe Conklin -- ready to run!

To meet our goal of fielding a full ticket above the municipal level this year we'll need to have Congressional candidates in the 6th and 12th Districts. Since both districts include municipalities outside of Monmouth County, candidates may step forward at the convention, but there is of course no guarantee.

Because of redistricting this year, a candidate will only need 50 valid signatures on his or her (See State Convention -- page 2)

A HEARTY THANK YOU JUST ISN'T ENOUGH



Pat Bontempo (left) working at a LMC meeting with Len Flynn.

There are numerous people who work to keep LMC functioning, but none have worked harder, with less credit, than **Pat Bontempo**. After three years of exemplary service to LMC, Pat is stepping down as County Chair.

The bottom line is that if something needed to be done, Pat was there to do it. In the pouring rain at Ocean Grove, the sweltering sun at the County Fair, or the freezing temperatures at the Post Office on Tax Day, Pat has lead LMC by doing – never asking anyone to do something that he wouldn't do himself.

It's hard to appreciate how much Pat has done unless you are actively involved in the LMC. Much of his work was done behind the scenes – managing several campaigns, sending out mailings, and physically being there to support LMC candidates at their functions.

(See Pat Bontempo – page 2)

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PAT BONTEMPO – Cont.

Perhaps more remarkable than the untold hours Pat has spent to further the party is Pat's nature to give the credit for his work (such as this newsletter, where Pat normally does writing, folding, stamping and labeling) to others.

As this month's Chair Report discusses, several members regularly reach into their pockets to pay LMC expenses. Pat has done this on numerous occasions without even mentioning it to others.

For being the LMC Chair, there is no gold watch, just a hearty THANK YOU, and as the title states, that just isn't enough.

State Convention – Cont.

Nominating petition, half the usual requirement. It's up to the candidate as to how active or token a campaign

Artwork courtesy of **Melissa Edgar**



he or she wants to run. Anyone interested should contact **Richard Edgar**, our county election coordinator, at 609-758-0975 or at richedgar@hotmail.com.

Liz Macron of Tinton Falls has announced she will be seeking the NJLP nomination to run for the U.S. Senate.



Liz Macron -- NJLP's presumptive Senate candidate.

Bob Steiner, NJLP Founder and our first State Chair, will be one of the speakers at the luncheon, which will start at 1 p.m. Radio talk show host Reginald Jones is also scheduled to speak. Others are:

Doug Leard of Separation of School and State who will talk on "Taking Back Responsibility for Education."

Clifford Wallace Thorton, Jr., President of Efficacy, which advocates peaceful responses to social problems. Its primary effort is to promote open discussion of alternatives to the War on Drugs.

Allen Good of Fairtax, an organization that advocates replacing the income tax with a national sales tax.

Two candidates for the Libertarian Party National Chair, Geoff Neale and Eli Israel, are also on the schedule. The speaker list, topics and schedule are all subject to change. The luncheon cost is \$60 at the door; the morning business session is free.

A wine and cheese reception is scheduled for the Parlor Room at the Ramada following the convention. All donations will benefit the NJLP.

For more information contact **Robert Jacobs** at 908-303-3052 or at roberlj@yahoo.com.

Thanks Ron

It looked like a relatively last-minute cancellation by CAPP founder Al LaRotunda was going to

leave us without a speaker at our Feb. 10 county meeting, but longtime member **Ron Wishart** came through for us.

Ron, a member and now secretary of the Manalapan Twp. Planning Board, spoke on the issue of zoning in general and what it's like to be a Libertarian in public office.

During the business portion of the meeting, a proposal was floated to expand LMC to include Ocean County. It met with a favorable response and should come up for action at the March county caucus at the state convention.

A decision will also need to be made on whether to continue holding county meetings at the Alexus Steakhouse in Brielle or to return to using the New School in Holmdel.

Nothing on the Tube Tonight?

A hundred channels and what's on? A re-run of *Friends* from last year. History Channel has *Hitler's Dogs*. Larry King is interviewing another celebrity who just came out of re-hab. And, oh yeah, the Food Network has Martha Stewart showing creative ways to dress sushi.

Wouldn't you rather see Evan Nappen discussing the right to keep and bear arms? How about a talk on how excessive government regulation is actually endangering the health of Americans? Instead of Bill Press and Tucker Carlson pretending to disagree on CNN, how about a panel of libertarians analyzing the news?

It's all just a click away at www.MonmouthLP.org, the web site of Libertarians of Monmouth County. In addition to recent talks on such topics as the racist origin of gun control, you can access an archive of past *Third Point of View* programs.

Or would you rather see *In Search of the Abominable Shark* on the Learning Channel?

Chair Report

One Last Time

By Pat Bontempo

At the State Convention on March 9, I'll complete my third and final term as Monmouth County Chairman, so this will be my last Chair Report. I suppose I should have something special to say, but I don't.

Don't get me wrong, I have a lot to say, but I feel I've been saying it virtually every month -- sometimes it feels like every day -- for the past three years. The best I can do now is to summarize what I feel I've learned.

First and foremost, I believe we need to operate as a political party. This means a concentration on campaigns, candidates and elections. Other activities such as outreach booths, talks and demonstrations are fine. They're certainly preferable to doing nothing. But they are not our primary task.

That task is to contest and win elections. Yes, we lose. I know that. Well guess what, in the last three years the Monmouth County Democrats have lost every Freeholder race. They've lost every race for every county office. They've lost every Monmouth seat in

the State Legislature that they tried to win. So what? They're not closing up shop. They haven't decided to switch to education or issue advocacy.

I have no problem with allocating scarce resources. I have a big problem with how this too often works out in practice: not running a candidate. When we stop running candidates, we more than take a step backward; we negate our existence as a political party.

Another thing I've learned is that campaigns are the best recruitment or outreach activity possible. The most dedicated long-term activists I've met in the party all joined as a result of a political campaign that introduced them to the LP and/or got them excited about doing something.

You want members? Run candidates. You want publicity? Run candidates. You want to promote the LP program? Run candidates.

The third thing I've learned is the overriding importance of money. It's a constant source of amazement to me how Libertarians can rant and rave about campaign donation limits being an infringement on their free speech when they don't donate a dime -- at least not to their local party.

In the past three years I've seen individual members, time and time again, reach into their wallets to fund the most basic activity. At no time have I seen anyone profit in anyway from their work for the party. Perhaps things are different outside Monmouth County, but here at the Shore every dime members have donated has been spent carefully and exclusively to advance the county party and nothing else.

Hey, volunteer labor is great. But no amount of volunteer labor is going to get us a billboard on Rt. 35 or an ad on FOX News Channel. The county party will never grow unless we start bringing in more monetary donations.

But I don't want to end this final report on that note. Instead, I want to thank everyone who has done so much. I want to thank those who've stepped forward to help me during my tenure, and I especially want to thank all those who truly built the foundation of the county party over the past decades.

I think the county party is in great shape thanks to a lot of hard work by a lot of people over a lot of years. I'm confident if we stay focused and maintain our diligence success will be certain.

Membership application

Please sign me up as a proud, dues-paying member of the Libertarian Party. I want to join at the level indicated:

? \$40 for a one-year membership in the National and NJLP. I'll receive a year's subscription to the *LP News* & the *New Jersey Libertarian*.

? \$25 for a one-year membership in only the national LP. I'll receive the *LP News* and four issues of the *New Jersey Libertarian*.

? \$15 for a one-year membership in only the NJLP. I'll receive a year's subscription to the *New Jersey Libertarian*.

To publicly affirm our principles and ensure we never stray from them, all members are required to sign this pledge:

I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving social or political goals.

Signature _____

Enclosed is my donation of \$_____ to help the work here in Monmouth County.

Note: All Monmouth County members receive a one-year (six issue) subscription to *Shore Liberty*. Non-members can receive a year's subscription for \$10. Please check here ?

? Please contact me about volunteering.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail Address _____

Please make check payable to Libertarians of Monmouth County and mail to:

LMC, PO Box 121, Tennent, NJ 07763

Don't forget to visit our
website:

www.MonmouthLP.org

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Third Point of View!

"Third Point of View" -- your weekly half hour of quality libertarian television is on Channel 71 on Monmouth Cablevision at 10 p.m. Wednesdays.

You can see host **Shad Woolley** and his guests if you're a Cablevision subscriber in Asbury Park, Avon, Belmar, Bradley Beach, Brielle, Farmingdale, Howell, Interlaken, Jackson, Lakewood, Manasquan, Millstone, Neptune City, Neptune Twp (including Ocean Grove), Ocean Twp, Sea Girt, South Belmar, Spring Lake, Spring Lake Heights, Upper Freehold and Wall Twp.

And of course you can access an archive of past programs no matter where you live by visiting the TPOV Archive at LMC's web site www.MonmouthLP.org.

Stay In Touch The Easy Way

We maintain an E-mail list called Monmouth-Talk to keep all Monmouth County members up to date on forthcoming events and late-breaking news. If you're not receiving Monmouth-Talk E-mail and would like to, please send an E-mail to majordomo@wallnet.com and in the body of the message state: subscribe monmouth-talk followed by your E-mail address.

Libertarians of Monmouth County
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

"The state remains, as it was in the beginning, the common enemy of all well-disposed, industrious and decent men."

-H.L. Mencken

