



THE FLAME

Newsletter of the Collier County Chapter of the ACLU

Issue: August 2007

REMINDER: WE CONTINUE TO SEEK OUT CANDIDATES FOR THE NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

At the November 1 meeting, being held at the Norris Center at 7 p.m., we will elect our new Board of Directors. Before the election, members will receive information on the candidates and their backgrounds, and nominations will be accepted from the floor.

Board members are expected to attend and participate in monthly meetings (in person when possible or by telephone); serve as liaison to a committee; and help organize public forums, membership meetings and fund raisers. There are open positions and we welcome suggestions/nominations from the membership.

If you wish to be considered for one of the 15 Board positions or if you know someone who would be a good candidate, please let us know by sending your indication of interest to Collier County Chapter, ACLU of Florida, P. O. Box 10318, Naples FL 34101 or calling 239- 774-9111.

Current Officers and Board of Directors of the Collier County Chapter

Karen Clegg, President clegg115@earthlink.net
Ed Minzner, Vice President seamates@comcast.net
Nancy Van Valkenburg, Treasurer nancyvv@gmail.com
Yale T. Freeman, Director yale@ytfreemanlaw.com
Mo Winograd, Director momccully@earthlink.net
Robin Birnhak, Director robinbirnhak@yahoo.com
Shelly Birnhak, Director shellybirnhak@yahoo.com
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Jane De Falco, Director thinkmaryjane@comcast.net
Ed Hummelstein, Director EHumme8284@aol.com
John Staurisky, Director staurisky@yahoo.com

Legal Panel: Yale T. Freeman, Chair - Freeman@ytfreemanlaw.com - 239-530-2500

PENCIL IT IN

Calendar of Events

SEPTEMBER 10, 2007 – Next meeting of the NAACP. The local NAACP chapter meets monthly

every second Monday at 7:00 pm in Room C at the Golden Gate Community Center in Naples (4701 Golden Gate Parkway). Meetings are open to the public, and many issues are discussed that are also of interest to the ACLU.

SEPTEMBER 13 & 27, 2007 – Collier County Corrections System, 10:00 am
Presented by the Minority & Ethnic Affairs Task Force, Collier County Sheriff's Office
Sept 13 in Naples at the Professional Development Center, 615 3rd Avenue South
Sept 27 in Immokalee at the One Stop Center, Career & Services of SW Florida, 750 South 5th Street

NOVEMBER 1, 2007 – Panel of speakers (including David Milstein of the Legal Panel) to address and discuss the ACLU's involvement with the more controversial issues
Presented by the Collier Chapter of the ACLU
Cambier Park's Norris Community Center in Naples, 755 8th Ave South, 7:00 pm
Some of the topics will be:

- Why doesn't the ACLU protect the rights of unborn babies?
- Why doesn't the ACLU protect rights guaranteed under the 2nd Amendment to the Constitution?
- How could the ACLU defend child pornography?
- How do you respond to the charge, from Bill O'Reilly and others, that the ACLU is protecting terrorists?
- I can't support an organization that would defend Nazi's!
- How can the ACLU be trusted when it was founded by a Communist?

SOMETHING TO CHEW ON

Got anything you would like to share? If you've read a good article or would like to share your own perspective on a topic relevant to the ACLU, we'd like to hear from you.

If you would like a particular news item to be shared with the membership, please provide a reference to your source so we can research and summarize the item for this newsletter.

If you would like to share your own perspective on a topic, write it up and send it in, and let us know if we can use your name or if you would like to submit anonymously. Please include "ACLU Newsletter" in your subject line. Thanks.

Although we cannot guarantee that your submission will be used, we welcome your ideas for this section of the newsletter.

DID YOU KNOW...

If you're stopped by the police in your car...

If you're given a ticket, you should sign it; otherwise you can be arrested. You can always fight the case in court later.

(Information provided by the American Civil Liberties Union)

COMMITTEE CORNER

Nothing new to report from our committees at this time. As always, the Freedom Files DVD series is available to you. See information in the Resources section to make arrangements.

HELPING HANDS - HELP WANTED LISTINGS

- LOOKING FOR CANDIDATES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ACLU COLLIER CHAPTER. Contact: Collier County Chapter, ACLU of Florida, P. O. Box 10318, Naples FL 34101 or call 239- 774-9111 (See Reminder above for details)
- INTERESTED IN BEING AFFILIATED WITH THE LEGAL PANEL? Contact: Yale T. Freeman, Chair of the Legal Panel, at 239-530-2500 (American Civil Liberties Union members only)

RESOURCES

Newsletter: This newsletter produced by the Public Information & Education Committee. If you would like to contact us about this newsletter, please direct your comments or questions to Aysen Onder at 239-262-5627 or lightchorus@yahoo.com.

- Collier County Chapter, ACLU of Florida: P. O. Box 10318, Naples FL 34101, 239- 774-9111
- National Headquarters: 125 Broad Street, Eighteenth Floor, New York, NY 10004
- National Website: www.aclu.org
- FL State Website: www.aclufi.org
- To file a formal complaint: Go to www.aclufi.org, click on "Get Help" heading at the top.

THE ACLU FREEDOM FILES

A 10-part series that strips away the sound bites to reveal how civil liberties affect real people. It features real clients and the attorneys who represent them. By combining real stories and dynamic storytelling the series creates a powerful emotional effect that will motivate viewers to action. Go to www.aclu.tv for more information on the Freedom Files and on each title. Available titles:

- Religious Freedom
- Voting Rights
- Gay & Lesbian Rights
- Youth Speaks
- Drug Wars
- Beyond the Patriot Act
- The Supreme Court
- Dissent
- Racial Profiling

If you would like to organize a get-together to show one of the above titles, you can borrow a DVD from the Collier County Chapter by contacting Aysen at 239-262-5627 or lightchorus@yahoo.com.

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