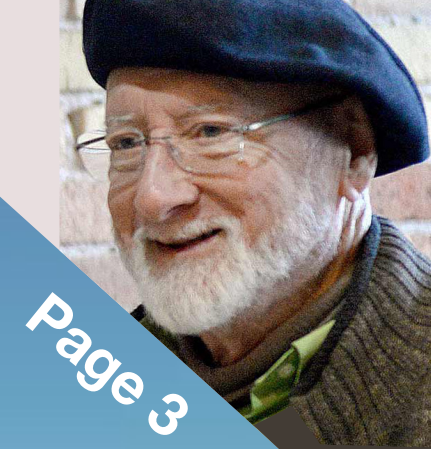




DULUTHINK

NEWSLETTER OF THE LAKE SUPERIOR FREETHINKERS



Page 3

Join us Sunday November 2nd at 10am at the Hillside Community Center, 12 East 4th Street (at the side door), in person and via Zoom for a presentation by Joel Sipress

THE STATE OF DEMOCRACY IN THE UNITED STATES

See Page 2

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

Bill van Druten Memorial Fund.....Page 3
November Happy Hour.....Page 4
November Social Dinner.....Page 5





LAKE
SUPERIOR
**FREE
THINKERS**

Volume 28, Issue 11

LAKE SUPERIOR FREETHINKERS

is a registered 501(c)(3)
Minnesota nonprofit.
Receipts are available
for donations over \$75.

NEWSLETTER

doctorbill@lsfreethinkers.org

CHAIR

THOMAS PATTEN

tpatten@chartermi.net

VICE-CHAIR

DAVID COLE

dcole@d.umn.edu

TREASURER

CHARLES GESSERT

CGessert@yahoo.com

SECRETARY

DONALD L FRASER

dfraser456@gmail.com

BOARD MEMBERS

LINDA CRUMPTON

JUNE CARTER

DAVID BELLERT

ALICIA GASKIN

EMERITUS BOARD MEMBERS

BILL VAN DRUTEN

SUE ANDERSON



NOVEMBER 2025

Join us Sunday November 2nd at 10am at the Hillside Community Center, 12 East 4th St.

THE STATE OF DEMOCRACY IN THE UNITED STATES

Presented by **JOEL SIPRESS**



Joel Sipress, PhD

Americans often think of the United States as the first modern democracy. In many ways, though, democracy in the United States has been hampered by antiquated political institutions that were designed for a very different historical era. This talk will place the current crisis in American democracy in historical context by examining the strengths and weaknesses of this country's democratic institutions over time.

JOEL SIPRESS has taught at the University of Wisconsin-Superior since 1994, with a focus on U.S. and Latin American History. He is a passionate believer in the transformative power of learning and encourages his students to think in deep and meaningful ways about the big questions in the field of History. His ultimate goal is for students to become empowered to make their own sense of the complex and oftentimes troubling world that we live in. He received his Ph.D. in U.S. History from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he studied the relationship between race and class in the construction of the modern political system of the American South.

Joel is a guitarist whose proudest moments include the live outdoor performance of the Who's Tommy LP that he participated in on the UW-Superior campus. He previously served on the Duluth, Minnesota City Council.



A call for donations to the Bill van Druten (1932-2025) Memorial fund.

Please consider making a contribution to the Bill van Druten Fund to strengthen Lake Superior Freethinkers, the organization he founded in 1997.

Please send your checks made out to “Lake Superior Freethinkers” to Charles Gessert, LSF Treasurer, P.O. Box 3219, Duluth, MN 55803-3219



LAKE SUPERIOR
FREETHINKERS

A CHAPTER OF THE FREEDOM FROM RELIGION FOUNDATION

JOIN US FOR

Happy Hour

**4:00-6:00 pm Thursday, November 6th
at Mexico Lindo, Fitger's Brewery Complex**

Meet your fellow Freethinkers at our old haunt: Mexico Lindo within the Fitger's Complex. We'll be there from 4:00 pm until 6:00 pm to share stories, questions, and TexMex food choices or just some half-priced drinks. Park in the public garage and bring your ticket. The server will validate your parking and we will validate (some of) your unusual ideas. Why not bring a friend?



NOVEMBER SOCIAL DINNER

Join us November 19th at 5:30pm for this month's LSF Social Dinner
at **Beijing Chinese Restaurant**, 1918 London Road

