

## SCHWAPPACH TO SPEAK

### ADVOCATES SPOKESMAN TO HIGHLIGHT MDL GUEST NIGHT

The first annual Special Guest Evening for the Detroit Supper Club will be presented on Monday, 16 January 1989 at the Steak and Ale restaurant located in Farmington Hills, Michigan. Cocktails will kick off at 6:00PM followed by dinner at 6:30PM and speaker George Schwappach's address at 8:00PM. The Guest Night will provide an excellent opportunity for members to introduce their families, friends, and co-workers to libertarian alternatives to public policy.

Our featured guest will be George Schwappach from Worthington, Ohio. George was just selected as the 1988 Advocate of the Year by the Advocates for Self-Government, a libertarian outreach group founded in 1985 by idea entrepreneur, Marshall Fritz. George serves as Special Project Director for the organization and is a frequent contributor to the Liberator, the Advocates' bi-monthly outreach newspaper. Attendees might be cautioned though that a sense of humor is mandatory for this event.

His subject for the evening will be an Introduction to Libertarian Ideas. This presentation is appropriate for everyone but is especially crafted for those who have never been exposed to libertarian ideas. The speech is the primary outreach vehicle used by the Advocates for service clubs, fraternal organizations, and professional associations. Additionally George will provide insight into how anyone can

make this presentation--a must for those interested in the MDL Speakers Bureau. Also he would be happy to answer your questions and discuss the special role of Advocates for Self-Government. Advocate materials will be available.

The Advocates describe themselves as a tax-exempt educational organization that specializes in teaching libertarians how to present the freedom philosophy honestly and persuasively. In recent years the Advocates have seen rapid growth. Annual budget now exceeds \$150,000.00 and the group boasts four full-time staffers. It is difficult, if impossible, to find any segment of the libertarian community that has anything ill to say about the Advocates. Endorsements and praise abound about the movement for their high-quality and well-suited materials that include both audio and video tapes, books, pamphlets, public displays, and instructional guides.

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**here in Detroit in April**

## VOLUNTEER DAY PLANNED

by Emily Salvette

Again this year the libertarian community will celebrate Volunteer Day on Friday, January 27. The "holiday" marks the 16th anniversary of the end of the draft and the beginning of the present all-volunteer military force (16 years ago, then President Richard Nixon announced the end of draft inductions for the Vietnam War and no American has since been drafted).

Metro-Detroit Libertarians will participate in Volunteer Day by taking cakes to two recruiting stations: in the morning at Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Mt Clemens, and at noon in Royal Oak. We will cut the cakes and share them with the recruiters and others in the offices, and hopefully, with media representatives covering the event. Flyers outlining the libertarian position on the all-volunteer military, the draft, and draft registration will be available for distribution.

Details of the event at Selfridge ANG Base will be available at the January 16 Supper Club meeting or by calling Mark Sellers at 247-4257. The Royal Oak recruiting station is located at 136 N. Main St. in downtown Royal Oak. We will meet outside the center at noon. Call Emily Salvette at 332-7834 before Jan. 22 for more information.

Volunteer Day is a fine opportunity for libertarians to send a positive message to the public and the media of support for our all-volunteer military force. MDL members are encouraged to attend the festivities at one or both recruiting stations. A few minutes at Royal Oak would be a perfect way to spend your lunch hour on Friday, January 27.

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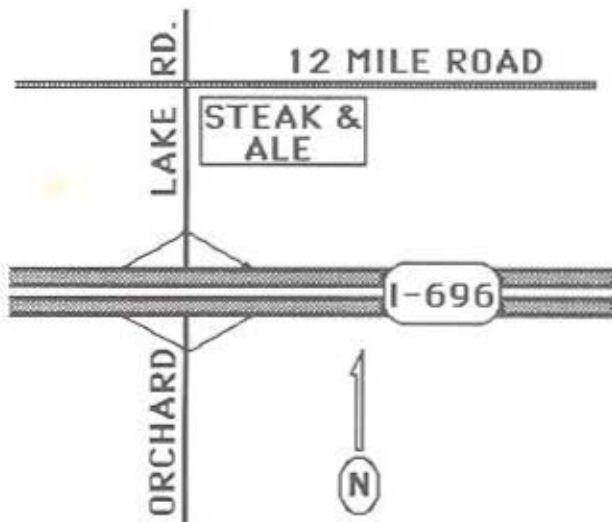
## SUPPER CLUB DETAILS

Place: Steak and Ale Restaurant  
27590 Orchard Lake Road  
Farmington Hills, MI

Time: 6:00PM Social Hour  
6:30PM Dinner  
8:00PM Speaker - Mr. George Schwappach

Topic: Introduction to Libertarian Ideas

Steak and Ale has made arrangements for us to choose from their Premier Plan banquet menu. At the cost of \$12.45 plus 15% gratuity the choices include: Top Sirloin of Beef, Stuffed Flounder, and Hawaiian Chicken. All selections include vegetable, potato, bread, dessert, and choice of beverage. There will be a cash bar and separate checks are available. The meal purchase is not mandatory for attendance but is encouraged. (TANNSTAAFL). For reservations call Stan Gentry by January 13 along with your menu selection. Phone number for Stan or his recorder is 757-5085.



## JOIN MDL'S THIRD ANNUAL INCOME TAX PROTEST!

by Kenneth Morris

On Saturday April 15th, MDL plans to stage public-relations demonstrations about the IRS throughout the day at various Post Offices throughout the tri-county area. We will have informational picket signs and banners, and distribute literature regarding the income tax to last-minute filers at mail drop-off points. The more people who volunteer, the more Post Offices we can go to! So, whether you live in Wayne, Oakland, or Macomb counties (or anywhere else!) please feel free to call our public events coordinator Kenneth Morris at 446-3135 (Detroit, daytime) or 654-6291 (Flat Rock area, night time). Macomb County residents may call Jim McAbee at 752-4844 (Romeo) or Stan Gentry at 757-5085 (Warren). We want YOU and YOUR ideas!

## EDITORIAL OUTREACH UPDATE

by Jack Elder

Keep on watching all your editorial pages and report all "libertarian-esque" letters to the editor to Jack Elder (along with as much of the address as possible). We are sending a package containing an introductory letter, a basic simplified platform, a list of forty-seven other libertarian organizations, and special parody Form 1040 Super EZ tax return. Our goal is to cover as many papers as possible on a consistent basis and inform those concerned letter writers about libertarian ideas. Contact by phone or mail:

JACK ELDER  
Home phone: 651-5250  
Work phone: 683-3449  
384 Olivewood Court  
Rochester, MI 48064

## SPEAKERS BUREAU GETTING RESPONSES

by Mark Sellers

Tim O'Brien is at it again and this time it looks like the Speakers Bureau is getting off the ground. After the November Planning Board Session, Tim received twelve respondents for his call for speakers. He has since sent correspondence to each outlining his strategy and the prerequisites for being part of the bureau. He has asked each to write a speech and turn it in to the bureau. At this writing four have already replied. I can't be sure but Tim seems amenable to using some of the pre-prepared Advocates speeches if the anyone is having any trouble coming up with a real barn burner of a talk. I'll leave it to Tim to tell you the standards since he already is doing an outstanding job as editor of the Michigan Libertarian. Plans are underway to send direct mail to service clubs, fraternal organizations, high school government teachers, university political science professors. Contact Tim at 548-6857.

## NEW COMMUNITY SERVICE IDEAS SOLICITED

by Stan Gentry

Stan Gentry is exploring high visibility contributions for new community service ideas. Being kicked around right now is food stuff packages to go to two inner-city Detroit homeless families that have taken up residence in abandoned homes on city land. There is high media interest in these squatting incidents and the resulting bewilderment and embarrassment of Detroit City officials that broke into the news just before Christmas. Stay tuned. These and similar incidents may prove to be excellent opportunities to put our libertarianism to work. What do you say members? Let's talk. (757-5085)

## FRANK & ERNEST BOB THAVES



# MDL BUSINESS REPORTS by Emily Salvette

The first Annual MDL Planning Meeting held on Monday, November 21 was a great success. A crowd of enthusiastic volunteers signed up to participate in MDL activities for the coming year. Thanks to all who have agreed to help as coordinators or committee members. The new area coordinators are listed below. If you would like to work in any area, please give the coordinator a call and volunteer.

## MDL AREA COORDINATORS - 1989

ORGANIZATION	Emily Salvette 332-7834
TREASURER	Steve Silver 544-8992
DISCOVERY GROUPS	Mark Sellers 247-4257
SUPPER CLUB	Stan Gentry 757-5085
Asst. Coordinators	Karen & Scott 681-0225 Scarborough
NEWSLETTER	Mark Sellers 247-4257
Asst. Editor	Kenneth Morris 446-3135
COMMUNITY SERVICE	Stan Gentry 757-5085
MEDIA	Bill Shotey 561-0379
NEWS OUTREACH	Jack Elder 651-5250
SPEAKERS' BUREAU	Tim O'Brien 548-6857
PUBLIC EVENTS	Kenneth Morris 446-3135
FUNDRAISING	Steve Silver 544-8992

At the December 10th MDL Board meeting, the following issues were discussed:

1) Treasurer Steve Silver reported that there is \$564.00 in the MDL treasury. The fundraising committee will send out two fundraising letters this year. He plans to buy mailing lists of other organizations to expand our base of potential contributors.

2) A committee has been established to investigate the possibility of MDL gaining tax-exempt status.

3) The Supper Club will return to meeting on the third Monday night of every month. On odd numbered months we will feature a speaker, on even numbered months we will have a discussion on a selected topic with one member acting as moderator. Supper Club participants will receive postcards 10 days before each meeting announcing the speaker or topic. If you are not receiving Supper Club notices and would like to, please call Scott Scarborough at 681-0225.

4) Stan Gentry has explored several community service opportunities. Those with ideas for community service projects should contact Stan.

5) Tim O'Brien plans to have speakers bureau volunteers prepare speeches on specific topics. He will prepare a flyer and distribute it to metro-area schools and service organizations describing the speakers and speeches available. Tim also plans to have speakers' bureau volunteers do editorial replies on local T.V. stations.



## EVOLUTIONARY LEADERSHIP: FROM MALCONTENT TO MAINSTREAM

by Mark Sellers, Newsletter Coordinator

One of the more interesting (and humorous) excursions into the Sixties' rebirth of libertarian thought is Jerome Tuccille's It Usually Begins with Ayn Rand. Tuccille was in on the movement's ground floor and provides us a guided, if irreverent, tour of a time that we are just beginning to forget. He populates his world with colorful characters who still work on the freedom stage including the likes of Liggio, Hess, Block, and Buckley (Buckley?). Tuccille describes himself as an intellectual and principled vagrant, wandering across his time, to find shelter with like-minded pilgrims. When he finally locates these soul-mates he is a bit taken back. He describes them as "a clique of porcine revolutionaries" who spent their Sunday afternoons debating the great issues while digesting large helpings of ice cream. Hardly the stuff of laudation.

An honest inventory of who we were -- the so-called libertarian veterans of greater Michigan--could not be much kinder. We were a motley crew of misfits ranging from old self-satisfied Randites, nerdish academics who agonized much to much over natural rights, aging hippies, right down to fiercely independent Americans who had gotten lost somehow and walked off of a Frank Capra film set, with the Jimmy Stewart's stumbling swagger, double-breasted suit and all. The sad irony is that these Mr. Smith's never made it to Washington. They were a proud bunch, loveable mostly, but a few you would think twice about inviting to dinner. They are reminiscent of those canaries used in the earlier days of coal mining. These birds were carried down the shafts to serve as living detectors of deadly methane gas. They would expire from the odorless vapors well ahead of their human captors thereby giving the miners enough warning to hastily adjourn and reconvene topside. Here of course my metaphor breaks down. Libertarians in reality don't just expire, they squawk, fuss and carry-on to the bitter end. Though these birds were not mainstream members of their mining society, they were prized possessions. Likewise early libertarian activists were the early warning system of a nation whose moral atmosphere was going sour--no matter how quixotic their protests may have seemed.

But they were warriors all, and heroes besides. They faced grueling and often hostile petitioning, braced the cold rains of April in the tax protests, made thousands of phone calls, printed flyers, and faithfully guarded the beachhead's perimeter during its darkest hours. Some even went to jail. A few have left us now but most are still out there continuing in their own way to make good account for themselves. They like our times have grown, and the times--they are a change'n.

As the idea of liberty makes its inevitable capture of the American center, more and more "normal" people

are finding shelter, in twos and threes, coming in from the chill. Libertarians with real families, careers, and middle American goals find themselves just as alienated by the cold patronizing face of big government. As mainstream members of the video age, they don't read quite as much as we do. They may eschew Rothbard's ramblings and couldn't care less what "epistemology" means. But they want responsibility returned for their own lives.

The old guard were the seeds of the movement, and the newer members, who in their impatience forget that, do so at their own peril. Old timers are not particularly impressed by upstarts who amid much wailing and gnashing of teeth do head fakes in and out of political parties. And in fair turnabout, newcomers are not thrilled with providing tribute to big fish who live in very small ponds. Perhaps the hardest fact with which we (libertarians both old and new) must grapple is that when the movement growth really begins to creep up the exponential curve, when we reach that popularization phase, critical mass if you will, there will be a real scarcity of familiar faces. Momentum will pass us by. Michigan has produced many fine activists, but in all its groaning and travailing, it has produced no natural leaders, no eloquent spokespersons. The great surge of growth--still likely in our lifetime--will leave many of us in its wake. As our gatherings become crowded, newer, more abler leaders will rise to the occasion. We all must be prepared to deal with that reality. Neither ambition nor elitist fantasies will sustain us. For these there is no place. Only liberty is its own reward.

As any movement grows and matures, problems, divisions, and new opportunities arise. These are symptoms of healthy growth. Within this state there is a loose network of libertarians both in and out of the political milieu building and growing, not really a family but more akin to an Amway distribution line branching its way down the chain. And there is no need for everyone down that line to be pals with everyone else. At times gudging cooperation and respect for a common ideal may do just as well. There is real strength in diversity when it reflects the diversity and texture within this country. Metro-Detroit Libertarians recognize that this mix is part of the program and we welcome all who want to contribute, all who want to work. As Russell Means says, "Freedom is for everyone." Our last planning board session had some excellent ideas and --surprisingly to some--produced the manpower to back many of those efforts. To the new folks out there still waiting for the right moment, come on in and get your feet wet. There is plenty of room in the pool and which end you swim in is entirely up to you. And to the new guys in the brat pack, please, don't splash the old folks. Okay?

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