

KIDS' CLUB HAS BEGUN

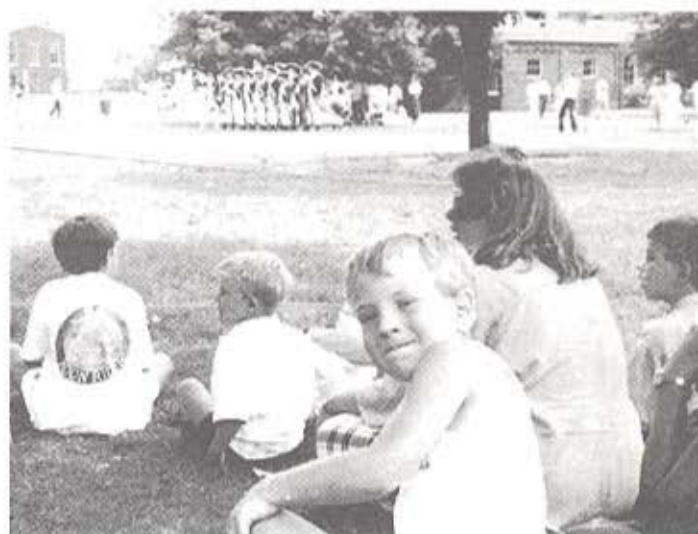
TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY AMERICA, LOOK OUT!

The Freedom Fun Club, Metro-Detroit Libertarian's community service project, began in earnest with an outing to Greenfield Village on Sunday, July 9. The Club is for libertarian kids and their families. It is led by Stan Gentry, MDL Community Service Coordinator. Tim O'Brien, Dave Sheldon, and Emily Salvette helped arrange the first outing to Greenfield Village on the weekend of its "Colonial Life Festival."

Thirteen youngsters and fifteen adults enjoyed the afternoon learning what life was like during the time of the American Revolution. They enjoyed watching colonial re-enactment groups dressed in period costumes demonstrate domestic arts, music, trades, and military life of the period. The highlight was a mock battle staged on the village green using authentic firearms and artillery. The children were cheering when "our team," the Continental forces, routed the British army from the battlefield.

Before touring the Village, the families enjoyed a picnic on the lawn and the children had a short lesson on why the founding of a country based on liberty and property rights is important to libertarians. The youngsters, who ranged in age from two to twelve, were each given a copy of the Declaration of Independence.

With the success of the Greenfield Village outing, the Freedom Fun Club plans to have another family activity sometime in the fall. As the goal of the club is to provide an opportunity for teaching our children the libertarian values of personal freedom and individual



The Freedom Fun Club will help guide the next generation of freedom fighters. Children of all ages (including teens) are welcome. To become involved as a member or adult assistant, please send childrens' names and ages, your name, address, and phone number to:

Metro-Detroit Libertarians
322 Millington
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48013

Call Stan Gentry at (313) 757-5085 or Emily Salvette at (313) 332-7834 for more information.

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ADDRESS AUGUST'S SUPPER CLUB

NEW LETTER TO THE EDITOR CONTEST
WITH PRIZES!

PETE HENDRICKSON WRITES
PROVOCATIVE LETTER AND INCLUDES
A CALL FOR ACTION

Profile



Harry C. Veryser

A quick glance about a crowded room and one might overlook Harry Veryser. That this modest, almost self-effacing economics professor would get close enough to be warmed by a political firestorm let alone sitting comfortably in the midst of one is a credit to his ability to make things happen without attracting attention. Currently he is the Chairman of the Department of Economics and Finance at Walsh College and Adjunct Professor with the University of Detroit. One earlier academic credit included a tour as Assistant to the President at Hillsdale College where he taught philosophy and economics from 1974 to 1978.

Professor Veryser will tell you right up front that he is an active Republican, in fact, present 12th District Republican Chairman. He is well credentialed in the GOP ranging from such stints as precinct delegate to the state party Chair for the Pat Robertson for President campaign. After Michigan's early primary he was recruited ostensibly to work as district chair, but primarily used to introduce a flood of new Robertson people to free market alternatives and economic issues. He found that the supporters were open to one side of the libertarian equation and still not entirely closed to the individual liberty side. "They are good people and I think that of all the groups, they are most open to libertarian ideas economically. I know a lot of libertarians will yell and scream about the social issues but you have to take the allies where you can get 'em. We can't say

MEET HARRY VERYSER

Softspoken Admirer and Critic of Libertarians

"...to some extent the Libertarian Party has in the past become a church rather than a political party."

that they have to be 100 percent or we don't want them. They are a lot more open to free market ideas than any other group in the United States at this point."

His position is more revealing when asked about various Republican luminaries. Veryser was disappointed with Ronald Reagan for not following through on any of his major campaign themes. The only credit he could suggest was that the former president shifted the polarity of debate. Although disappointed in some of George Bush's early performance, he is yet unwilling to make direct criticism of the new President. He describes Bush as a "stand pat" Reaganite, likely to hold to established Reagan policies but without any new or meaningful initiatives. He was quite candid about Pat Robertson while personally admiring the Christian broadcaster. He feels the candidate suffered from poor advisors in critical areas and that these areas ultimately undid the campaign. He was disappointed that Robertson did not put together a more consistent program on economics. His likely second choice would have been Delaware Governor Pete Dupont.

Closer to home, Veryser characterizes his support of the present state Republican leadership as "lukewarm," describing them as "political technicians" and unlikely "to carry any banners for the free market cause." Locally he has kind words for Mark Koldys, Chairman of the Michigan Conservative Union and former 16th District Republican Chairman, who made a public endorsement of the Ron Paul candidacy. Currently he supports Clark Durant in his bid for the Republican nomination for the Senate. He feels Clark "is very libertarian" in a positive sense and would make an excellent senator. Although I caught him on occasion using "we" in describing libertarians,

Profile

he is uncomfortable with the public label of 'libertarian', preferring to characterize himself as a free-market Austrian in the classical liberal tradition. Perhaps the reason can be found at the 1988 Republican National Convention.

One of the few exciting moments of the Libertarian Presidential campaign was the effort to have Ron Paul placed in nomination from the floor of the Republican convention. The action attracted national front page headlines from the *Los Angeles Times* and *New York Times* to our own local *Macomb Daily*. A CBS camera crew was readied to follow Ron Paul around had the effort started making headway. Veryser had run as an uncommitted Republican delegate and with Robertson obviously out of the race by March of the election year, he was open to the approaches of Paul staffers. Having met Ron Paul and studied his positions, Veryser was at a loss to find any area of significant disagreement. While denying he was a leader in the move, he did admit doing everything in his power behind the scenes to gain support for the Paul nomination. Unfortunately the count fell short of the five states necessary for floor nomination. Because of his Ron Paul identification, it was no surprise afterwards that Bush staffers went out of their way to insure that the former state Robertson Chair was not invited to join the state Bush Committee. Harry Veryser took this as a sincere, if inadvertent, compliment.

KID'S CLUB (continued from page 1)

responsibility, we will develop our events around libertarian themes. Such events as a day of lessons in outdoor survival skills, a "Democracy Day" to demonstrate the tyranny of majority rule, or a trip to a rifle range for older children are possibilities. Other suggestions and help with organizing these and other events would be appreciated.

- Emily Salvette

In the late sixties Veryser found himself significantly influenced by the Foundation for Economic Education (FEE). Their publication, *The Freeman*, along with his readings of such notables as Ludwig von Mises, F. A. Hayek, Bohm-Bawerk, and like writers of the Austrian school drew his interests to political activity. Perhaps most surprising was his early efforts on behalf of a fledgling Libertarian Party of 1970 and 1971. His contemporaries included Kay Augustin, Pete McAlpine, Jim Hudler, and Greg Clark, all active in the formation of the Michigan party. (Many MDL'ers do not realize that the Michigan party formation actually predated the founding of the national party by several months.) He described himself as active and "very involved" in those days, serving as an original board member and with some of the key committees.

Harry Veryser felt that a move to Midland, Michigan combined with a pronounced drift in party focus forced him away. The new activists became increasingly dogmatic, making a cluster of individual liberty issues the litmus test of "being libertarian", often at the expense of free market issues. Although having a 'live and let live attitude' towards lifestyles other than his own, still Veryser was singled out for his pro-life stand in the days long before the Ron Paul candidacy and groups such as Doris Gordon's 'Libertarians for Life'. "Part of my problem with the [early] LP is not the ideas of it," he says, "but the intolerance of a lot of the people that were involved." His most telling comment was, "...to some extent the Libertarian Party has in the past become a church rather than a political party." Although admiring much of the current work of the Libertarian Party he says "For now, I can do more good with the Republicans." - by Mark Sellers

from the "SOMEONE KNOWS WE'RE OUT HERE DEPARTMENT"

"Certainly people who are going to maintain a Libertarian society without formal rules will need a very strong, well thought out sense of ethics, with clear ideas of what they are willing to do and under what conditions."

—from an editorial by Stanley Schmidt
the May 1989 issue of *ANALOG*

NOTEBOOK: Supper Club Updates

AUGUST

Metro-Detroit Libertarians will host Walsh College Economics and Finance Chairman **Harry Veryser** for the August 21st Supper Club. He will make a presentation on the "Metaphysical Nature of Freedom", an exploration into the nature of man and his need for freedom. After the presentation, he will entertain any and all questions you may ask as time allows. See accompanying "Profile Segment" for additional background. Join us for unusual insight and stimulating discussion with Harry Veryser.

The Metro-Detroit Libertarian Supper Club will meet Monday, August the 21st at:

Scallop's Resturant
1002 North Main
Rochester, MI

Times are the usual:

6:00 PM for Drinks
6:30 for Dinner
8:00 Speaker's Address

Scallop's Resturant is located one half mile north of University across from the Dodge Dealership. The menu entree's are Prime Rib, Broiled Orange Roughy, and Chicken Primavera. Selection includes salad, vegetable, and potato and goes for \$16.00 per person including gratuity. Please call Stan Gentry to your reservations by Friday, 18 August at (313) 757-5085.

SEPTEMBER

The Metro-Detroit Libertarian will host **Lynn Bellair** for our "Open Discussion Program" for the September Supper Club meeting. She has completed extensive research on Biological, Chemical, and Genetic Warfare. See accompanying sidebar for more detail on the material. Although her work is rich in specific detail, she will seek your ideas and input as well and undoubtedly suggesting a few of her own. This is your chance to sound off. Our well attended discussion segments are increasingly popular. Join us at Lino's Ristorante for a lively and entertaining evening.

SEPTEMBER - continued

The Metro-Detroit Libertarian Supper Club will meet Monday, September the 18th at:

Lino's Ristorante
50 West Tienken
Rochester Hills, MI

Times are still the usual:

6:00 PM for Drinks
6:30 for Dinner
8:00 Discussion Breaks Loose

Lino's Ristorante is located on the corner of Tienken and Rochester Road in Rochester Hills. The menu entree is Baked Breast of Chicken with Lemon and includes potato, veggie, salad and dessert. The price is 12.50 per person including tax (ugh!) and gratuity. Please call Stan Gentry to your reservations by Friday, 15 September at (313) 757-5085.

LETTER TO EDITOR CONTEST ALREADY UNDERWAY

The Metro-Detroit Libertarians are sponsoring a letters-to-the-editor contest. Prizes will be awarded for the two individuals who make the greatest contribution to the goal of freedom by having letters published in metro area newspapers. Letters must be published after August 1, 1989 and before December 1, 1989. Contestants will be judged on the following criteria:

1. Number of letters published during contest period.
2. Circulation of the publishing newspapers.
3. Content of letters-letters offering libertarian alternatives to current issues are preferred.

First prize is \$75.00. \$25.00 will be awarded for second place. Prizes will be presented at the annual Winter Solstice Party this December. Call Stan Gentry (757-5085) or Karen Scarborough (681-0225) for further information. Let's try for one libertarian letter per day in the major daily papers for next four months.
- Stan Gentry

Exerpts from research for "On Biological, Chemical, and Genetic Warfare" by Lynn Bellair.

"57,000 men died in the military action in Viet Nam. Since then an additional 50,000 veterans have taken their own lives. This is unprecedented. Never before in recorded time has there been a war where the soldiers were so devastated that they took their own lives in numbers nearly equal to those taken by the enemy. One of the major symptoms of dioxin poisoning is depression...."

"No war fought with nuclear weapons can be won. To the victor, if anyone would be left to merit that title, would go valueless land filled with nothing but debris, unuseable for centuries. This is why we must consider chemical and biological warfare....Any future will be rife with them. The lack of morality exhibited by the world in the historical usages of these weapons is appalling, yet it is obvious the great strategic value of these items would make true limitation of them an impossibility. At least twenty other nations possess these poisons and infectious agents and more certainly will. Its too late to make them go away, so a way must be found to deal with them before they are deployed on additional millions...."

"Genetic engineering, if applied to biological warfare could bring devastation on a scale never before seen. The technology already exists. *Scientific American* reported this year that scientists are conducting trials of a new..."

JOHN TREVER TO JOIN THE "GREY SHEET"

Nationally known political cartoonist John Trever has granted MDL permission to reprint his work. John's work appears daily in the top newspapers around the country. He contributes regularly to *Reason magazine*, *The LP News*, and the *American Libertarian*. Residing in New Mexico, he has been the staff editorial cartoonist for the *Albuquerque Journal* since 1976, the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* prior to that. He graduated *magna cum laude*

in political science, literature, and art from Syracuse University as well as completed two years graduate work in political science at the University of Chicago. He is a member of Phi Beta Kappa. His national awards and recognition are legion including the Mencken Award for best cartoon, Best Cartoon in a Weekly Newspaper-National Newspaper Association, and First Prize, U.S. Industrial Council "Dragonslayer" Contest. He has published in "Trever's First Strike," a collection of arms race cartoons by Brick House, 1983; his cartoons nationally syndicated by the North American Syndicate; and recently was prominently featured in "A Cartoon History of the Reagan Years," by Regoverly-Gateway, 1988. Metro-Detroit Libertarians welcome John Trever. Here, here! - Mark Sellers



Commentary

Editor:

With some regret, I have come to the conclusion that the political process, designed and administered as it is by the enemies of Liberty, cannot be relied upon to serve as the medium for the assertion and protection of our individual sovereignty.

Indeed, those whom we count as wise felt much the same, and provided us with the security of the Bill of Rights, under which auspices we theoretically retain the means of protection above and beyond the political arena.

Accordingly, I call now upon all friends of Liberty to begin a more active assertion of their rights, and a more overt expression of their enmity for the system that oppresses us all.

If anyone is conscious of the fact that political power is nothing more than physical power, it is ourselves. Unless we threaten the system, it is disdainful of us, and rightly so. The notion that we can talk those who benefit from our oppression into giving it up, presumes too much of a society that is 40% illiterate and the victims of lifelong propaganda. While it is not an impossible task, it won't happen in our lifetime.

Nor, in any case, should we have to wait one day, one hour, or one minute for our freedom from slavery. Those who counsel patience in this matter are really saying, "Join us in the mainstream like good little citizens".

Our country's history makes it clear that until an idea's proponents become radical, in act, not agenda, and adamant in their demand for satisfaction, they are swept under the rug of democratic disempowerment.

For centuries now, countless individuals have written, reasoned, argued, and occasionally screamed our message of ethics, morality, and practical rationality. They have been ignored, suppressed, and murdered for their trouble. How long does it take before we face the fact that words aren't working?

On the other hand, those groups, such as unions, minorities, abolitionists, prohibitionists, etc., who have set aside the pen and taken up the sword, however reluctantly, have realized victory. "The Tree of Liberty must be fed from time to time with the blood of the Patriots and Tyrants". Thomas Jefferson was not just making a string of pretty words when he said that. It is truth, and in our hearts we all know it.

No cause could be more just than ours, no struggle more noble. We are traitors to ourselves and our posterity if we shirk the effort out of timidity, or sloth, or a mindless adherence to what we have been brainwashed into believing is the polite or proper way to do things. We are not dealing with a polite or proper enemy.

Talk is cheap, and our masters know it. It is to their credit that they have succeeded in diverting our effort in a forum which their system is designed to render ineffective.

We must demand our natural heritage, not ask politely for it.

Get ANGRY! Express it!

We should still maintain our political efforts, and especially our outreach activities, that the reasons for our dissatisfaction be understood, but we must do more.

Throw every monkey wrench possible into the machine. Make it work harder. Make it alienate other people. Make it more expensive. Make it expose itself.

Make people regret being bureaucrats. Show them the contempt that they deserve.

Make them nervous about their health. Despise them, and don't hide it. Help our friends and harm our enemies.

Live our Truth and show the world. We will win.

Yours in Liberty,
Pete Hendrickson

It is usually the response of smug editors to take a swipe at ideas with which they disagree. Not so here. The best local arena for open debate and honest discussion is among Metro-Detroit Libertarians. We bring no structural baggage to stifle dialogue and claim no privilege on love of liberty. For those a little put back by Pete's powerful and perhaps gloomy polemic should refer to Henry David Thoreau's Civil Disobedience. It is not unprecedented. Your comments and ideas are welcome....Ed.

Business Report:

Emily Salvette

The Metro-Detroit Libertarians Board Meeting convened on June 19, 1989. The following Coordinator reports were made:

TREASURER - Steve Silver reported that MDL had \$1,100.00 in the bank. Phone calls following up fundraising letters will continue as part our fundraising efforts.

ORGANIZATION - Emily Salvette reported that the MDL Supper Club mailing list has been cut back to approximately 175 names of active interested. Currently it costs \$30.00 per month to mail supper club notices. "New-interesteds" will receive six supperclub notices and two newsletters before going off the list.

SUPPER CLUB - Stan Gentry reported that the discussion group topic "The Environment" was very successful. It drew almost forty people and included many new faces, both "new-interesteds" and non-libertarians. The MDL ad in the *Metro-Times* is credited with the success. We are now actively seeking a knowledgeable environmental speaker for a future supper club. The tentative supper club schedule was as follows:

July 17 - Speaker representative of American Civil Liberties Union.

Aug 21 - Speaker Professor Harry Veryser, Walsh College.

Sept 18 - Discussion Leader Lynn Bellair. Topic: Chemical, Biological and Genetic Warfare.

Oct 16 - Discussion Leader Dave Sheldon. Topic: Child Rights.

Nov 20 - Second Annual Planning Meeting

Dec 09 - Metro-Detroit Libertarians annual Winter Solstice Party

COMMUNITY SERVICE - Stan Gentry reported the start up of the Freedom Club for libertarian children. (see front page article).

SPEAKERS BUREAU - Tim O'Brien is still looking for additional volunteers to write speeches. He has made several phone calls to obtain speaking dates with the hope that topics and deadlines will motivate speakers to prepare presentations. - Emily Salvette

CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED: An energetic and persistent person to head the MDL Speakers Bureau. Position involves 1) finding speaking engagements for MDL members at schools, community service organizations, and social groups - 2) Organizing speakers to cover these events. Contact Emily Salvette at 322-7834 if you would like to manage this important outreach function.

Ayn Rand's **WE THE LIVING** Videotape Rental. Rental is available to any MDL member for personal use for one week for a ten dollar contribution to our newsletter production. This video is the full 174 minute, VHS, high-quality black and white print © 1988 Angelika Films. Comes with package of reviews and articles, biographies of all major protagonists, list of credits, history of the film, screenplay synopsis, original photos, and reprint of January 27, 1989 *National Review* article about the film's restoration. Call (313) 247-4257 for arrangements.

RESTORING THE AMERICAN DREAM by Robert Ringer now available locally and near cost. Super deals are still available. Call Jack or Karen Elder at 651-5250.

GUNS by the Martel Brothers - Sales, custom rebluing, finishing and repairs. Your source for information concerning AK-47's and other semi-automatic firearms. Phone (313) 271-7111.

ADVERTISERS AND CLASSIFIEDS WANTED - The *Metro-Detroit Libertarian* wants to attract advertisements and classifieds that are little beyond simple photo-copying business cards. If you want to get a message out about your business, sideline, special interest, or cause call 247-4257. Fall issue will run classifieds for free as space allows. Advertisements for cost of photo-reproduction plus 20% again as space allows. MDL newsletter goes into four hundred Metro-Detroit residences quarterly and is limited to no more than 10 pages per issue. Call 247-4257 for further details.

WRITERS WANTED - The *Metro-Detroit Libertarian* will consider publishing submissions of guest editorials, letters to the editor, book reviews, topical news, or just information about what local libertarians are up to in general. Limitations are size of submission (the smaller and more concise the better), good taste (you can say anything as long as you say it well), and lack of personal attacks (use poison pens for or against ideas, not persons). Since MDL is independent of the Libertarian Party, event announcements must be compensated as advertising. However, relevant issues and news (pro or con) involving the LP (or any party for that matter) are welcome.

Editorial

In earlier more halcyon days, my local boys club played a variation of capture the flag. The rougher version of the game, usually reserved for campouts, was our favorite and often anticipated with real glee by our gang of pre-pubescent warriors. The two teams wore guaze armbands, one side on the right arm, the other on the left. To "kill" an opponent you simply ripped off his armband. Given a fifteen minute head start, the defending team went crashing into the woods, its leader clutching a flag. Their only concession was that they had to make noise, lots of noise, on a regular basis in order give the offensive team half a chance to find and capture that flag. Usually it was a whistle, blown every ten minutes. With few rules we could be sneaky, using whatever passed in our juvenile minds as skill and cunning. Being small for my age, I relied upon guile. It earned me a fairly respectable "kill ratio".

No pretense here of being Garrison Keillor on some picaresque excursion into mid-American imagery and certainly there is no suggestion of playing Capture the Flag during the LP's summer picnic. There is, not surprisingly, an analogy of sorts. For in the last six weeks we have seen this game of adolescents played out by our high tacticians of politics— attempting to capture the American flag. They want it as their own, a personal preserve, to their own private understanding. And whether left or right, they are not beyond using guile and setting up emotional ambushes to get their way.

Like many Americans with some claim of patriotic credential, seeing the American Flag burned might just set me off. Conceivably I could deck a careless protester. Despite arguments to contrary, I feel good when I salute the flag. When the National Anthem is played or sung, especially in a large group, I get a little emotional. I'll confess to a warm shudder running down my spine when Sousa is played in cadence with massive displays of fireworks. Despite the best arguments for a private sector space program, I feel proud when a Shuttle lands safe, mission completed. How it all came about is beyond this editorial's scope and I am certain my feelings are not all that unique.

But the rational part of me keeps intruding, making me realize that such private understanding remains my own. Despite the litany of special and very wonderful qualities about this nation, there are many who rightly fear the very American symbol I respect. I am sorry to break any illusion about the flag, but it is not the untainted, uncompromised symbol we were sold in the fourth grade. The truth is that our two hundred year history is clouded with dirty little stories, forgotten and swept beneath its fabric. Shame, great national debacles, and glaring inconsistencies abound amidst all that flag waving. Here are just a few:

The great "people's liberal" Andrew Jackson, seduced by power of the Presidency, gave flight to the white man's claim of manifest destiny and began the "trail of tears" of the 1830's,



TO CAPTURE THE FLAG

especially in rapidly developing Georgia. Its "trail's" legacy was the destruction for a flowering culture, disease, death, and eventually, near genocide for the Creek and Cherokee.

As glaring as *Dred Scott* was Lincoln's cynical Emancipation Proclamation that freed the slaves only in belligerent states but preserved it in the Union-held border states. Black Americans should read first the fine print before affixing its bronzed words upon public monuments.

Or recall the duplicity of the McKinley administration that first convinced Emilio Aguinaldo, leader of the Philippine resistance and his army, to do the lion's share of driving the Spanish from the islands in 1898. But in a matter of weeks our unprovoked President turned on their dream of independence and began a bloody, systematic crushing of that same Filipino resistance in order that the United States might claim an empire 11,000 miles away.

Popular history is silent about the Espionage Acts or the Sedition Act of May 16, 1918 that, in their brief moment of infamy, made even trivial criticism of the war effort a crime. For a handful of years the state of freedom within American borders was indistinguishable from today's darker Eastern-block countries. Neighborhood vigilantes spied, notable activists were rounded up, harassed, and either imprisoned or deported. Children reported on parental conversations. Nearly every federal department sprouted its own "intelligence bureau" to spy and intimidate. Mail was opened. Press and cinema was censored or intimidated into silence. Then Attorney-General Thomas Gregory even boasted that he had "several hundred thousand citizens" working as informers.

Editorial

More recently the confiscation of property and the consignment to internment camps of 70,000 Americans whose only crime was to have Japanese ancestry. Even more of us can remember the public witch hunts of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. And most recently the muddled morality of a Viet Nam war that continues to paint contrasts of right and wrong in increasingly darker shades of gray.

In big nation politics, the minorities have reason to fear. Sadly the decline of classical American liberalism continues unabated. And all the while, our highest leadership plays the game of a child—to capture, to own the flag. A national flag. It is said to be symbolic. Symbolic of a nation. It is here that we find the core to all the confusion. This great nation is in reality something apart from its government. The flag is largely a government symbol, a symbol for battle, misconstrued as a national symbol. You don't have to be a rocket scientist to understand that they are meant for battle. Flags were first instituted to separate the friendlies from the enemy, useful when the Hessians started hopping over our fence rows. That's why you see them at every military installation, every ship at sea, and stenciled in one form or another on combat aircraft.

In a future where totalitarianism is finished, when national boundaries are crossed as easily as state lines, we may not need a military and its attendant symbology. If one of the visions of Ayn Rand, Murray Rothbard, or R.J. Rushdoony truly flowers and sees life in just a generation or two as Marshall Fritz would suggest, perhaps the flag will find its proper place as a memory, hanging with other national banners in a dusty museum among rusting suits of armor. Perhaps another generation will have differing final memories of fathers, brothers, sons, and now even daughters other than a lone American flag, curiously folded into a small triangular bundle. Perhaps they will be free of the some politician's grand vision for power, and see the natural disconnect of nation and state.

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Metro-Detroit Libertarians is an association of individuals committed to liberty. We are not a political party; but instead a multi-dimensional organization that promotes individual freedom.

Today it is arguable to have a national defense, to have citizen soldiers ready to repel aggression. We live in a real world. We live in a nation that idolizes, even lionizes its government symbol, its symbol of protection. When they see it burned, they see an enemy and the nation cannot be easily dissuaded from that vision. With limited sight, and clouded thought, they do not recognize the true fabric of this nation, that of limited government embodied in the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and more specifically the Bill of Rights. It is these symbols that are most dear, that define the nation's soul more so than anything Aaron Copland ever composed, or Andrew Wyeth painted, or Robert Frost made in measured meter, and much more so than even a flag of battle. It is these instruments, this fabric, that tell a government what it must not do, where it cannot tread. This fabric was to serve as a bulwark against statism, mob democracy, and the self-defined saviors of Americanism. Today it is breached, torn badly by elitist arrogance and disrespect. It exists as a mere island adrift in a sea of government rights, eroded crudely by the uncircumspect steps of thoughtless children. Yes we are a great nation. Yes we have done great deeds, but we still have feet of clay. We still fail enough that the very thought of making our government banner a sacred and venerated relic is simple sacrilege—an idolatry of the flag. - Adam Selene

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Saturday, October 21

6:30 p.m. Cocktails
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Tickets are \$25 each
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