



# Macomb Liberty

## NEWSLETTER OF LIBERTARIANS OF MACOMB COUNTY

July-August, 2001

### Principles of Libertarianism to Feature Kent Davis in August

Program number three in the LMC Principles of Libertarianism series on August 8 will feature a talk on environment by Kent Davis, Senior Advisor for Science, Environment and Technology at Mackinac Center for Public Policy in Midland. He joined Mackinac in 1997 as a volunteer after a 36 year career at Dow Chemical in research, manufacturing and senior management. He has spoken on such environmental issues as clean air and global warming, as well as Social Security and urban sprawl.

The series began in June with an address on the Nature of Rights by Keith Edwards. He discussed the limitations of constitutional, religious, and self-ownership theories of rights, stressing that rights are a moral concept defining one's freedom of action in a social context, not something mysterious. In July, he returned to discuss America's Foreign Policy, saying that U.S. involvement in every war since 1898 was unjustified.

The September 12 program will have State Representative Leon Drolet, who will speak on the Proper Functions of Government. Drolet is a libertarian Republican (a very rare species) who moved up from Macomb County Commissioner after a special election.

The series will continue through fall and winter as we cover a number of libertarian issues. If you have a suggestion for future topics, call Keith Edwards at 810-777-7468 or email at [Keithmarni@aol.com](mailto:Keithmarni@aol.com). The meetings are at Miles World Restaurant, 17689 Masonic, just east of Groesbeck in Fraser.

### Al Titran Leads Petitioners!

Super volunteer Al Titran of Libertarians of Macomb County leads all Libertarian Party of Michigan members in collecting ballot access petition signatures. As of July 20, Al has turned in 703 signatures, leading second place Ben Steele III of Shiawassee County LP by 134! At 569, Ben is followed by Oakland's Jerry Bloom and Leonard Schwartz with 497 and 496, Violet Steele, also of Shiawassee with 356, Dick Jozwiak of Tri-Cities with 240 and Trafton Jean, LPM Treasurer with 230.

Retiree Al keeps busy at LPM Headquarters several days a week along with Rosemary Racchi, processing the mail, checking turned in petitions, and looking for still more things to do. He and Rosemary started and faithfully attend the LMC "adopt a road" event on Metro Parkway. They also oversee our T-shirt and Liberty Pin sales.

At 73, this recent by-pass surgery patient just won't stop, setting a great example for all of us. Thanks, Al and Rosemary!

### LPM Gets New Vice Chair

At the July 11 meeting, Libertarians of Macomb County selected Keith Edwards to serve as Vice Chair to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of David Wejrاندt. Dave, who served as Secretary last year, resigned due to family responsibilities involving illness. Best wishes, Dave, from all your friends in the LMC. We hope you will be back soon and that everything works out OK.

Edwards, former LPM and LMC Chair, will concentrate on our meeting programs and speakers.



## Macomb Liberty

Macomb Liberty is published monthly (except December) as the official publication of Libertarians of Macomb County, 28960 Jane St., St. Clair Shores, MI 48081-1032.

All statements contained herein represent the opinion of the author and are not necessarily the position of Libertarians of Macomb County.

Articles and letters to the editor must be submitted by the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month. Text should be typewritten and signed. Unsigned material will not be used. Submissions may be edited.

Advertising is available at \$5.00 per column inch for camera ready copy.

Articles, letters and ad copy should be sent to the editor at the above address.

## Directory

### Executive Committee:

Chair	Diane Barnes	810-774-1625
Vice Chair	Keith Edwards	810-777-7468
Secretary	Erin Stahl	810-776-8522
Treasurer	Marnie Edwards	810-777-7468
At Large	Jim Miller	810-792-5168
"	Mike Jablonski	
"	Lou Vierling	

Editor	Keith Edwards	810-777-7468
Candidates	Al Titran	810-776-2214
Database	Kevin Grand	
Membership	Kevin Grand	
Petitioning	Al Titran	
Webmaster	Mark Heil	
Media	Vacant, please volunteer	
Fundraising	Vacant, please volunteer	

Membership meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month (except December) at Miles' World Restaurant, 17689 Masonic (just east of Groesbeck) in Fraser. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting is at 7:30. All members are welcome as well as guests.

For further information, call the Chair.

[www.mi.lp.org/lmc](http://www.mi.lp.org/lmc)

## Local Representatives

Local Representatives are appointed by the Chair for the various municipalities in Macomb County. Their duties include finding which public offices are up for election each year and the dates of elections, recruiting candidates, and helping with literature drops and if possible, locating potential precinct delegates. Representatives are encouraged to attend local council meetings to determine what are the hot issues and perhaps speak on them from a libertarian perspective!

Armada Township	Bob Van Oast	810-784-8783
Armada Village	Bob Van Oast	810-784-8783
Bruce Township		
Center Line		
Chesterfield Township	Joe Zemens	810-492-2352
Clinton Township	Jim Miller	810-792-5168
Eastpointe	Diane Barnes	810-774 1625
Fraser	Mark Heil	810-468-0509
Lake Township		
Lenox Township		
Macomb Township		
Memphis		
Mount Clemens		
New Baltimore	Todd Barnett	
New Haven		
Ray Township		
Richmond	Bob Van Oast	810-784-8783
Richmond Township	Bob Van Oast	810-784-8783
Romeo		
Roseville	Al Titran	810-776-2214
St. Clair Shores	Erin Stahl	810-776-8522
Shelby Township	Craig Yope	810-997-1707
Sterling Heights	Paul Soyk	810-977-3523
Utica	Craig Yope	810-997-1707
Warren	Dean Sahutske	810-979-4099
Washington Township		

To volunteer for your area, call Diane Barnes.

## College Libertarian Clubs

We encourage the formation of college libertarian clubs. If you have a son or daughter in college, you might encourage them to start such a club. This age group will be voting for the next 60 years!

Each school has its own policies and rules regarding clubs. Check your school's rules (you may need a faculty advisor.) We have speakers available. Contact us if interested.



## **Libertarian Party of Michigan Committee Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M., June 3, 2001, at Headquarters. Present were the Committee: Mike Corliss, Ghazey Aleck, Keith Edwards, Trafton Jean, Diane Barnes, Greg Dirasian, Nancy O'Brien, Leonard Schwartz and Ben Steele III. Also present were: Tim O'Brien, Marnie Edwards, Elizabeth Larsen, Stephen Townsend, Wendy Adams, Dick Jozwiak, Leanne Verkaik, Jason Miller, Lawrence Johnson, David Raaflaub, Tom Jones, Bill Gelineau, Gary Bora, Trevor Peck, Tim Campbell, Chris Radtke, David Collver, Bill Shotey, Rosemary Racchi, Al Titran, David Wejrandt, Heather Pauli, Fred Collins, Jerry Bloom, Barb Goushaw, Bruce Hoepner, Mike Devour, and Kevin Grand.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved with a correction: the vote on tabling the newsletter motion was 6-3, not 5-3.

Chair Mike Corliss stated that Roberts Rules of Order will rule.

Executive Director Tim O'Brien reported that State Representative Leon Drolet will sponsor legislation to repeal the Top of Ticket rule, through legislative services. After the redistricting deadline Nov. 1, we should see action on TOT. An ad hoc committee has begun lobbying efforts with O'Brien, Fred Collins, Bill Shotey, Ben Steele and Barb Goushaw. There have been inquiries from other states re book matches. There was a discussion on whether the ballot status loss had immediate effect or whether it starts at the next general election. Motion by N. O'Brien and Dirasian to have one or more state legislators request an Attorney General opinion. When we have a candidate. Passed by voice vote.

Vice Chair Ghazey Aleck reported that he is getting information for the Leadership Directory for Mark Heil to update. He will take approved petitions to the affiliates as needed.

Secretary Keith Edwards requested that all substantive motions be submitted in writing. He also submitted a report on the proposal made at the last meeting on the newsletter proposal, raising six questions and giving

his position in opposition to the proposal. He also reported on plans for a meeting to audition and train speakers.

Treasurer Trafton Jean and Assistant Treasurer Marnie Edwards presented the Treasurers Report. The Comerica account has a balance of \$3,892.06. The Profit and Loss statement from 6/1/00 to 6/1/01 shows a loss of \$24,016.87. He proposed a budget for 2001-2002 of \$68,760. Motion by Nancy O'Brien and Greg Dirasian to table discussion on the budget to the next meeting passed 8-1.

Greg Dirasian reported on his research on publishing software.

Nancy O'Brien gave the BARC report. The BARC account contains \$8,306.08. As of May 25, They have stopped distributing the first version of the petition and are now distributing only the third version that was approved by the Board of State Canvassers. A contract has been signed with a paid petitioner to collect 4,000 signatures by June 23. That is the first deadline for petitioners to turn in completed petition for a count. Next deadline is August 18. It was moved to recall the first petition, both unused copies and those which have been circulated, and to distribute only the third, approved petition only. Passed 6-3.

Resolution by Greg Dirasian and Len Schwartz: Resolved that the LPM Committee thanks Nancy O'Brien for her service as Chair of the Ballot Access Restoration Committee (BARC), supports her, has confidence in her and requests that she continue as Chair of BARC. Passed 7-1.

The newsletter proposal to form a committee and spend \$1,000 for new software was brought from the table. It was moved by Nancy O'Brien and Greg Dirasian to amend the amount to "up to \$500." Passed 6-0. Motion to divide the issue by Len Schwartz and Ben Steele passed 7-2. The motion to form a committee passed 5-3. Keith Edwards resigned as newsletter editor and speakers director. The motion to spend up to \$500 for software passed 6-2.

Ghazey Aleck and Ben Steele moved to form a candidate recruitment committee. Passed 8-0



## **Committee Meeting June 3, 2001** (Continued)

Leonard Schwartz gave an update on the IRS 527 rule. The Court denied the government's motion to dismiss and its motion for delay. A favorable ruling seems likely. However, at the present time, Schwartz believes, we are required to file the necessary reports.

A discussion was held on the practice of hiring paid petitioners.

A lively discussion was held as to the practice of holding executive sessions and of confidentiality. There has been only one such session in the memory of LPM veteran members, that one in 1999.

A discussion began on the advisability of retaining the post of Executive Director. It was suggested that proposals be brought to the next meeting. Ghazey Aleck and Keith Edwards moved to table until the August meeting. Passed 9-0.

Diane Barnes moved to form a standing lobbying committee and to appoint a chair. Passed 9-0.

Oakland County LP will submit a proposal to host the 2002 State Convention.

Nancy O'Brien and Diane Barnes moved to award Wayne County LP the 2001 Liberty Fest. Passed.

Greg Dirasian reported that the software for the membership database is finished. Dan Lafavers will help on the project.

Ghazey Aleck moved to end sponsorship of the LPM listbot website. Passed.

Diane Barnes moved to cancel the June 30 campaign training seminar. Passed.

It was moved to allocate funds to purchase 10 cases of book matches. Failed 2-7

Nancy O'Brien agreed to stay on as BARC Chair.

Barb Goushaw who moved up to LNC District 3 Representative from alternate advised she wants to

resign and asked if anyone from Michigan was interested in the position.

Bill Gelineau advised that the Ionia affiliate has become inactive since the death of Dick Whitelock. He wasn't sure if anyone would lead a reactivation. David Brown was suggested as a possibility.

David Raaflaub had suggested that we stop calling the committee the Libertarian Executive Committee (LEC) because the bylaws refer to it as just "The Committee." It was agreed that we would use the name "The Committee" officially. There may be a motion to amend the bylaws at the next Convention to rename it the LEC.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Edwards, Secretary

### **Note:**

We are informed that the new editor of the Michigan Libertarian might not publish the minutes of the Committee (also known as the Libertarian Executive Committee or LEC) in that publication. In order to be sure Macomb County LPM members and affiliate chairs get this information, we are publishing it here in the interest of full disclosure.

The Committee has not approved the minutes yet, and it is possible that there will be additions or corrections at the next meeting. If so, they will be published here.



Check out the *LPM*  
on the *World Wide Web*

<http://www.MI.LP.org>



## Calendar

August 8, 2001 – Libertarians of Macomb County regular meeting at Miles World Restaurant, 17689 Masonic, just east of Groesbeck in Fraser. Dinner is at 6:30 P.M., meeting is at 7:30. Principles of Libertarianism speaker is Kent Davis of Mackinac Center on Environment. (See page 1.)

Everyday until November 6, 2001 – Get your ballot access petitions signed.

August 18, 2001 – Second deadline for turning in completed petitions to LPM Headquarters for counting so we can measure our progress. But don't stop now, keep getting signatures.

September 11, 2001 – Primary Election Day for various city council and mayoral races. Eastpointe will vote on the Living Wage proposal which was opposed by our Chair, Diane Barnes.

September 12, 2001 – LMC regular meeting at Miles World. Principles of Libertarianism speaker is State Representative Leon Drolet on the Proper Functions of Government. Drolet is introducing legislation to end the Top of Ticket Rule, which requires that the vote for the candidate at the top of a party's ticket determines whether the party stays on the ballot. His change would allow ANY candidate's vote to qualify the party.

October 10, 2001 – LMC regular meeting at Miles World. Principles of Libertarianism series continues. Speaker to be announced.

November 6, 2001 – Election Day

November 6, 2001 – All petitions must be back in Headquarters for final counting.

November 14, 2001 – LMC regular meeting at Miles World. We will discuss the election results and have a report on the results of our ballot access petition drive.

Once a month – write a letter to the editor of your newspaper.

## Petitioning

The ballot access petition drive is underway and going well. This has to be our most important project until November. Some points to remember:

All signatures on a petition sheet must be of voters in the same county. Do not mix counties on the same sheet. You will need at least three sheets, one each for Macomb, Wayne and Oakland County. If you are in eastern Macomb County, you might need one for St. Clair County. Keep a blank petition to photocopy in case you need more. Always have a couple of extra copies on hand for unexpected signature opportunities.

Do not wait until November to return your signed petitions to LPM Headquarters. Send them in periodically as you complete the sheets, and by August 18 in particular so we can see how we are doing and can check the signatures for validity. This is a big job and we want to stay current. Keep on getting signatures until November.

Some of us are reluctant to get signatures for shyness or other reasons. Start with your family and friends, then co-workers. It comes easier after that. If they are reluctant to sign, explain that they don't have to vote for us, this is just to get us on the ballot. If they are afraid they will get on a mailing list, tell them that we are getting 50,000 signatures and are not going to waste time photocopying petitions.

Thanks for your efforts.

## Join Us!

Libertarians of Macomb County (LMC) is supported by membership dues of \$10 per year. Out of some 200 Macomb members of the Libertarian Party of Michigan, about 65 are official members of the LMC. If you have not joined the LMC, please do so using the form at the bottom of the last page. We have been sending Macomb Liberty to all 200, but may not be able to continue doing so. Please join if you haven't already, so we can keep you informed.



Macomb Liberty  
28960 Jane  
St. Clair Shores, MI 48181-1032



EMILY H. SALVETTE  
2016 DEYONSHIRE RD  
ANN ARBOR MI 48104-4058

**Please join (or renew) now and keep Macomb Liberty coming!**

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**LMC Membership and Contribution Form**

☐ \$35 LMC, Michigan (LPM) and National      ☐ \$10 Libertarians of Macomb County Only

Contribution to the LMC: ☐ \$25   ☐ \$50   ☐ \$100   ☐ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

GOVERNMENT MANDATED NOTICES: The United States Postal Service requires that we notify you that the cost of newsletter subscriptions (\$25 National, \$15 Michigan, \$10 LMC) are included in your membership dues. The Internal Revenue Service requires that we print "contributions are not tax-deductible".

Applicants for membership must indicate concurrence with the following statement by signing below:

"I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals." *This statement does not preclude self-defense or resistance to tyranny.*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

SEND TO: Libertarians of Macomb County, 28960 Jane, St. Clair Shores MI 48081-1032

☐ Check or Money Order Enclosed payable to the Libertarians of Macomb County

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_