

METRO-DETROIT LIBERTARIAN

April, 1987

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RUSSELL MEANS TO VISIT DETROIT

By Bill Shotey

Russell Means, one of three announced candidates for the Libertarian presidential nomination will be in metro Detroit May 5th & 6th for a media blitz, just prior to the state convention. Means, 47, a former leader of the American Indian Movement, will be sponsored by the Michigan Libertarian Party.

There will be an evening with Russell Means on May 6 from 7-10 P.M. in rooms J & K at the Dearborn Civic Center (southwest corner of Michigan and Greenfield, entrance off Greenfield). Advance tickets cost \$5.00 each or three for \$12.50 (use enclosed order form or purchase at the door for \$6.50 each).

Mr. Means is also booked on WXYT Radio 1270 for the 5-6 PM John McCulloch call-in interview show, but the rest of the two days is open. If you have an idea for a speaking engagement or other event, call Bill Shotey at (313) 561-0379.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- April 15** TAX PROTEST-- See Insert.
- April 20** MDL Supper Club--Shields Restaurant, 10 Mile & Telegraph, Southfield, 6:00 P.M. Program: Keith Edwards, principles of liberty lecture #2: "Civil Liberties". Reservations: Call Emily Salvette at 332-7834.
- May 8-10** Libertarian Party of Michigan State Convention, See Page 4.
- May 6** An evening with Russell Means at the Dearborn Civic Center. See above.
- May 18** MDL Supper Club--See page 4.
- June** Trip to Tiger baseball game. Tiger fan needed to help plan. For more info call Virginia Cropsey: 877-6628
- July** MDL Picnic
- Sept 2-6** LP Presidential Nominating Convention, Seattle Sheraton. Info: P.O. Box 23108, Seattle WA 98102.(206) 937-3768.

PAUL JACOB VISITS DETROIT

By Bill Shotey

Draft resister Paul Jacob was in town March 14-16, 1987. Jacob, 27, who resides just outside Washington D.C. with his wife Jane and his three-year-old daughter Jessica, works for the the CATO Institute.

His hectic schedule in the Detroit area included an interview on "Russ Gibb at Random" at the Cablevision Studios in Dearborn. The program will be aired March 31 over Dearborn Cablevision and a videotape is available for viewing--call Bill Shotey at (313) 561-0379.

Later in the day, Jacob met with reporters from U of M's Michigan Daily to discuss his views on draft registration. On the lighter side, some refreshments and good times were had at Bill Shotey's house where local activists consumed a couple of LARGE pizzas washed down with a beer and conversation which highlighted a very successful day.

During his stay, Jacob debated draft registration with Col. Lawrence O'Grady, past president of the Reserve Officers Association. Over eighty personnel attended the session which was held at the Officer's club at Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Mt. Clemens.

Paul also took part in a phone-in interview with radio station WAAM, Ann Arbor, and was heard live over WXYT, 1270 AM, on the Jim McCulloch Show. Jacob's articulate manner of speaking and colorful background as an activist helped spread the Libertarian philosophy throughout the area.

Before leaving the Metro Detroit area, Jacob took part in the MDL Supper Club, addressing local Libertarians. His message; support anti-draft activities--a volunteer military force is the sensible alternative.

A big thank you to everyone who helped make Paul Jacob's visit a success--the drivers, the planners, and the party hosts. Special thanks go to John and Emily Salvette who hosted Paul at their home during his stay in Detroit.

METRO DETROIT LIBERTARIAN

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[Editors Note: the January issue of MDL carried the above article describing the METRO DETROIT LIBERTARIANS. Due to a typing error, several important lines in the body of the article were deleted. The corrected article is printed below. OUR APOLOGIES TO THE AUTHOR.]

METRO DETROIT LIBERTARIANS (MDL) is a multi-dimensional organization working to cultivate individual liberty as a supreme value. Individual liberty is supported on two grounds; moral and practical.

Morally, all individuals have a right to exercise sole dominion over their own lives and live as they choose so long as they do not forcibly interfere with the equal right of others to do the same.

On the practical side, freedom works: Voluntary actions between individuals--whether in the economic sphere or the personal sphere--assure minimum coercion and maximum satisfaction.

Because people differ in so many ways, attempts to violate individual rights--whether in the name of other so-called rights or by majority rule--are contradictions and lies. Consequently, MDL opposes government acts which coerce individuals with respect to their property and peaceful behavior.

People can grow to their full potential only when they are not forced to submit to either the needs or to the beliefs of others. Individuals are ends in themselves, not means to the ends of others. This distinguishes MDL from political groups of the left, right and middle.

LIBERTARIAN WINS LAWSUIT!

By Virginia Cropsey

Former Libertarian Attorney General and Supreme Court candidate Bob Rodis received word recently that he won the "ticket scam" case he filed against L. Brooks Patterson during the 1982 election on behalf of Libertarian Party Gubernatorial candidate Dick Jacobs.

The suit, filed in Ingham County Circuit Court, resulted in a ruling that Patterson engaged in an illegal practice when he tried to count ticket sales to local concerts as campaign contributions in order to obtain state matching funds in his race for Governor.

MY AUDIENCE WITH RON PAUL

By Evy Warmbier

Ron Paul has declared his candidacy for President on the LP ticket. I had breakfast with him March 6th in Salt Lake City and found him to be articulate, spontaneous and, best of all, well principled in Libertarian ideas.

Mr. Paul first ran for Congress as a Republican for District 22 of Texas in 1974 and spent six years in Washington as a member of the House of Representatives. He was on the House Banking Committee. He clearly states that he believes we should abolish the Federal Reserve and go back to the gold standard.

Mr. Paul was particularly angry about the fact that no member of Congress could attend any Federal Reserve Board meetings. He told me that it was insane that these appointed members could have so much power over our country and elected officials were never allowed to even observe.

He was such a bother in Washington that Paul Volker and President Reagan both met with him privately in attempts to placate him.

Ron Paul also speaks out in favor of property rights and against our interventionist military policies. For more complete information about his views, I have a copy of his beautiful Farewell Address to Congress on September 19, 1984 that I will mail to you if you call me at 562-6212.

Mr. Paul has my full support. I feel he will be the best Presidential candidate the Libertarian Party has ever offered.

SIGNATURE '88: THE BALLOT BATTLE BEGINS

By Emily Salvette

Metro Detroit Libertarians have begun the effort to put the Libertarian Party on the 1988 ballot in Michigan. A late January visit by Stephen Fielder, National LP Ballot Access Committee Chair, started our wheels turning here in Detroit. He told local libertarians that Michigan is one of 24 states in which his committee would like to see petitioning done by the National LP convention in September. As an incentive, the committee has offered the Libertarian Party of Michigan \$2,400 if the needed signatures are collected by July 15, 1987 and \$1,800 if collected by August 15.

It will be a challenge to collect the required 24,000 signatures before the summer is over, but Chad Colopy of West Bloomfield, who is heading the ballot drive in Michigan, thinks we can do it. He would like to collect 60% of the needed signatures in the Detroit area. That is where Metro Detroit Libertarians come in.

Although we are an educational group, not a political party, MDL is supporting the ballot access effort and has mobilized to collect the 17,000+ signatures needed from our area. We do this because having candidates run under the Libertarian Party name is one of the best ways to put libertarian ideas in front of the public. Bill Shotey (313) 561-0379 is coordinating the ballot effort in Detroit. He has three county coordinators working with him: Macomb--Anna & James McAbee (313) 752-4844, Oakland--Judy Schultz (313) 656-1139, Wayne--Evy Warmbier (313) 562-6212. If you haven't heard from one of these four yet, YOU WILL!

Fielder put a \$2 million price tag on getting the Libertarian Party ballot status in all 50 states in 1988. He was confident the effort was worth the price, particularly if the LP runs a high-profile presidential candidate who can generate interest in libertarian ideas and the Libertarian Party.

That part seems partially taken care of. On February 14, Russell Means, leader of the American Indian Movement, announced his intention to seek the nomination of the Libertarian Party for President of the United States. Means, who gained national attention in 1973 by leading the 71 day occupation of the town of Wounded Knee, South Dakota, made Michigan his first "campaign" stop on February 16 and 17.

Means and Richard Winger, National LP election law specialist, went to the Lansing to testify at a House Election Committee Hearing of HB 4090. This bill, introduced by Maxine Berman of Southfield, increased the number of signatures required for minor parties to appear on the November, 1988 ballot from 16,300 to 24,000. Despite convincing testimony by Means, Winger, Chuck Congdon of Midland and David Rafflaub of Ann Arbor, the bill was reported out of committee and has since been passed by the house. Members are encouraged to contact their state senators to oppose the increased signature requirement.

Although the visit failed to stop the actions of our elected officials, Russell Means did generate considerable press attention. He was interviewed at a Lansing press conference, did radio and newspaper interviews in Detroit, was a guest on WXYT radio's "John McCullough Show", and was interviewed by a reporter from The Oakland Press at a reception held in Bloomfield Hills (I have copies of these articles and a tape of one of the radio interviews--call me if you would like to borrow them).

Means, who says "There is nothing in the Libertarian Party platform that isn't Indian," is a dynamic and articulate spokesman of libertarian ideas. His trip to lobby the Michigan Legislature on our behalf was funded by his campaign. Contributions to help defray those expenses can be made to:

Means for President
1412 West 9th Street
Austin TX 98703

Another nationally known Libertarian has also announced his intention to seek the nomination of the LP for President. RON PAUL, a former Congressman from Texas, announced his candidacy on February 16, 1987. Local Libertarians who have met Paul are very enthusiastic about him as a candidate. Considering these two potential candidates, along with Dick Boddie, who announced his intention to run for the LP's nomination back in May, 1986, this presidential race is shaping up to be an exciting one for Libertarians and is sure to draw attention nationwide.

Yes, it is well worth the time and money it takes to get such a candidate (whichever one emerges victorious after September 6) on the Michigan ballot in 1988. Petitions will be available from Bill Shotey or your county coordinators. Please join us in this important effort.

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION NOTE

This is your second complimentary copy of the Metro Detroit Libertarian. After this issue, it will be sent to active members and contributors only (i.e. if you are not receiving supper club notices, you will not receive the next issue. You need not contribute to get the Metro Detroit Libertarian and keep informed of area and state-wide activities; all you have to do is ask for it! ACT TODAY!! Call Emily Salvette at (313) 332-7834 or return the enclosed subscription slip.

STATE CONVENTION PLANNED

The Libertarian Party of Michigan will hold its state convention on May 8-10 at the Holiday Inn in Midland. Tentatively scheduled as speakers are Russell Means and Ron Paul, both seeking the LP's nomination for President of the United States. Workshops on press relations, effective communication of ideas and a Reason Mission update are also planned. A Friday night pool party and activities for accompanying family members will make for an enjoyable weekend. Contact State Chair Janet Parkes at (517) 631-7396 for more information.

ATTENTION LOVERS OF LIBERTY WHO EAT!!

The guest speaker for the May 18 Metro Detroit Libertarians Supper Club is Terry Whitman. Whitman, proprietor of several adult books stores in Michigan, is battling the state's new pornography law. The law, sponsored by fundamentalist legislator Alan Cropsey, was struck down in Federal District Court as "cruel and unusual punishment" but upheld by the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati. See Calendar of Events, Page 1, for time and place.

LIBERTARIAN ACTS

By Virginia Cropsey

Last December, the Heartland Institute released Pat Anderson's "Michigan in the Current Recovery: A Historical Perspective." The study compares Michigan's past and present performance in population, per capita income and employment and concludes that, relatively speaking, Michigan has become a poor state. Over 60 Michigan publications and a dozens broadcasters reported the results of the study. **Virginia Cropsey** helped arrange the three day media tour in around the state. Governor Blanchard ducked responding to the study by saying that it used "old facts". Historical comparisons will do that, Jim. For a copy of the study send \$3.00 to: The Heartland Institute, 55 East Monroe Suite 4316, Chicago, IL 60603-5842 or call (313) 977-6628.

Larry Ludlow's article opposing Michigan's Strategic Fund appeared in the December issue of "Michigan Business". Ludlow noted that "Capitalist competition takes place between voluntary participants for funds honestly gained in trade, not forcibly removed from one person and then offered to another by Lansing."

Brett Belmore had another interesting letter printed in the the March 8th edition of the Detroit News concerning the bipartisan nature of candidate debates.

**CHANGE IN MACOMB COUNTY
COORDINATOR**

Anna and James McAbee are the new county coordinators for the ballot access drive in Macomb county. Thanks, Anna and Jim, for being part of Signature '88. Contact them at (313) 752-4844.

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