

Michigan Libertarian

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Runestad Appointed Ballot Access Law Changed

Appointed

by Keith Wesselmann

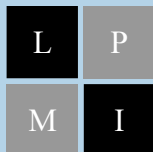
LPM member, Jim Runestad was appointed to the nine member Oakland County committee to review the Friend of the Court. Runestad will be representing non-custodial parents.

Although the state law requiring each county set up such a committee was enacted nearly 5 years ago, Oakland County is only now forming their committee.

The committee is only advisory and cannot intervene in specific cases.

Runestad said his divorce, which happened when his children were very young, was devastating. Noting that the worst part was when he walked into the Friend of the Court offices and was treated like a criminal entering the criminal justice system.

Several years later, Runestad said, the (cont'd on pg. 7)



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<http://www.lpmich.org>

by Tim O'Brien

On May 30 Governor John Engler signed House Bill 5237 making it Public Act 399 of 2002. The new law modifies the section of the Michigan election code that sets ballot retention criteria for political parties.

The previous standard, which dated back to the 1930's, assessed the worthiness of a political party according to the success of its "principal candidate," defined as "the candidate whose name appears nearest the top of the party column."

Because of the widespread perception that a minor party candidate has little chance of being elected president or governor, this so-called "top-of-ticket" rule has led to some bizarrely misrepresentative results.

In the most recent partisan

election, for instance, the Libertarian Party of Michigan fielded well over 100 candidates who collectively garnered more 1.5 million votes. The party had eleven statewide, partisan candidates (i.e., not including the three supreme court justice nominees). The only ones



State Rep. Leon Drolet, sponsor of HB 5237.

who did not garner more than sufficient votes to maintain the party's ballot status were the presidential ticket of Harry Browne and Art Olivier. But under the existing standard, this was the only race that counted. As a consequence the LPM was officially removed from future ballots.

Meanwhile, because the Reform party presidential ticket, headed by conservative pundit Pat Buchanan, was denied a spot on the Michigan ballot by secretary of state Candice Miller that party's US Senate nominee, Mark Forton, became its top-of-ticket, principal candidate.

Forton actually received fewer votes for senate than did the LPM's nominee for that office, Michael Corliss.

But while both had surpassed the ballot reten- (cont'd on pg. 3)

'Common Sense' Not Enough to Win

by Greg Dirasian

While campaigning door to door, touting his campaign slogan, "Common Sense on the Bench," Leonard Schwartz met potential voters who said things like, "Oh, you're the 'common sense' guy."

But, Schwartz's campaign for District Court Judge came to a conclusion Tuesday, August 6, when he failed to win one of four positions in the primary. His district covered Oak Park, Huntington Woods, Pleasant Ridge, and Royal Oak Township in southeast Oakland county. In spite of two mailings to absentee voters and tirelessly

walking his district and talking to voters, the large campaign budgets and name-recognition of long term politicians prevailed.

Leonard was the only candidate with a web site (www.Schwartz22.com), and, the only candidate who campaigned on issues.

We have seen repeatedly in local elections that the candidates like to talk about their families, experience, and what organizations they belong to, but they resolutely avoid the issues. Until recently, judicial candidates were not allowed to discuss issues, but recent Michigan

and US Supreme Court rulings have changed that. The other candidates still campaigned the old way, but Leonard was truly informing the voters about what they could expect if he was elected.

He came out against forcing police to issue traffic tickets to meet quotas, arguing that police should be public safety officers, not alternative tax collectors. And he pointed out how communities sometimes change traffic rules in dangerous ways (for example, shortening the length of yellow lights) to cause (cont'd on pg. 5)

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Any other formats, please ask first.

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Taking Advantage of Local Opportunities

by Councilman Mark Owen

Tilting at windmills is often an analogy that is apt for Libertarians. We fight the fight for principle, even though the chances of victory are often slim. It does not always have to be this way. Libertarians often rant against the income tax or growing government bureaucracy with little effect. Our best opportunities are at the local level. When local governments enact policies with little public support or even outright hostility toward the policy, that is the time to act.

The time to act means exactly that. It does not mean simply complaining or writing emails to your friends. It means organizing. It means creating an organization to overwhelm your opposition. In my next article I will cover this in more detail.

What constitutes a good issue? There is a lot of gray area here, but here are some tips. If you are thinking of organizing an effort based purely on libertarian principles, this is a necessary but not a sufficient reason to act. If you are merely going to be a lone voice in the wilderness, you are probably wasting your time trying to change policy. You need to watch and wait for when the time is right. When you hear many members of your community complaining and it is an issue where they are in agreement with libertarian principles, then that is a good indication you have a winnable issue.

One big advantage in local issues is that many people are only half-paying attention and the concerted effort of one individual can be the difference between victory and defeat. Council and township meetings are usually poorly attended and many elected local government officials get most of their information from city bureaucrats, and may know little of the displeasure of city residents. A well-organized effort can often succeed in this environment.

This is not the time to preach the libertarian gospel. It is a time to remain flexible in your approach and stick to the issue at hand. You may be working with people who vehemently disagree with you on other issues or are working with you for what you consider the wrong reasons. Forget about it. You have one mission at this point and that is to win the issue, to defeat the statist, and you need all the allies you can muster.

If you can win, or even put in a good showing if you should lose, there will be many benefits. Your esteem in the community will rise. Your opponents may try to make libertarianism the issue and the word will be seen often in the press. It will help mainstream the term and people will become more comfortable with libertarianism. You will make yourself a viable candidate for local office if you should choose to run. You really can make a difference and promote the cause for liberty.

Local governments present opportunities from time to time where libertarians can be the focal point for action. The important thing is picking the correct issues and then organizing in an effective manner. If you really want to affect change and make a difference, this is the place to do it. This is the best method to mainstream the libertarian message. "All politics are local" as former Speaker of the House Tip O'Neal famously said. He was right, at least on this point.

By taking advantage of opportunities that local governments present Libertarians, we can and do win.

Ballot Access Law Changed

(cont'd from pg. 1) tion threshold, one was his party's "principal" candidate and the other wasn't.

Thus, the Reform Party maintained its ballot position for the 2002 election while the LPM (which in fact had won not just this but every head-to-head contest against the Reformers) was forced to launch another expensive, time-consuming, energy-sapping petition drive to merely qualify to run candidates in the next election.

Despite once again fielding more candidates than all other minor parties added together, the LPM's ballot status had been lost — entirely because the historic closeness of the presidential contest gave the LP's candidate for that office an especially virulent strain of "Wasted Vote Syndrome."

This was the fifth such instance of the malady in the party's three-decade history — each recurrence diverting substantial resources, both financial and volunteer, from the real goal of building a more libertarian society to the mundane task of petitioning to regain ballot status.

Then, shortly before the May 2001 state convention that would mark the kick-off of the party's 180-day ballot restoration petition drive, member Leon Drolet won a special election to the state house (as a Republican). This meant the LPM had a genuine ally in the legislature very familiar with and sympathetic to our ballot access plight.

Determined to eliminate this threat once and for all, then LPM executive director, Tim O'Brien, organized a lobbying committee that included premier LPM fund-raiser, Bill Shotey, and Berkley city councilman, Fred Collins.

Working in close consultation with both the LPM lobbying committee and the House Legislative Services Bureau, Rep. Drolet drafted a bill that made a simple yet profound change to Michigan election law — redefining the term "principal candidate" from the one "nearest the top of the party column" to the one "who receives the greatest number of votes of all candidates of that political party for that election."

Thus, under this proposal the threshold for ballot retention could be met by any of a party's candidates rather than placing the fate of the entire party on the fortunes of its top-of-ticket candidate.

The bill was formally introduced as HB 5237 and assigned to the House Redistricting and Elections committee.

The trio then began working closely with Rep. Drolet to shepherd the bill through the entire legislative process — making lobbying trips to Lansing, testifying at committee hearings, schmoozing legislators at power lunches, organizing the support of other minor parties, enlisting the endorsement of interest groups sympathetic to the proposal such as the ACLU and the League of Women Voters, and more.

Finally the bill was voted out of the house committee with a unanimous recommendation, and then approved unanimously by the full house. Next it was sent to the senate where the proposed election law change was also recommended by the Judiciary committee, and then passed by the full senate. Again, without a single dissenting vote.

The tireless work of these dedicated LPM members was finally rewarded more than a year after they began the effort when the governor signed HB 5237 into law this spring, making it Public Act 399.

As a result the LPM has been freed to run candidates for every office — including president and governor — in future elections without having to bet its ballot status in the process. And, given the party's overall strength and depth down the ticket (where candidates routinely get three to five times the required number of votes), that effectively means never having to petition to get back on the ballot again.

For the first time in its 30-year history the Libertarian Party of Michigan directly changed the law in Michigan. And it couldn't have been in a matter of greater significance to the party's future history.

***As a result the LPM
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Message from

the Chair



Let me share with you five goals I have for us all to work on in the LPM. The first four of these goals are things we've worked on before, things we can ac-

complish again with hard work. The fifth goal involves us in a new adventure.

1. Raise money (let's say \$20,000, in the next six months) to fund our campaigning for the November election, to purchase or produce new Libertarian outreach literature and, if it looks like we can swing it, hiring a staffer for our LP Headquarters office in Hazel Park. Our Party funds are low at present and need to be replenished.

2. Promote all our LP candidates, both statewide and local. We should particularly support the Scotty Boman campaign, which has a good chance of getting enough votes to win the LP major party status in Michigan.

3. Increase the number of affiliate (county) LPs and boost total LPM membership. We're already reworking the organization of affiliates, which will be necessary if we become a major party.

4. Plan our 2003 annual state LP Convention. We're looking for an attractive program and venue that will bring in LPM members from across the state and attract favorable media attention.

5. Research the effects of major party status of the LPM. We've never before been officially a major party, so this is a new and crucial task for us. Michigan's new election laws could put us in this new category after November 5th, changing the operations and character of the LPM considerably.

James Hudler

Macomb County Libertarians present:

30
YEAR
Anniversary

Libertarian Party
of Michigan



7th Annual Defender of Liberty Awards Banquet 2002

Featured Speaker:

**Individualist
Anarchist
ifeminist**

Wendy McElroy



Wendy McElroy
calls for freedom, choice,
and personal responsibility.

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The Libertarians of Macomb County

For Ticket information
please contact:

Keith or Marnie Edwards
28960 Jane St.
St. Clair Shores, MI 48081

Phone: (586) 777-7468
Email: keithmarni@aol.com

November 9th
at 6:30 pm
at
Mac & Ray's
Harrison Twp., MI

Tickets
\$35.00 each

All tickets must be pre-paid
By November 4th

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**Tickets NOT
available at
the door**

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

Schwartz: 'Common Sense' Not Enough to Win

(cont'd from pg. 1) more traffic violations so that more tickets are issued. These practices decrease public safety rather than increase it.

The Detroit News and the Detroit Free Press had articles about all nine candidates. The Detroit Jewish News had an article just about him. (Seven candidates were Jewish, the other two were African-American.) None were incumbents.

Libertarians from Oakland and Wayne counties worked the polls for Leonard Schwartz, handing out the hard hitting poll piece to voters (shown at right).

Although the results of the race are disappointing, there were many precincts where Schwartz actually earned enough votes to come in fourth. A detailed analysis of the campaign strategy will be made to determine why we fared so much better in some precincts than in others.

Here are the results:

MICHELLE FRIEDMAN APPEL	3,679	22.18%
EZRA N. GOLDMAN	879	5.30%
DAVID M. GUBOW	3,842	23.17%
ANGELA DIGGS JACKSON	1,972	11.89%
SAM KONIKOW	386	2.33%
RICHARD A. LEVITT	1,331	8.03%
GIL WHITNEY McRIPLEY	2,204	13.29%
LEONARD SCHWARTZ	715	4.31%
JOSEPH L. STEWART	1,576	9.50%

Thank you to everybody who helped!



Tired of Highway Robbery?

Stop the Traffic Ticket Shakedown!
 "Traffic laws should be used to promote public safety, not as an alternative revenue source for communities."
 -- Leonard Schwartz

Common Sense on the Bench!
www.Schwartz22.com **Leonard Schwartz**
 for District Court Judge



Handout used at the polls for Schwartz campaign.

LPM Electeds Shine at Convention



Four of Michigan's elected officials were on panels at the Libertarian National Convention in Indianapolis over Fourth of July weekend. Pictured here from left to right, Ron Crickenberger, moderator (at the podium), Don Gorman (Chairman, Deerfield Zoning Board, New Hampshire), Willy Marshall (Mayor of Big Water, Utah), Fred Collins (Councilman, Berkley, Michigan), Phil Miller (Councilman, Greenfield, Indiana), Andy LeCureaux (Councilman, Hazel Park, Michigan), and Martin Howrylak (Mayor Pro Tem, Troy, Michigan). David Eisenbacher (Councilman, Troy, Michigan) participated in another panel the previous day.

Neighborhood Refuses to Pave the Way for Low-Income Housing Project

by Paul Remer

I live on a gravel road. A developer wanted to develop the property across the street from my house. But the developer wanted government money, so he asked the city to make **me and my neighbors** pay for paving the road. So that **he** could make a profit!

The proposal:

The land targeted for development has been a pain for this neighborhood for years. Its' price is about \$100,000 over fair market value. Therefore, normal development has not occurred – builders cannot buy the land at that high price and make a profit. There is one way for a builder to make money: Government money. The only builders interested in the land are developers of low-income housing projects. They can take that \$100,000 over-priced land, and have development subsidized by the taxpayers.

So building contractor Ken Werth, of Alpena Michigan, wanted to build a 48 unit low income housing project in Charlotte Michigan. Before Mr. Werth could get his government loan from HUD, "Housing and Urban Development", he needed city council to approve two ordinances which were mandatory requirements by HUD. (1) He needed a PILOT "payment in lieu of taxes" which means he would pay no property tax, but a percentage of rent would be paid instead. His taxes would be about 50% less that way. (2) Maynard St. and Henry St. are gravel roads, he needed them paved. He requested a special assessment to get the roads paved, which would have cost each property owner on the roads between \$3,000 and \$8,000 to have the street paved in front of their homes, a total of over \$120,000 to be paid by local property owners.

My response:

I happened to be watching the Charlotte city council meeting that night on the cable public access channel when this was being proposed. After watching it, I thought about it for a while. I said to myself, "Over 35% of the money I earn goes to pay some kind of a tax,

now they want more money, they want me to pay for paving my street so they can spend my tax dollars to build a housing project I don't want in the first place. I'm not going to take this crap." I finally got to the point where I had enough take, take and take from the government. I decided to stop the housing project from being approved. In addition, I was willing to work long and hard to get the job done, and I had 14 days to do it.

I talked to some of my neighbors the next day, and they did not want the housing project

be a toxic waste dump in their back yard. Residents talked about selling their homes before property values went down. One person said their family was planning to move some day, now they would do it sooner. It did not take long to figure out this was going to have a real negative impact on this neighborhood.

Back in 1995, just before I bought my house, there was talk about building a housing project on that same piece of land. One person was going around with a petition for people to sign to stop the project. I remembered the real



Dirt road in Charlotte, Michigan where the proposed housing project was to be developed.

across the street from them, either. So I printed up some flyers on my computer, and I started knocking on doors, handing out papers telling people about the project. My flyers included the date of city council meeting, phone numbers for all city council members, and the address for the city clerk. If they wanted to stop the project they could go to the city council meeting, call their council member, or write a letter to the city clerk and request that their letter be read at the council meeting. I talked to just about everyone within three blocks of the proposed location of the project. Everyone hated it; some people reacted like there was going to

estate agent showing me several houses for sale in this area, when I was looking for a house to buy. So I did a nine-year study of home sales on my block, which is a large block with 26 houses. At the courthouse, I checked to see how many homes were sold on this block each year for the last nine years. Home sales were up 347% in 1995 when there were talks about building a housing project. In addition, all six homes directly across the street from the proposed location of housing project were sold in 1995. With this, I knew for sure that people were going to sell their homes if the project proceeded. Property values would fall, because of panic selling

in the neighborhood. A lot of supply and little demand for a home near a housing project. With the threat of property values falling and losing value, I started a neighborhood association to help protect our investments. People have power in numbers.

I set up an appointment to see the mayor, I told him what residents were telling me, about falling property values, people getting ready to move, concerns about increased traffic in the area, and other comments. The mayor told me he would not vote for this project because so many people strongly opposed it. He would also tell other council members how we felt about the project.

The result:

On April 22, 2002 over 70 people attended the city council meeting, to state their opinions on the housing project, and additional letters were read at the meeting. Over 90% spoke out against the project. Some of the common issues were: Falling property values. Property owners should not have to pay for paving the Maynard and Henry Streets, "a requirement for a HUD loan". A residential area is not the right location for this type of housing. Tenants will not be properly screened because of government regulations. Nothing to stop people from other cities and counties from moving in and using our city resources. The requested PILOT is going to be subsidized by the city taxpayers. And I explained what happened back in 1995 when there was a proposal to build a project on that same lot, how home sales went up 347%, how people will sell their houses and property value will fall, and in a few years this neighborhood will turn into a slum. The only people who were for this project were, low-income residents most already living in public housing.

The city council voted this proposal down 4 no and 1 yes. The Mayor and council members all said, "I have never seen so many people at a council meeting before, I never have received so many phone calls on a issue before, people have stopped me on the street to tell me their opinion on a housing project." About 90% were against the proposal and 10% for it.

Summary:

Housing projects are government programs that do not work and should be discontinued. They start with a well-intentioned idea to have affordable housing for the working poor and

the disabled. However, they hurt the taxpayer much more than just the tax dollars used to finance the project itself. The working class citizens totally object to building a housing project in their neighborhood, some people react like someone is going to build a toxic waste dump in their backyard. People will sell their homes and leave. It can cost over \$10,000 to sell a home, buy another one, and pay moving expenses. This is money that could have been spent on families, their childrens' education, a retirement fund, or other things. In addition, the children moved will most likely go to a different school when they move, and face readjustment to a new school and neighborhood. The ones who stay will see their property values go down, and people with lower incomes will start buying homes in their neighborhood. In a few years, you will have a slum; I have see this happen before. In addition, this will hurt the quality of life for those who cannot move away, retired persons, and senior citizens. I wonder if the bureaucrats in Washington DC think about these kind of things. If so, do they even care?

Of course, our legislators don't build low income projects in their own neighborhoods, just as these same legislators don't send their children to government schools.

The community:

While almost everyone I talked to in my neighborhood totally hated the idea of a low-income housing project, only one of the hundred people asked me what she could do to help me. I got many people to show up at the city council meeting, and that was about it. They were not interested in doing anything more. This proposed project would have a big impact on their community, but their attitude was "let someone else take care of it." People are not working for what they believe in, they are just sitting there and griping about it. Which is why the government can keep taking our freedoms away. Because I put a lot of time and effort into this, I was able to get a record number of people to go to the city council meeting and defeat the housing project. If it were not for me, there would soon be groundbreaking ceremonies to start building the housing project. I plan to continue to work for things I truly believe in. I am going to spend more time defending the liberties the government keeps taking away from us. If I don't, who will?

Runestad Appointed

(cont'd from pg. 1) Friend of the Court credited his child-support payments to the wrong account. After years of building back trust with his ex-wife, Runestad said, the Friend of the Court accused him of "being a lying con artist and a counterfeiter."



When he finally straightened the mess out, Runestad said Friend of the Court bureaucrats made no apology. "They simply said,

"Whoops, we put it in the wrong account," Runestad noted.

Runestad has long been an advocate of parental rights. Two years ago he ran for county commissioner on that platform, advocating the formation of the very committee to which he has now been appointed..

The LPM has also been an advocate of parental rights, earning the trust of some local groups and attorneys.

In 2000 the LPM worked with DADS of Michigan and used the SpeakOutMichigan web site to oppose a bill which would put parents in jail if they were behind on child-support.

Several months later, Tim O'Brien (at the time, LPM Executive Director) wrote an op-ed on the issue of divorce, custody, and child-support. Though only published locally, parental rights groups picked up on it and it garnered national attention.

And, the LPM's US senate candidate, Mike Corliss, ran radio ads blasting his major party opponents for advocating the use of the IRS to enforce child-support orders, (which are civil judgements), earning him the trust and support of DADS of Michigan.



Small Government Alliance

by Tim O'Brien

Libertarian activists Bill Shotey, Greg Dirasian, and Tim and Nancy O'Brien have formed a new political action committee called the Small Government Alliance.

The organization is described on the cover of its brochure as a "Michigan-based, non-partisan, independent, political action committee dedicated to reducing the size and scope of government in both the personal and financial lives of all peaceful, honest people."

Executive Director Tim O'Brien said the SGA will accomplish its lofty goal by supporting candidates for public office, lobbying for (or against) legislation, recruiting allies, engaging in public information campaigns and building coalitions with other organizations on issues of mutual interest.

"For candidates and ballot questions," he said, "we will be making endorsements, organizing fund-raisers, and helping with campaigns by consulting and coordinating volunteer activities such as lit drops and working the polls.

"As for the public information efforts," he continued, "we will be issuing press releases, distributing opinion columns, and attempting to generate television and radio appearances and interviews." Ultimately, the group hopes to be able to sponsor issue-oriented broadcast advertising.

Communications Director Greg Dirasian will be editing and publishing the SGA newsletter as well as creating and operating the group's website, and maintaining its databases. Plans are for the newsletter — the *SGA News-Advocate* — to be published quarterly. The web site — www.smallgov.org — will not only provide information to supporters, the public and the media, but will also serve as a nexus for freedom-oriented sites and organizations.

Dirasian especially emphasized the importance of developing contacts and cross-memberships in other organizations with mutual (even if more narrow) interests from across the traditional political spectrum such as the Michigan Coalition of Responsible Gun Owners and the Michigan chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Development Director, Bill Shotey, will take on the primary responsibility of building a base

of financial support through both regular sponsors and major contributors. He will also be coordinating SGA lobbying efforts in Lansing, advising legislators and other decision-makers by providing evidence and arranging testimony at committee hearings, and rallying expressions of support or opposition through e-mails, phone calls, letters, and other advocacy efforts.

Treasurer, Nancy O'Brien, has taken on the thankless task of keeping the SGA books and records, as well filing all necessary paperwork to comply with increasingly arcane and onerous

reporting requirements.

Formally launched on July 4, the group has hit the ground running. In less than a month SGA had already raised \$5,500, sponsored a fund-raiser in support of Rep. Leon Drolet's reelection that generated over \$2,000 in contributions, sent a 9,400 piece mailing opposing a local tax increase (in the group's preliminary base in Allen Park), and organized volunteer support for the Leonard Schwartz for District Court Judge campaign in south Oakland county.



The first event of the Small Government Alliance, a fundraiser for Leon Drolet who sponsored HB 5237 that eased ballot access requirements. Held at the home of Ben & Anina Bachrach.

Don't Vote for Secretary of State

by Greg Stempfle

Unless you really care who the next Secretary of State is, please do not vote in that race in the November election. Here's why.

Every vote cast for that office means one more vote third parties must get to stay on the ballot or to gain major party status. Michigan's bizarre ballot access laws tie political party status solely to the Secretary of State's vote returns. To remain on the ballot, our highest vote getter must earn 1% of the votes cast for the winning candidate for SOS.

To earn major party status, our candidate who appears highest on the ballot must get 5% of all votes cast for SOS. It's confusing, but what it boils down to is the more successful a SOS candidate is, the worse off third parties are.

For example, our top of ticket candidates this year are State Board of Education nominees, Scotty Boman and Diane Barnes. If one of these Libertarians earns roughly 150,000 votes then the LP will become a major party. The exact number of votes will not be known until after Election Day. About 3 million people will vote in Michigan on Election Day and most will vote for SOS.

So spread the word, if you can convince five people not to vote for SOS, it will be equivalent to an extra vote for Scotty or Diane!

Libertarian Party of Michigan Candidates for General Election November 5, 2002

State Board of Education

Diane Barnes DBarnes98@aol.com
Scotty Boman stempfle@hotmail.com

Board of Regents of University of Michigan

William W. Hall

Board of Trustees of Michigan State University

Eric Larsen

Board of Governors of Wayne State University

Thomas W. Jones Stacy Spaulding Van Oast

US House of Representatives

District 01 John W. Loosemore

District 02 Laurie L. Aleck

District 03 Tom Quinn

District 04 Al Chia

District 05 Clint Foster

District 07 Ken Proctor tracker@ia4u.net

District 08 Tom Yeutter

District 09 Robert Schubring

District 10 Renae Coon

District 12 Richard Gach

District 13 Raymond Warner RHWarn@aol.com

District 14 Francis Schorr FJSchorr2@hotmail.com

District 15 Gregory Stempfle stempfle@hotmail.com

Michigan State Senate

District 08 Bruce Morse bmorse@wyan.org

District 09 Keith P. Edwards Keithmarni@aol.com

District 10 Scott Allen

District 14 Lloyd Sherman

District 28 Ronald Heeren

District 29 Warren Adams

District 30 Lynne M. Bradley-Horan

District 35 Donald L. Atkinson

Michigan State House of Representatives

District 02 Gregory Creswell gresswell@dmc.com

District 13 Eric Gordon egordon@wyan.org

District 16 David Nagy lpmnagy@juno.com

District 17 Christopher Gonzalez christopher_gonzales@msn.com

District 19 Michael Shesterkin Jubatenate@aol.com

District 20 James Dean jrdean4@hotmail.com

District 21 Kenneth Century kencentury@comcast.net

District 22 Charles Kainz

District 23 Rick Secula rsecula@ili.net

District 24 Erin Stahl stahl@lpmich.org

District 26 Sara Sjoberg sjoberg@lpmich.org

District 28 Jim Allison allison10@comcast.net

District 31 James Miller

District 42 John Bonnell

District 72 David Good

District 73 Thomas E. Horan

District 74 Bill Gelineau

District 75 Erwin Haas

District 76 Paul Mastin

District 77 Wayne Dial

District 86 Pat Steinport

District 94 Scott Carter

District 97 George Goemaere

Clare County Commissioner

District 02 Wendy Adams

District 04 Albert Tadros

District 06 Dennis Gargin

Gladwin County

District 06 Nancy Lang

Eaton County

Paul Remer paulrem@arq.net

Hillsdale County Commission

District 04 Brad Benzing brads@qcnet.net

District 05 James Parker jamesp@hillsdale.epcorp.com

Ingham County Commission

Will Tyler White whitewi5@msu.edu

Kalamazoo County Commission

District 03 Tullio Proni tullio.proni@gt.org

District 07 Gerald Phillips gaphillips44@acninc.net

District 08 Joy Gerow

District 14 Ron Ottenwess ron_ottenwess@attglobal.net

Lake County Commission

District 09 Trevor Peck

Macomb County Commission

District 01 Paul Stables

District 04 Michael Jablonski

District 06 Laurel Pietrangelo

District 11 Craig Yope

District 22 Albert Titran

District 24 Wendy Morisi

Manistee County Commission

Brian Kluesner

Midland County Commission

District 04 Stephen Townsend

Oakland County Commission

District 05 Fred Martin

District 11 Nathan Allen

District 25 David C. Collver

Washtenaw County Commission

District 01 James Lewis Hudler chair@lpmich.org

District 11 James F. Montgomery mfj@umich.edu

Wayne County Commission

District 02 Tim Beck Timmichben@aol.com

District 04 Ed Karpinski momjoann@aol.com

District 05 Loel Gnad loel@bignet.net

District 13 Ben Bachrach Ben45@aol.com

Wexford County Commission

Greg Willis

Nonpartisan Races

Justice of Supreme Court Nominated by Libertarian Party

Michael L. Donahue

Bruce H. Yuille

Macomb County Community College Board of Trustees

Jeff LaButte

Judge Oakland County District Court 45B

Leonard Schwartz schwartz@lpmich.org

NOTE: Candidates for nonpartisan elections are members of the Libertarian Party. The list is provided for informational purposes. Except for Justices of the Michigan Supreme Court the listing does not imply any official endorsement of a candidate.

Oops - We're Sorry!

To anybody who called and left a message on the voice mail at LPM Headquarters from December 9, 2001 through May 31, 2002, we're sorry that your message was not returned. As the new LEC began organizing office duties, the question of the voice mail came up. When the voice mail was checked, we learned that messages had been accumulating over that period. Rest assured that the situation is now under control and the new LPM secretary checks messages daily.

Howrylak / Eisenbacher Oppose Corporate Welfare

by Greg Dirasian

Libertarian councilmen in Troy, Martin Howrylak and David Eisenbacher, recently voted against more corporate welfare for a new company that the council is hoping to lure to the city. Unfortunately, they stood alone in their quest for fiscal responsibility.

The \$50,000 is the city's share of an incentive package to lure AxelTech International, a company being spun off by ArvinMeritor. The state's share is \$1.3 million in the form of tax credits against Michigan's Single Business Tax.

AxelTech has promised to create 50 new high-tech jobs in the area in exchange for the incentive package, but there was no promise that the 50 jobs would go to Troy (or even Michigan) residents who are footing the bill.

Howrylak and Eisenbacher called the money "corporate welfare."

Proponents noted that the money was coming out of the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) budget and that this was the purpose of the DDA. Also noting that in the last two years, the office space vacancy rate has risen from 4 percent to 18 percent.

Howrylak noted that, "It's been about nine years since the DDA was formed. If their intent was to reduce the vacancies, and the vacancy rate in Troy is 18 percent, then I would say that they have certainly failed in their task. But, by the same token, it appears that there is a spike in the vacancies in Troy primarily because of new building that were brought online..."

Eisenbacher notes that the city recently gave an additional \$50,000 to the Troy Community Coalition and \$50,000 to the neighboring city of Clawson (to help them in a law suit), but the city manager thought that a recent tax cut of \$150,000 (out of a \$150 million budget) was extreme.

At the same time, the city council is expressing its concern about potential cuts in revenue sharing from the state.

To a libertarian, there is an obvious disconnect between these monetary concerns and the devil-may-care spending habits of the rest of the council, but the two Libertarian councilmen remain true to their fiscally responsible constituency.

The Future of the LPM Metro-Detroit vs. Outstate

by Councilman Fred Collins

Back in December, we were doing a mailing for David Eisenbacher's campaign. We were sending out 2,000 holiday greeting cards (with refrigerator magnets) to absentee voters. We recruited several volunteers and then began the arduous task of hand addressing all the envelopes.

As it started to get late and people were tired but forcing themselves to continue, one volunteer said, "please don't tell my wife I was here doing this." We all paused for a moment and then somebody asked him, "Why not, would you rather she think you were spending the night with a mistress?"

We all laughed, but the conversation pointed out one of our problems. Everybody is a volunteer. For many of our people, they can only volunteer to do things when they sneak away from their families. Then, they say things like, "don't tell my wife." Most of our work gets done with "stolen moments."

Somebody from the West Michigan affiliate told me the other day that they felt left out of the loop. They said we need to improve communications. I agree. Unfortunately, very few of our members seem to be great communicators (most of them aren't even mediocre com-

municators). Now, take poor communication skills, add to that a lack of time because the volunteer work is already being done with time stolen from jobs, family, and household chores, and we have a recipe for trouble.

Outstate people feel they are being left out of the loop because they do not hear of all the plans, and metro-Detroit members feel that outstate members aren't doing anything because they never hear from them.

Communication needs to be improved in all directions.

Our newsletter editor has confided in me on many occasions his distress that he does not get news from outstate areas. He also confides in me that the same people who complain that he includes too much Oakland county news, do not contribute any news from their own affiliate.

That's it in a nutshell.

If you are a volunteer and you are not contributing news stories to the newsletter or even LPM Online, I don't EVER want to hear complaints from you about poor communications. Good communications start with yourself, not somebody else. Good communications are not an option, they are a necessary part of our survival and growth.

Message from the Editor

by Greg Dirasian

I'd like to take the opportunity to thank all those people who contributed articles to the newsletter over the last several month while I have been the editor. This will be my last issue.

Although I have enjoyed doing the newsletter because it has given me a chance to combine two of my skills that I enjoy very much - computers and writing - it is time for me to move on to other projects.

I got involved in the newsletter because there were several things that I wanted to see happen:

1. Important news included when articles were delivered
2. Important news was reported on - even when it had to be actively tracked down
3. Presentation (color & graphics) im-

proved by using the latest technology

4. Back issues archived on our web site for future reference

5. Development and production become an open process - including the opportunity for all LEC members to review each issue prior to publication

I have accomplished all these goals. The one goal that I did not accomplish was inspiring more of our affiliates to contribute news about what was going on in their areas.

I hope the new editor (whoever that turns out to be) will have better luck than me at this. I also hope the new editor will continue with these five goals that I have accomplished and build on them. For my part, I will continue to contribute articles about news in my affiliate and hope to make the new editor's life a little easier.



Elect

Scotty Boman

Libertarian for *State Board of Education*

Imagine voting for a Libertarian in the 2004 Presidential Primary.

Imagine Libertarian Party candidates no longer being excluded from debates because we are only a "minor party".

This could easily happen after the November election.

As our "top of ticket" candidate this year, Scotty Boman's Election Day results will determine our ballot status for the 2004 election cycle. Scotty is no stranger to education issues...

- Grosse Pointe Public School Teacher.
- Masters in teaching Wayne State with secondary education in Physics.
- Former member of the Wayne State Student Council.
- 1998 and 2000, Boman ran for a seat on the Wayne State Board of Governors, each time earning 130,000 votes, **higher than all third party candidates** for those years.
- In 1997, Boman became only the second Libertarian to be **endorsed by the Detroit News**, when he competed in the Detroit City Council general election.

Boman's campaign will focus on giving local school districts more autonomy as well as decentralizing the State educational system. With even a modest amount of campaigning and media contact, not to mention a name similar to that of the coach for the Detroit Red Wings, earning the necessary 150,000 for major party status is within reach.

We'll be playing in the majors with Scotty Boman!

Yes, I want to help make the Libertarian Party a Major Party in Michigan! I will donate...

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$500 (maximum)

I would like to volunteer to...

Put up a yard sign in my property Distribute bumper stickers and literature
 Distribute supplies to my affiliate _____ (affiliate name)

Name _____ Address _____
Phone _____ E-mail _____

State law requires that we report the job title and employer of anybody donating more than \$100, sorry.

Occupation _____ Employer _____

Drug Reform Petitions Filed

by Tim O'Brien

More than 450,000 signatures have been filed with the Secretary of State's office proposing to amend the Michigan Constitution by mandating treatment rather than incarceration for both 1st and 2nd offense "simple possession" violations of state drug laws.

The ballot proposal, modeled on California's successful Prop 36, was brought to Michigan by the west coast Campaign for New Drug Policies organization.

Once the drive had begun here former LPM chair Tim O'Brien organized a Michigan-based Ballot Question committee — called the Prison Priorities Project — to coordinate volunteer efforts.

"We were very fortunate that CNDP chose our state as one of their next battlegrounds for a counterattack against the War on Drugs," O'Brien noted. "They are backed by a consortium of wealthy drug law reform advocates headed by billionaire George Soros. They bring resources to the fight that we couldn't hope to match."

CNDP hired prestigious Michigan law firm Honnigman, Miller, et al to draft the petition language, opened three offices across the state, and began hiring paid petitioners using local want ads.

"Those of us right here in Michigan who are philosophically committed to the idea of drug law reform were not likely to get this kind of opportunity again," O'Brien observed. "So we formed our own organization to coordinate volunteers in support of the effort. We did a 6,000 piece mailing, providing petitions to Libertarians, Greens and former PRA [Personal Responsibility Amendment] volunteers."

Both CNDP and P3 organizers are confident that Bureau of Elections officials will validate the minimum 302,000 signatures required and certify the proposal for the November ballot.

And the drug warriors are obviously fearful of the prospect.

"They are similar to gun controllers," O'Brien said, "in their hysterical hyperventilating at any suggestion of even the most modest reform because they know that actual experience will prove that it doesn't cause the sky to fall."

Although the petition drive is now finished,

Prison Priorities Project organizers intend to keep their Ballot Question committee active, perhaps even through the November election to support passage of the constitutional amendment.

"We might not have their money," O'Brien observed. "But we have some things that CNDP doesn't — including a mailing list of 6,000 supporters, and a Michigan base to preempt the 'carpetbagger' argument that is inevitably used by opponents who don't have the facts on their side."

Former LPOC Chair Passes



Former Libertarian Party of Oakland County chair, John Ward, passed away on July 20.

John suffered a heart attack and stroke the previous week. He was hospitalized, unconscious, and on a respirator, then passed on a few days later.

John was chair during a difficult time for the LPOC as we transitioned from supper club to political party. He will be greatly missed.

Macomb Libertarians Protest for Free Speech

by Bruce Hoepner

Macomb Libertarians joined Prof. John Bonnell in a protest for free speech on June 12.

Bonnell, dubbed the "swearing professor" by the media is a professor at Macomb Community College. In late 1998, a female student of Bonnell's said she felt sexually harassed by his coarse language and asked that he be dismissed. Bonnell received a 3 day suspension for that. When he began to speak out against the limits on his free speech and in favor of academic freedom, the 3 day suspension became an indefinite paid suspension and then an indefinite

unpaid suspension.

Bonnell sued to block the suspension and the US District Court ruled in his favor. The college appealed in the Sixth US Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati which supported their position. The case has gone back and forth between the two courts and ultimately, Bonnell sought relief in the US Supreme Court.

The US Supreme Court refused to hear the case.

This protest was Prof. Bonnell's continued attempt to restore free speech and academic freedom.



Pictured left to right, Al Titran, Jeff LaButte, Maria Gjonaj, and Prof. John Bonnell, protesting in front of US District Court, Detroit, Michigan

LPM Committee Meeting Minutes

These minutes have not yet been approved by the Committee. It is possible that there will be additions or corrections at the next Committee meeting. If so, they will be published here

Called to order by LPM Chairman James Hudler at 12:11pm, May 19, 2002.

Roll call:

Chair	James Hudler	Present
Vice Chair	Jerry Bloom	Present
Secretary	Keith Wesselmann	Present
Treasurer	Ben Bachrach	Present
At-Large Director	Diane Barnes	Present
At-Large Director	Dave Collver	Absent
At-Large Director	Paul Hitch	Present
At-Large Director	Sara Sjoberg	Absent
At-Large Director	Erin Stahl	Present

JH - Leonard Schwartz has volunteered to bring required candidate paperwork to Lansing by the May 20 deadline.

JH - Need for press releases. Daryl Schmitz will be asked to handle the press release regarding Libertarian candidates in November election.

JH - Next LEC meeting is scheduled for June 9, 1:00pm at LPM Headquarters in Hazel Park.

JH - Schedule of LEC meetings until next Convention is tentatively set as second Sunday of even-numbered months, at 1:00pm at LPM Headquarters.

BB - Reminder to LEC that missing 3 consecutive meetings results in automatic expulsion from LEC.

JH - Recognition given to Keith Edwards for his years of work maintaining day-to-day operations at LPM Headquarters. As Mr. Edwards would prefer to scale back HQ activities from an everyday obligation, Keith Wesselmann will develop list of volunteers and schedule Headquarters coverage. Volunteers listed so far include Dave Collver, Greg Creswell, Greg Dirasian, Keith Edwards, Paul Hitch, James Hudler, Charles Kain, and Keith Wesselmann.

BB - Fundraising. The LPM has enough working capital that there is not an urgent, dire need to raise funds immediately. LEC members are encouraged to come up with fundraiser ideas to discuss at the June 9 LEC meeting.

JH - Because LPM membership has declined for two consecutive years, it is crucial that we find a member willing to serve as Membership Chair, hopefully in time to officially appoint him or her to the position at the June 9

meeting.

JB, DB - Duties of the Vice-Chairman were conferred. They include setting up leadership conferences, communication with and education of affiliates, and assisting with the formation of new affiliates.

BB - Keith Edwards reported that Bulk Mail Permit 160 will expire Tuesday, May 21 if not renewed before then. It will be renewed for the annual fee of \$125.

JH - Involvement in campaigns. Possible involvement will include heavy promotion of a particularly high-profile campaign, as well as the development and distribution of a slate brochure.

BB - Proposed budget was distributed (attached). This budget is based on information Ben was able to gather prior to his election as Treasurer, and it includes some approximations. A decision will need to be made soon regarding whether to keep the existing LPM Headquarters in Hazel Park. Anyone present who wishes to request

additional funds for specific purposes, submit your request as soon as possible so they can be discussed and voted on at the June 9 LEC meeting. David Raaflaub requested funds for a ballot initiative petition drive.

KW - No Secretary report. Ben recommended archiving minutes and other important LPM documents on the Party's Web site in a password-protected area.

JH - Committee Chair list reviewed:

Newsletter	Greg Dirasian
Database	Emily Salvette/Ben Bachrach
Campaign	Stephen Townsend
Camp. Training	Barb Goushaw
Camp. Fund Treasury	Dianne Szabla
Membership	VACANT

Affiliates

Office Volunteers

Ballot Access

JH - Keith Edwards reported on National Convention issues that must be addressed. Emily Salvette is the Credentials Representative from the LPM. Keith Edwards had planned on being the Platform Representative but is unable to and asked for someone to take on that responsibility. Regarding Convention delegates, Keith Edwards will send a names-only list to Ben Bachrach, who will add necessary contact information and forward to Keith Wesselmann, who will in turn forward to the National LP Secretary.

JH - David Raaflaub announced his intention to take video of all LEC meetings, eventually broadcasting the meetings live on the Web and making them completely interactive for members not physically in attendance.

DB - There is concern that a group in Lenawee County is identifying itself as and using the name Libertarian in spite of not being an actual affiliate.

DB - LibertyFest is scheduled for November 9, 2002. It will be hosted by Macomb County affiliate. Wendy McElroy will be the speaker. LPM responsibilities include first promotional mailing, running one fundraiser, and deciding whether and to whom the Defender Of Liberty honor should be awarded.

BB - It is advised that we select an "out-state" affiliate to host the 2003 LPM Convention. Host affiliate should be chosen by the June 9 LEC meeting.

JH - Nancy O'Brien expressed satisfaction at the results of this year's LEC election and optimism about the year ahead for the LPM.

JH - David Raaflaub advised the LEC to learn from and not repeat mistakes made by LEC in years past.

JH - Mike Jones, a resident of Holly, Michigan, and part-year resident of Costa Rica addressed the Libertarian Party successes and Libertarian-friendly legal and political environment in Costa Rica.

Motion to adjourn made by Jerry Bloom, seconded by Diane Barnes, carried by voice vote at 2:02pm.



LPM Committee Meeting Minutes

These minutes have not yet been approved by the Committee. It is possible that there will be additions or corrections at the next Committee meeting. If so, they will be published here

Called to order by LPM Chairman James Hudler at June 9, 2002, 1:01pm.

Roll call:

Chair	James Hudler	Present
Vice Chair	Jerry Bloom	Present
Secretary	Keith Wesselmann	Present
Treasurer	Ben Bachrach	Present
At-Large Director	Diane Barnes	Present
At-Large Director	Dave Collver	Present
At-Large Director	Paul Hitch	Present
At-Large Director	Sara Sjoberg	Present
At-Large Director	Erin Stahl	Present

JH – We will employ the agenda proposed prior to the meeting by Ben Bachrach, except that Item 1a (Ballot Access Report) to ten minutes instead of five minutes. Motion by Dave Collver, second by Keith Wesselmann, to employ the proposed agenda, with that exception. Motion carried by voice vote.

JH – We would like to move the LEC meeting scheduled for August 11, to August 4. Motion by Ben Bachrach, second by Paul Hitch, to reschedule next LEC meeting for August 4. Motion carried by voice vote.

JH – State Representative Leon Drolet addressed LEC regarding the passage of HB5237/Public Act 399. Discussion took up full allotted time, so an information and discussion session was suggested after the LEC meeting. Motion by Ben Bachrach, second by Jerry Bloom, to draft a letter to State Representative Leon Drolet regarding HB 5237/Public Act 399. Motion failed by voice vote.

KW – Motion by Sara Sjoberg, Second by Dave Collver, to accept minutes of the previous (May 19) LEC meeting. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

BB – No treasurer report was made available by the current Treasurer's predecessor.

JH – Chairman's Report. Expressed hope that differences among members will be set aside in the coming year. The premier statewide campaign will be Scotty Boman's race for State Board Of Education.

Discretionary funds will be used to work on slate brochure for November elections.

BB – Budget proposal (attached). Motion to approve by Ben Bachrach, second by Dave

Collver. Motion carried by voice vote.

JB – Vice Chair report. Working to identify which counties have active affiliates and identify their leadership, so that we can make sure there is no location within Michigan not covered by an affiliate. Motion by Jerry Bloom, second by Dave Collver, reads:

The vice chair shall be allowed to reassign defunct county affiliates and unassigned counties into active affiliates. Any affiliate may appeal the decision to the LEC for final decision.

Motion by Ben Bachrach, Second by Diane Barnes, to amend, adding, "Reorganization would require approval of existing county affiliate executive committee" Motion was withdrawn before being voted on.



Motion by Dave Collver, Second by Jerry Bloom, to end debate on the main motion. Motion to end debate carried by voice vote. Main motion carried by voice vote.

A n n o u n c e that the Affiliate committee would be led by Jerry Bloom and Paul Hitch.

KW – Secretary report. Have contacted all eight members (six by e-mail, two by phone) who expressed interest in working as office volunteers at Headquarters. So far very little response. Currently Michigan has 42 delegates to the National Convention. Our allotment of delegates is 61.

BB – Membership Committee is a very important function; position must be filled. Erin Stahl and Sara Sjoberg will co-chair the committee.

JH – Appointed Erin Stahl and Sara Sjoberg to Membership Committee.

JH – Appointed Jerry Bloom and Paul Hitch to the Affiliates Committee.

JB/PH – Leadership directory will be

placed on a secure page on the LPM Web site so that it can be downloaded by those with access.

JH – Nancy O'Brien addressed proposal regarding achievement of major party status (attached). Motion by Ben Bachrach, second by Dave Collver, reads:

1. A new committee be established to be called Committee Hell-bent on Achieving Major Party Status (CHAMPS). The goal of champs will be to use the "Scotty Boman for State Board of Education" campaign as a vehicle for making the LPM a major party; and

2. Greg Stempfle be appointed chair of that committee; and

3. The CHAMPS committee be authorized to spend up to \$1000 from the Campaign Fund as seed money for its first fund-raising mailing.

4. The Ballot Access Restoration Committee be dissolved.

Motion by Ben Bachrach, second by Erin Stahl, to divide the question. Motion carried by voice vote.

Question 1. Motion by Dave Collver, second by Diane Barnes to change language to read:

1. A new committee be established to be called Committee Hell-bent on Achieving Major Party Status (CHAMPS), whose purpose shall be to investigate legal issues and logistics of operating as a major party.

Motion to Dave Collver, Second by Diane Barnes, to extend time of Agenda Item 10 (Conversion of BARC to CHAMP) to 30 minutes from 10 minutes. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

Motion to amend carried by show of hands.

Main motion (1) carried by voice vote.

Main motion (2) failed by voice voted.

Motion by Ben Bachrach, second by Dave Collver, to end debate on Section 3. Motion to end debate carried by voice vote.

Main motion (3) failed by voice vote.

Main motion (4) failed by voice vote.

—Break—

JH - Motion by Keith Wesselmann, Second by Dave Collver, to revise the agenda to allow 10 minutes for motions and discussion

LPM Committee Meeting Minutes

regarding the newly created CHAMPS. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

JH - Motion by Dave Collver, Second by Erin Stahl, to change name of Committee Hellbent on Achieving Major Party Status (CHAMPS) to Major Party Status Investigation Committee. Motion carried by voice vote.

JH - Motion by Keith Wesselmann, second by Dave Collver, to disburse \$1000 from campaign fund to Scotty Boman for State Board of Education campaign. Roll call vote:

Ben Bachrach - No
Dave Collver - Yes
Keith Wesselmann - Yes
Sara Sjoberg - Yes
Erin Stahl - No
Jerry Bloom - No
Paul Hitch - Yes
Diane Barnes - No
James Hudler - Yes.

Motion carries by 5-4 vote.

JH - 2003 State Convention. Stacy Van Oast has expressed interest in her affiliate hosting the 2003 Convention. We will solicit any other interested hosts in the next LPM newsletter and decide on a host affiliate at a subsequent LEC meeting.

GD - Newsletter report (attached).

DB - LibertyFest is scheduled for November 9 and all planning and preparation for the event is current.

JH - National Convention. We will not have anyone officially on Platform Committee, but Keith Edwards will be involved in pre-convention input & discussion. Emily Salvette will be on the Credentials Committee.

JH - Libertarian Party of Oakland County will be asked to allow the LPM to use the Michigan flag from HQ at the national convention.

JH - There is no intention, nor room in the budget, to appoint a paid Office Director.

NO'B - Candidate paperwork was in disarray on Convention Sunday. Leonard Schwartz took paperwork to Lansing. Three candidates' paperwork could not be put in order well enough to get them on the ballot. Also two candidates were placed on the ballot in U.S. Representative District 11, an issue which is still to be resolved. It is still unknown exactly how many candidates we have statewide. This may make it difficult to prepare an accurate statewide slate

brochure. Motion by Ben Bachrach, second by Diane Barnes, to set a July 1 deadline for candidates to submit name and office sought to James Hudler for inclusion in the slate brochure.

Motion carried by voice vote.

KE - Keith Edwards announced the need for contact names of Political Science/Civics instructors at colleges, universities, and high schools, to develop a brochure to promote, and recruit & train qualified speakers.

JH - Motion by Paul Hitch, second by Erin Stahl, to extend Agenda Item 20a (new Business) to 20 minutes from 5 minutes. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

JH - Motion by Jerry Bloom, Second by Dave Collver, to allow hosting of affiliates' Web site on the LPM server. Motion carried by voice vote.

JB - Candidate training/leadership seminar will be held in August or September. More details to follow.

BB - A party will be held at Ben Bachrach's residence in September for all pledge donors who have pledged at least \$100 for the year.

TJ - Tom Jones recommended the LPM

issue a position statement on each of the two ballot proposals that will appear on the August 4 primary ballot. Motion by Diane Barnes, second by Jerry Bloom, to study proposals on primary ballot and issue a position statement on each. Motion carried by voice vote.

JH - Business Cards for LEC members. LEC members are asked to send information to Erin Stahl, who will arrange printing of the business cards.

Motion by Sara Sjoberg, second by Erin Stahl, to adjourn at 4:30pm. Motion carried by voice vote.

Libertarians and SOCRRA

by Greg Dirasian

SOCRRA (Southeastern Oakland County Resource Recovery Authority) is an organization formed by 12 communities in southeastern Oakland county for handling the disposal of trash. Each of the 12 communities gets votes on the board based on the amount of their participation.

Each of the 12 communities has one representative on the board. Usually the representatives are city managers, however, there are two councilmen on the board - both of whom are Libertarians, Councilman Andy LeCureaux of Hazel Park and Councilman Martin Howrylak of Troy. These two councilmen account for about 35% of the votes.

Recently, the councilmen voted for a change. They voted to hold the meetings in the evenings so that residents could attend. They got the cooperation of the representative from Royal Oak so they had over 50% of the votes supporting this change.

The city manager representatives were not happy with this change, but now the residents will have a better chance to oversee what this organization is doing.



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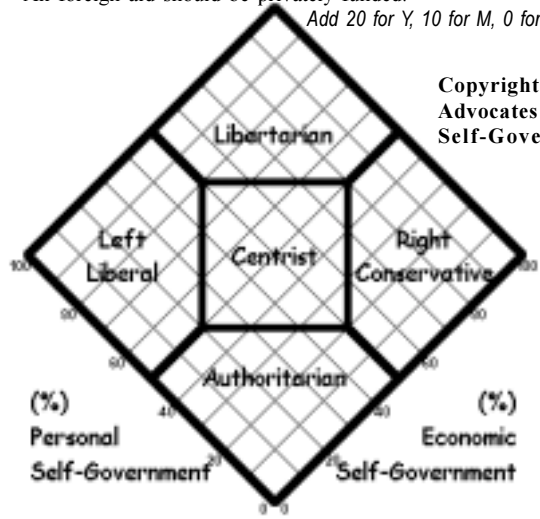
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World's Smallest Political Quiz

Personal Issues	Y	M	N
Military service should be voluntary. (No draft)		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Govt. should not control radio, TV, the press or the Internet		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Repeal regulations on sex for consenting adults		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Drug laws do more harm than good. Repeal them.		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Let peaceful people cross borders freely.		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Add 20 for Y, 10 for M, 0 for N</i>			

Economic Issues	Y	M	N
Businesses and farms should operate without govt subsidies		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
People are better off with free trade than with tariffs.		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Minimum wage laws cause unemployment. Repeal them.		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
End taxes. Pay for services with user fees.		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
All foreign aid should be privately funded.		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Add 20 for Y, 10 for M, 0 for N</i>			



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\$25 Michigan & National

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Occasionally we make our list available to other groups that wish to offer products or services to our members. Check here to be EXCLUDED from additional mailings.

I certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving social or political goals.

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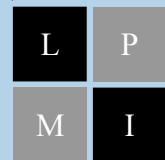
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