

# Michigan Libertarian

Volume 32, Issue 1

January/February 2003

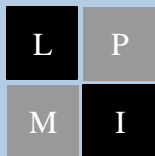
## Farm Team Plan Approved

by Greg Stempfle

The LEC voted last month to proceed with the Operation Farm Team Plan. A majority of LEC members gave approval to James Hudler's organizational plan to begin steps to hire a Field Director to help the LPM recruit candidates and build better networks across the state between affiliates.

The Farm Team project is based on the idea that many of the LP members serving on city councils and school boards can move up to the "major league" and begin to win partisan state legislative seats in the next few election cycles. Right now, every member of the LPM is a volunteer with limited time to devote to party activities. By hiring a paid staff member, a Field Director, it will make implementing the plan easier.

The plan was initially presented at November's Liberty Fest banquet in Harrison Township where part of the necessary funding was raised. Beginning in mid-January volunteers will be making follow up calls to a fundraising letter sent out late last year.



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619 E. 9 Mile Rd  
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## LP Councilmen Gear Up for Re-Election Campaigns

by Barb Goushaw

This year, in Troy on April 7 and again in Hazel Park in November, the Libertarian Party of Michigan will face an entirely new kind of election effort. It's something that we have never before been called upon to do. And it's a big one.

For the first time we are facing re-election campaigns!

We have actually become fairly adept in recent years at removing old-party incumbents and replacing them with Libertarian challengers at the local, non-partisan level. We have learned to research incumbent records, challenge incumbent records, challenge incumbent priorities and voting records, inform the residents about those incumbents, then effectively communicate good reasons for voters to

"throw the bums out."

In April and November of this year, we can expect those same tactics to be used against our own Martin Howrylak in Troy and Andy LeCureaux in Hazel Park. Fortunately, our guys are squeaky clean in their personal lives. And they have been just as pure and unwavering in their libertarian positions and voting records.



LP Councilmen Martin Howrylak of Troy (left) and Andy LeCureaux of Hazel Park (right)

Still, as we know all too well, giving the average voter a genuine understanding of libertarian values and the policy consequences of them is a challenge (to put it mildly). We don't fit anywhere on the familiar, old, liberal/conservative spectrum. Our philosophy is outside of the typical voter's frame of reference.

Our opposition also knows this. So we can expect that our candidates' positions and votes will be "spun" by their opponents in an effort to bring them down.

This is a circumstance in which we must heed the old aphorism: "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." We need to make sure that we define our candidates and their voting positions, before our opponents do.

(continued on pg 3)

## Washtenaw Hosts State Convention

by Emily Salvette

One-Two-Three-Four. Time to End this D\*mn Drug War! This is the theme for the Libertarian Party of Michigan's annual state convention being held the same day as the Ann Arbor Hash Bash, on Saturday, April 5, 2003. The convention will be at the Eagle Crest Conference Resort, 1275 South Huron Street, in Ypsilanti. The banquet will culminate with a drug policy forum including national LP Political Director Ron Crickenberger. Crickenberger

helped coordinate the hugely successful full-page ads in *USA Today* and *Washington Times* lampooning the Drug Czar's \$3.4 million Super Bowl ads that blamed terrorism on drug users.

The efficient, all-in-one-day format is new for the LPM. Instead of spreading events over an entire weekend, business in this off-election year will be covered entirely in one session, saving us all time and money. Activities will begin at 9 a.m. with committee meetings and

round table discussions on topics of interest. At 10 a.m. there will be an Ask the State Chair session where members can informally discuss issues of concern. The convention program is designed so attendees can participate in the Hash Bash if they wish. Starting at 11 a.m., shuttles will be available to take people from the Conference Center to the University of Michigan campus for the rally, which begins

(continued on pg 3)

Volume 32, Issue 1

# LPM Officers and Directors

Chair	James Hudler	chair@lpmich.org
Vice Chair	Jerry Bloom	vicechair@lpmich.org
Secretary	Keith Wesselmann	secretary@lpmich.org
Treasurer	Ben Bachrach	treasurer@lpmich.org
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At-Large Director	Paul Hitch	hitch@lpmich.org
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Campaign Managers	Barbara Goushaw	bgoushaw@aol.com
Campaign Fund	Dianne Szabla	dianneszabla@netscape.net
Assistant Treasurer	vacant	vacant

## Subscribe to **LPM Online**

the weekly email newsletter of the LPM.

Sign up at:

<http://www.lpmich.org/lpmonline/subscribe.htm>

## Newsletter Information

The *Michigan Libertarian* is published bimonthly as the official newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Michigan, 619 E. Nine Mile Rd., Hazel Park, MI 48030. Phone: (248) 591-FREE

**Submissions:** Please email articles to [newsletter@lpmich.org](mailto:newsletter@lpmich.org)

Only electronic format will be accepted. Acceptable formats are plain text, Word97, WordPerfect 6.X/5.X, RTF, HTML, Pagemaker 6.5. Any other formats, please ask first.

**Deadline:** The next deadline for submission of articles and advertising is March 3, 2003.

**Advertising:** Please email advertising to [newsletter@lpmich.org](mailto:newsletter@lpmich.org). Only electronic format will be accepted. Because of the nature of various programs, please send ads in .p65 format. Above formats are also acceptable, but layout or resolution may be lost in the publication process. Please mail payment to:

Libertarian Party of Michigan  
Newsletter Advertising  
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Hazel Park, MI 48030

**Advertising Rates:** Full Pg \$200, Half Pg \$100, Quarter Pg \$50. 25% discount for LPM Candidates, 50% discount for LPM Affiliates.

**Visit:** <http://www.lpmich.org/Newsletters/index.html>  
for more information.

# Volunteer Positions Available

by James Hudler

Have you made your New Year's Resolutions yet? Perhaps this will be the year that you resolve to make a difference in the world by creating more liberty! The LPM needs volunteers to help with numerous tasks. If there is something in the list below that you feel you can do, please consider volunteering for the position. If you don't think you have the skills necessary to do any of these jobs, but would still like to volunteer, we have volunteers and manuals available to help train you.

Some of our volunteers even learn skills that they can apply to their paying jobs or that they can use in searching for a new job. As chair, I am happy to be a job reference for any volunteer who is doing a great job. If you can do one of these tasks, please send an email to: [volunteer@lpmich.org](mailto:volunteer@lpmich.org)

- 1a. Press/Media release writer
- 1b. Press/Media release distribution administrator
2. Fundraising letter writer
3. Major donor development
- 4a. Membership Growth
- 4b. Membership Retention
- 4c. Membership Renewal Callers
- 4d. Thank You Note Writers (sends notes weekly)
- 4e. Inquiry Follow-up (follows-up with 4 days of receipt)
- 5a. Speaker Bureau Leader (assigns speakers, promotes program)
- 5b. Speaker Bureau Speakers
6. Assistant Treasurer
7. WebMaster
8. Campaign Committee Chair
- 9a. Office Cleaners
- 9b. Office Receptionists
10. Speak-Out-Michigan Leader
11. Pledge Program Promoter
12. Pledge Program Administrator (sends out monthly reminders)
13. Letters to the Editor Organizer

## Attention Candidates for LPM Officers

by Greg Stempfle

If you are planning on running for a party officer position at the April 5th State Convention, please let me know as soon as possible. I would like to include space for in the next issue for candidates to write about their ideas and platforms. Offices up for election this year are Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, five At-Large Directors, and three Judicial Committee members. Please send in a photograph if we do not already have one. Keep in mind the deadline for the next newsletter will be March 3rd. This is earlier than usual because we want to get the next edition out before the convention. Candidates are always welcome to purchase advertising space.

The LP of Oakland County has also created a page on their website for declared candidates to fill out a questionnaire about LPM issues. <http://www.lpocmi.org/declared/>

# LPM Renews HQ Lease

by Greg Stempfle

The LPM has signed a one-year lease renewal for its Hazel Park headquarters. LPM Chair James Hudler signed the lease agreement after productive negotiations between the property owners and LEC member Dave Collver, to maintain the same rent. The only difference in the new lease agreement is a reduction in our default liability. The new lease will expire in November.

The current headquarters, on Nine Mile Road in Hazel Park, has been open since the beginning of 2000. Renting property can be expensive, especially for a non-profit organization, such as ourselves and there has been some controversy within the LPM over the need to fund such an endeavor. This may be due in part to confusion about how the headquarters is being paid for.

Since the grand opening, the Michigan Liberty Pledge Program has covered the expenses of rent and utilities. Currently 54 people are members of the program, and make monthly donations ranging from \$5 to \$70. Most donate \$25. Members of the Pledge Program automatically get their National/Michigan and local affiliate dues paid. Donors can have automatic charges to credit cards, or receive monthly reminders to pay by check. The money raised is put into the LPM general fund, but is earmarked specifically for rental costs.

The members of the Pledge Program annually provide the LPM with more money than the dues program, but are always looking for more people to participate. Those interested in participating can mail in the form on the back page of the newsletter or use our secure website to join.

## Councilmen Re-Elections

(continued from pg 1)

For example: Troy Mayor Pro Tem Martin Howrylak voted against a multi-million dollar project to move and renovate an historic church and parsonage. His opponents might attempt to use this as ammunition in a "He doesn't care about the history of our city" shot. But we can preempt that by getting the story out first – as an example of Howrylak's fiscal responsibility. We must make sure the voters know that Martin has put principles before politics, and that those principles ultimately work in the best interests of all of the citizens of Troy, including the history buffs.

Andy LeCureaux may be even more controversial. When he took office Hazel Park already had huge financial problems. One of the first things he did was lead an effort to fire the city manager. Although it was clear to many that the city manager was largely responsible for the situation and that this was the best course of action, Andy was the one with the courage to publicly take that stand. This bold leadership essentially "gave permission" to his more risk-averse fellow council members to then follow. Still, it was a controversial decision. We can expect his opponents to try and slam him for it.

The professional pols in the old parties are waking up to the fact that we are becoming a serious threat, at least at the local level, to their

power. And they (unlike too many of our compatriots in the LP) have known all along that the city council people of today are the higher-level office holders of tomorrow. We fully expect them to get involved in the effort to unseat our candidates right now – before we can become an even bigger threat.

Although there are certainly huge advantages to incumbency, in many ways defending an incumbent against a counterattack can be even tougher than promoting an unknown (who has no record for opponents to draw upon and, if necessary, distort). But making sure that our Libertarian incumbents achieve re-election is clearly the most important task we face this year.

If we are to prove that electing Libertarians is a long-term GOOD thing for our communities, if we are to demonstrate this to voters who haven't yet elected any Libertarians to office, if we are to proceed with the very ambitious plan to elect our candidates to higher-level, partisan offices in the coming years, **we must make certain that our elected office holders stay in office!** We cannot allow Martin and Andy to become "one-term wonders."

The answer, of course, is run to strong and active re-election campaigns for these extraordinary leaders – both of whom are outstanding examples of Libertarianism in government.

## Washtenaw Hosts State Convention in

(continued from pg 1)

at *high* noon and lasts until 1 p.m. Shuttles will bring participants back for the opening of the business session, which begins at 1:30 p.m. Business will include reports from all affiliate groups, bylaws and platform consideration, and election of new state officers and representatives to the LEC. At 5:30 there will be a social hour. The banquet and program will run from 6:30 to 10 p.m.

The price per person is only \$85 by March 28, and \$105 at the door. Banquet only tickets are available for \$55 by March 28 or \$75 at the door (speech only for \$20). You are encouraged to make your reservations soon by mail. Send checks, payable to the *Libertarian Party of Michigan*, to the LPM, 619 E. Nine Mile Rd, Hazel Park, MI 48030. For the latest information, check the LPM web site: [www.lpmich.org](http://www.lpmich.org)

Volunteers would be greatly appreciated! Could you help with set up Saturday morning or greet people as they arrive? Could you drive people to and from the Hash Bash? Could you help with decorations or entertainment for the banquet? What about helping with the banquet fundraiser or tallying votes during the elections? If you would like to get involved, please contact Emily Salvette at [salvette@ameritech.net](mailto:salvette@ameritech.net) or 734-668-2607.

The convention is being organized by a committee that includes former State Chairman and LP of Washtenaw County secretary Emily Salvette, who organized the 2000 state convention in Ann Arbor; LP of Macomb County member Stacy Van Oast, who is a former State Chairman and organized the 1996 state convention; and Jim Fitzpatrick from the Tri-Cities LP who organized the 2001 state convention in Frankenmuth.

Five-six-seven-eight! Can't wait to see you — it will be great!

Editor's Note: Special thanks to Eric Stahl for the convention ad layout design!

# Libertarians in the News

## Grand Rapids District Parts Ways With School Board Associations

### Board Saves \$17,000 by forgoing memberships

The Grand Rapids school board voted this October to forgo membership in the Michigan Association of School Boards (NASB), saving over \$17,000 in district funds.

The MASB is the state's largest organization of school board members. Membership in the MASB allows school board to obtain membership in the National Association of School Boards. The Grand Rapids district is one of the few districts in the state to opt out of MASB and NASB.

The close 5-4 vote came after board member Jeff Steinport voiced his concern over sending taxpayer funds to an organization that did little for the board, especially in light of last year's \$1.6 million school budget deficit.

"It is wrong for the board to spend this money while the district cries poverty," Steinport told the *Michigan Education Report*. There are better uses for \$17,000."

However, opposing board members felt the association membership benefited the board by

providing services such as legal assistance and by offering networking opportunities. They also worried that the decision might damage perception of the district, since the majority of Michigan school boards participate in the associations.

Board President Jim Rinck told the *Grand*



LPM and Grand Rapids School Board member  
Jeff Steinport

*Rapids Press* he thought the vote was "amazingly short-sighted" adding, "I can't imagine how it will help us to make us look like isolationists. This is going to cost us a heck of a lot more in terms of reputation and effectiveness."

But Steinport disagreed, saying

membership in the association provided few useful services to the board and constituted an irresponsible use of school funding that could be spent in the classroom.

"Our legal title is 'Trustee,' and we're entrusted with taxpayer dollars," Steinport said. "This is one of the line items the board spends on itself, and I don't see the benefit when all the association lobbies for is status."

The MASB is none of many resource organizations open to public school board members around the state. One alternative is the Michigan School Board Leaders Association (MSBLA). MSBLA dues are \$25 per school board member.

For more information on MASB, visit [www.masb.org](http://www.masb.org).

For more information on MSBLA, visit [www.msbla.org](http://www.msbla.org)

*This article originally appeared in the Michigan Education Report and was reprinted with permission. [www.EducationReport.org](http://www.EducationReport.org)*

## Coon Family Fights Land Use Plan

by Renae Coon

First, I would like to start by saying hi to everyone who hasn't heard from Jon or myself in a "coon's age". We have been told by some of our friends active in the LPM that people think we have gone reclusive and don't participate in politics anymore. Well, we did move to a reclusive house (1/4-mile drive with an 80-acre backyard) but to the dismay of the politicians in Sanilac County, we are still active in politics. This story is about the day that we attended a "land use" meeting and the events that followed.

About two weeks before the November elections, the weekly issue of the county paper reported on land use discussions. Under the heading, "Officials plan for quality of life in county", the article quoted planners speaking of urban sprawl and the tax cost residents would have to bear for this growth, loss of farmland, destruction of downtowns and other disasters city dwellers bring to the country. They were holding meetings to create a county wide devel-

opment plan. This sounded like central planning and a property rights issue to Jon and me. Since I was a candidate for the U.S. House (Candice Miller eventually won) I thought I had a good chance at getting a letter to the editor printed. The letter started out quite patriotic with hopes of an America without the power of government favoritism, I moved into economics explaining how regulation has become America's version of socialism, asked the question who hired the land use consultant and point blank said "follow the money". I ended by giving an "out" by saying they may have good intentions but no social good can come from doing wrong to private citizens. Oh...I did suggest they read George Orwell's "1984". The next week's paper came without them printing the letter. Bummer, I thought! However, the following week's paper had a letter from the chairman of the planning commission urging participation in the planning committees. It

just so happened that Jon was home from work that day, so we got a babysitter and went to the meeting. Jon and I discussed beforehand that we were only there to get information. Fat Chance. Within ten minutes Jon told the consultant he was insulting his intelligence, held fire under the chairman to find out who was funding this planning and gave a speech on the dangers of definitions made by the government. I used my time keeping Jon in his seat, which was not easy during socialist discussions, and asked questions. After the meeting, I politely went up to the chairman and acknowledged we held up his agenda with so many questions and asked what I had to do to be a member of the land use committee. He said if I signed in, I would be on the mailing list for the next meetings. It was that easy! I asked to be on the committee and now I was. The entertainment started the day after I got on the committee. My letter to the editor was printed in the county

(continued on pg 5)

# Land Use

(continued from pg 4)

paper! Some things just plain work out.

Jon and I discussed the courses of action to take and he convinced me that he hasn't seen an issue with this much potential for public support since the 1994 gun issue. So, our next step cost us some money. We jokingly say it is from our entertainment budget. We purchased a ¼ page ad in the paper citing the date of the next land use meeting and urged attendance. The ad brought six people to the meeting. I went to the round table and Jon sat in the audience with the clipboard. Now, I didn't convince the committee of the evils of central planning but Jon did get the names of the attendees/activists.

It was the county's turn. They had three public meetings set up in December, but we knew when and where. Jon's idea...lit drop. We gathered our friends who live relatively close (they happen to be some of the organizers of the 1994 Lansing gun rights rally), and called the people who signed the clipboard. We paid for and printed 10,000 flyers advising our neighbors of the dates and times of the land use meetings and possible outcomes of these discussions. The flyers were distributed and people came. Oh did people come! The townhalls were packed and people where hot! We found our target market and we had the clipboard. We were not wrong either. Along with publicly applauding our efforts to inform them of the planning events at the county, the people in attendance overwhelmingly were in agreement with us. Jon took the tactic of addressing the language of the law. The new State law requires counties to have a general land use plan but says that if your county is zoned at a township level (Sanilac County is township zoned), a nonspecific plan can be used. The public, but not the planning commission (surprise, surprise) overwhelmingly agreed on a simple nondetailed plan that would satisfy the law. Jon also suggested the plan have this safeguard, "No township or municipality shall be bound to any provision of this land use plan nor shall any provision of this plan be used to deny county funds to any township or municipality otherwise entitled to such funds." Again, except for the members of the planning commission everyone in attendance was in favor. We considered the public meetings a victory. We had over 100 names on our clipboards and there was a weekly opinion page debate occurring.

# Two Powers

By Fred Collins

There seems to be a lot of confusion over what the Libertarian Party of Michigan can and cannot do. For an organization that grew out of the objectivist movement a surprising number of the party faithful seem to act as though we can wave a magic wand and things will happen. It shouldn't take an Ayn Rand level intellect to see that this isn't the case.

In reality the LPM has just two powers.

The first is philosophical. It is power to inspire. That's the one that draws people - both voters and activists - to the Libertarian alternative in the first place. We are sufficiently reality-based to know that nothing can make the world a utopia. But we are also idealistic enough to believe that we could make this a better world if we could simply persuade everyone to adopt and live by the objectivist/libertarian "non-aggression" axiom.

The second power the LPM has is organizational. It is the power to say 'No' to our candidates, activists and volunteers. We can tell them, "No, you can't do that in our name."

And that is the sum of our power.

Unlike government we cannot compel people to contribute. And unlike a private employer we do not have the resources to pay people to work for us. That makes us by comparison pretty powerless.

But it makes our accomplishments that much more amazing. So when someone steps forward and says, "I would like to run for that office" or "I would like to organize this project," we are strongly inclined to say "Yes." So long as the candidate represents our views, the activist has a well thought out plan and is willing to do

the work, we are very likely to give our endorsement.

But then there are the "youghta's." Every volunteer organization has them. And the LPM is no exception. These are the people who believe that there is nothing too difficult... for someone else to do. They are easily identified. They love to attend meetings. They are full of opinions. And they begin every proposal with: "You oughta..."

Sometimes their ideas are good. Sometimes not. The point is that in an organization with neither the power nor the desire to coerce, and without the resources to hire, *every* idea requires a volunteer to implement it.

I once heard a fellow activist quip that he was so sick of "youghta's" that his standing response became: "I would, but I am too busy now working on my plan to put a Libertarian sign on the moon."

Every project we have actually accomplished began with somebody with a well thought out plan who says, "I am so convinced that WE should do this that I will take responsibility for getting the work done and for raising the money needed."

Let me emphasize this point. *All* the progress we have made in the LPM happened this way. It is the *only* way we have ever accomplished anything!

In case you haven't noticed, I am attempting to use my "power to inspire" here. This is my invitation to you to come forward with your plans for what YOU want to do - not what someone else oughta do — to help move us towards greater liberty. Please feel free to email those plans to: Fred@Berkleyline.com

A reporter called me the after the public meetings and wanted our story. An article was printed January 1<sup>st</sup>. The chairman has taken to calling us...libertarians! He was quoted, "the libertarians want us to do what is only required by law." How radical of us. The reporter had me sounding like a down-to-earth person who only wants a safeguard in the plan. When the committee meetings resume, I will remind the other committee members (the majority of which work for the government) that my opinion is the same as the general publics and we can get an audience to the next meeting if they don't regard me earnestly. They have also provided

information that has Jon's brain churning! Oh, if they only knew the dangers in that.

If you are interested in more details of land use planning and our efforts in Sanilac County, we have a web site: [www.coonquantum.com/freesanilac.htm](http://www.coonquantum.com/freesanilac.htm). Land use planning initiatives are underway in every county not covered by concrete. These are serious threats to our freedom that are part of an International/National agenda. Just point your search engines to "Smartgrowth Network". Good bye for now and hope to see you at the convention.

In Liberty,  
Renae and Jon Coon



Saturday  
April 5, 2003

9:00am-9:30pm

Eagle Crest  
Conference/Resort  
Ypsilanti, Michigan

(734) 487-2000  
www.eaglecrestresort.com

For more  
information about  
the convention,  
visit  
[www.lpmich.org](http://www.lpmich.org)

**Mail this form  
with payment to:**

Libertarian Party of  
Michigan  
619 E. 9 Mile Rd.  
Hazel Park, MI 48030

**Hosts:**

Emily Salvette  
Stacy Van Oost  
Jim Fitzpatrick

Questions? Contact  
**Emily Salvette,**  
Convention Chair  
salvette@jannetech.net  
(734) 668-2607

One, Two,  
Three, Four...



Time to stop this  
D\*mn Drug War!

# Libertarian Party of Michigan State Convention

***Spend an exciting day with fellow libertarians!***

- One-day format – you spend less time and less money!
- Morning discussions on issues important to YOU.
- Same day as the annual Ann Arbor Hush Bush – help spread the message that this D\*mn Drug War has to go! Shuttle service to the rally provided.
- Afternoon business includes bylaws/platform consideration and officer elections beginning at 1:30 p.m.
- Your chance to hear what affiliates and activists around the state have accomplished this past year (and to brag about your accomplishments).
- Evening gala banquet featuring a thought-provoking Drug Policy Forum with Ron Crickenberger, Rob Kampia, and other exciting speakers.
- Sam Adams Hospitality Suite after the banquet sponsored by the Libertarian Party of Washtenaw County.

***It's your Party—without YOU, there is no LPM. Please be there!***

## Reservations

Phone and Address Name

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- Check enclosed (payable to LPM)  
 Credit Card \_\_\_\_\_ expiration \_\_\_\_\_

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Prices**

**By March 28th:** \$95.00 for everything  
\$55.00 Banquet only

**At the Door:** \$105.00 for everything  
\$ 75.00 Banquet only

**Meetings only:** \$30.00

**Banquet Program:** \$20.00 Does not include food

## Ron Crickenberger

# Drug Policy Forum

**National LP Political Director &  
Architect of the LP's Drug War Focus Strategy**

Born in 1955 in Charlottesville VA, Ron grew up around the symbols of the American Revolution. This is where he received an early appreciation of the Ideals that made this country great—Individual liberty and personal responsibility.

With the following background:

- Nearly 20 years as a successful small business owner.
- More than a decade of volunteer work with the Libertarian Party.
- Political Director for the National Libertarian Party.
- Campaign Manager for Carol Ann Rand who helped to defeat Bob Barr, the worst drug warrior in Congress.
- Produced a medical marijuana commercial that is being used by Libertarian candidates around the country.
- Ran for Congress in Virginia's 8<sup>th</sup> district focusing on drug reform issues.
- In June 2002, Ron was one of 10 demonstrators arrested for civil disobedience at the Justice Department in protest against the government's raids on medical marijuana clinics in California.

...Ron Crickenberger has developed a plan that seeks to end the Drug War at the federal level by 2012 by leveraging the Libertarian Party's influence on elections and policy at the local and national level.

So come join us for some insight into this plan...



**Robert Kampa**  
**Executive Director of MPP**  
[www.mpp.org](http://www.mpp.org)

Marijuana Policy Project (MPP) is the largest membership-based organization in the nation focusing on removing criminal penalties for medical marijuana use, as well as for healthy people. MPP is based in Washington D.C.

Since graduating with honors in 1993 from Penn State University, Rob has focused on ending the government's war on marijuana users by co-founding and serving as executive director of MPP. His pursuits have lead him to:

- Draft the medical marijuana bill that was signed into law by Hawaii governor Ben Cayetano in June 2000. This marked the first time that a medical marijuana law was created by a state legislature rather than through a ballot initiative.
- Run as a Libertarian for D.C. Delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives receiving 3% of the vote.
- Appear on such news stations as NBC, FOX News, CNBC, debating with a former Congressman, Attorney General and DEA Administrator as well as being quoted in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *USA Today* and hundreds of other publications.
- Testify before the California, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Ohio, and Washington State legislatures, as well as before the U.S. Sentencing Commission.
- And while testifying before a U.S. House subcommittee, he turned the committee's overt hostility to advantage, appearing in nationwide media coverage as more level-headed and responsible than those who opposed medical marijuana.



# Calendar of Events

*The calendar of events, affiliate meetings, and contact information were taken from the State Party website. If any of this information is incorrect, please let myself know or contact Ben Bachrach (ben45@aol.com) so that the necessary changes can be made.*

February 9.....LEC Meeting LPM Headquarters, 619 E. 9 Mile, Hazel Park 1:00

February 22...Tri-City LP Freedom Dinner Guest Speaker: Lawrence Reed, Mackinac Center for Public Policy The Paddock Restaurant, 1310 N. Henry, Bay City 7:00 For tickets, call Rosemarie Jozwiak at (989) 922-5226

March 2.....Bill Shotey memorial Service, LPM HQ 7:00

April 5.....LPM State Convention, see ad in newsletter

April 7.....Troy City Council Elections

## Affiliate Meetings

### Clare-Cladwin Counties

Meets the second Monday of each month at Grant Township Hall located on Surrey Road 1 mile west of Jays Sporting Goods in Clare at 7pm. Chair, Ghazey Aleck, (517) 386-5407, aleckfamily@voyager.net

### Kalamazoo County

Meets the first Monday of every month at 7:00 PM at TGI Friday's Restaurant in Oshtemo, Michigan. Chair, Mickey Hall, Mickhall09@aol.com

### Mid-West Michigan

General Membership meetings are every second Saturday at 6:00pm at Kountry Kitchen Restaurant, 1920 N. Mitchell in Cadillac. Chair, Brian Kluesner, (616) 723-7087, chair@lpmwm.org

### Thumb Area

Meets the second Tuesday of every month at Whitey's Restaurant in Davison. Chair, Paul Hitch, phitch@intouchmi.com

### Macomb County

The LMC holds regular monthly meetings on the second Wednesday of every month (excluding December) at Mile's World 17689 Masonic (near Groesbeck), Fraser, MI 48026. Join us for cocktails and/or dinner at 6:00 pm, business begins at 7:00 pm. Chair, Keith Edwards, (810) 777-7468, keithmarni@aol.com

### Oakland County

Meets the 4th Wednesday of every month at Sila's, 4033 W. 12 Mile Rd, Berkley. Sila's is 2 blocks east of Greenfield on the south side of 12 Mile Road. Chair, Fred Martin, (248) 394-0449, Fredtmartin@aol.com

### Shiawassee County

Meets the first and third Sunday of the month, 7:00pm, at 701 S. Chipman, Owosso. Chair, David Keyes, (517) 725-3100, dnskeyes@chartermi.net

### Tri-County LP

Holds a general meeting on the third Monday of each month at Howard Johnson's Restaurant near the intersection of I-75 and M-84. Dinner is followed by the evening's guest speaker at 7:30, and the business meeting shortly afterward. Chair, Stephen Townsend, (989) 631-4853, cooljay@triton.net

### University of Michigan Libertarians

Meetings are held the first and third Monday of each month in the Crofoot Rm of the Michigan Union on 530 S. State Street @ 6:30 PM. Chair, Daniel Sheill, dsheill@umich.edu

### Van Buren County

Meets on the third Thursday of the month, and as always; our meetings are open to the public. For the time being, we are meeting at the home of Bill and Barbara Bradley, 746 Lee Street, South Haven at 7:00pm. Chair Bill Bradley 616-637-4525, bbradley@cybersol.com.

### Washtenaw County

Meets every Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m. at Cubs AC Restaurant located in the Colonial Lanes Bowling Center, 1950 S Industrial Hwy, Ann Arbor. All meetings are open to the public. The first Thursday of every month is a business meeting. Other meetings feature speakers, project work, or social events. For more information contact Emily Salvette, salvette@ameritech.net, 734-668-2607 (days). Chair, Brett Cashman, (734) 481-1354, bjcash@aol.com

### Wayne County

Monthly meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month at City Tavern Restaurant in Dearborn at 14316 Michigan Ave., between Greenfield and Schaefer. Meeting begin at 7:30 pm, dinner orders are taken at 6:30. Chair, Greg Stempfle, (313) 359-3240, stempfle@hotmail.com

### West Michigan

Monthly meetings held in Grand Rapids at Club North's Banquet Room at 1359 Plainfield NE, just north of Leonard. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30pm. Chair, Tom Quinn, (616) 887-3053, mrtomq@yahoo.com



# Affiliate News

## West Michigan

**Bill Gelineau** has announced his candidacy for LPM Chair. Bill is a former chairman of the West Michigan LP and served on the LEC for two terms. He can be reached at [freedomlover59@hotmail.com](mailto:freedomlover59@hotmail.com)

## Wayne County

**Michael Donahue** was elected as affiliate vice-chair in December. Michael was one of the LPM Supreme Court candidates in 2002 and served on the Wayne County board. He will be replacing the late Bill Shotey who passed away of a heart attack in November. **Loel Gnad**t was elected in as the new board member.

The State House passed Resolution 622 honoring LP member Timothy Beck of Detroit for his many outstanding years making life better for the people of the city of Detroit

## Tri-Cities

The TCLP will be hosting a Freedom Dinner on Saturday, February 22 at the Paddock Restaurant in Bay City. The Guest Speaker will be Lawrence Reed of the Mackinac Center for Public Policy, who will talk about "The Seven Principles of Sound Public Policy" For tickets, call Rosmarie (989) 922-5229 or Stephen at (989) 631-4853

## Liberty Leadership Council

The LLC, a PAC created by former LPM Chair Ghazy Aleck was dissolved shortly after November's election. During it's existence, the LLC helped fund and train many outstate LP candidates who ran for local office. The LLC would like to thank everybody who made contributions and gave them support.

## Oakland Holds Strat Con IV

by Greg Dirasian

The Libertarian Party of Oakland County held StratCon IV on Saturday, January 11. StratCon IV was the fourth Strategic Planning Conference that the LPOC had held. Originally established to help focus on establishing and achieving goals, it has become an annual planning event.

In addition to 2 re-election campaigns this year, the LPOC plans to do many other things, including participating in the Hazel Park Me-

morial Day parade, the Clawson Independence Day parade and the Troy Daze parade. We also plan to get two people appointed in cities/townships we have never been in before, launch a Speaker's Bureau, and work with the state party to call lapsed members and survey them.

Our Speaker's Bureau will consist of an online database of high schools, colleges, universities, and service groups in Oakland County. We will do periodic mailings to the list, and we will schedule speaking engagements online so that we can track the results of our efforts.

We have also planned our general membership and executive committee meetings for the next year and entered them on the LPM web calendar. This should be an exciting year for the LPOC.

## University Should Stop Discriminating -Or Privatize

The University of Michigan should either stop discriminating by race or stop accepting public funds, says the Libertarian Party of Washtenaw County. "If the university insists on having a race-based admissions policy it has the moral obligation to stop accepting public funds," said Brett Cashman, Chair of the Libertarian Party of Washtenaw County.

The University of Michigan is fighting two lawsuits challenging its admissions policies. In the fall of 1997, two white students who were denied admission sued the school charging that race was a factor in the university's decisions. The Supreme Court will hear both their cases and is expected to rule this summer. On Thursday, the Bush administration filed a brief in support of the plaintiffs.

But Libertarians say the university's argument that having a racially diverse student body improves university education misses the point.

"Every private organization — including universities, businesses, and membership organizations — should be able to decide for themselves who gets admitted, without government interference," Cashman said. "But taxpayer-funded entities have an obligation not to discriminate, because every taxpayer is forced to subsidize such discrimination."

That's why Libertarians are advising the university to either drop its color-coded admissions policy or privatize, Cashman said.

"As the university points out, America is a diverse nation," Cashman said. "And that's exactly why every university should be free to choose its own admissions policy, without government interference.

"A college that wants to craft a policy to attract or exclude a particular group should be free to do that, so long as public money isn't involved. In a free country, any student should be free to attend an all-black, all-female or all-

white college, and those schools have every right to accommodate those individuals.

"Any individual who is offended by such a policy can demonstrate that by refusing to attend or contribute to such an institution. Other schools may want to attract a more diverse student body, and they should be allowed to do that as well."

But when public funding is involved, conflicts inevitably arise — as in the U of M case.

The lesson is that government funding promotes conflict and divisiveness, the party says.

"Perversely, applicants who are being rejected because of their race are the same people paying the salaries of the color-conscious bureaucrats who turned them away," said Cashman. "It's hard to think of a better way to promote racial conflict than the U of M's admissions policy.

"If the university really values racial diversity as much as it claims, it should prove it by having the courage to privatize."

# 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*

LEC Meeting

**December 8, 2002**

Called to order by Chairman James Hudler at 1:00pm.

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	absent
At-Large Director	Erin Stahl	present

JH-Motion by Jerry Bloom, second by Paul Hitch, to accept proposed agenda (attached), with five minutes added for Chair report, five minutes added for Membership report, and change Item 7 from "West Michigan Affiliate" to "Activist Meeting." Carried by voice vote.

JH-Chair report. Will visit West Michigan affiliate to address concerns expressed by affiliate chairman Tom Quinn. Announced death of Bill Shotey, whose passing and contributions will be noted in the Michigan Libertarian and LP News. A neighbor of Paul Reimer, Libertarian candidate for Eaton County Commissioner, recently complained to Mr. Hudler about erratic behavior from Mr. Reimer. We will attempt to work through the affiliate chair to handle this issue.

KW-Secretary report. Motion by Keith Wesselmann, second by Erin Stahl, to accept minutes of the October 13 LEC meeting, distributed prior to the meeting. Carried by voice vote.

BB-Treasurer report has been distributed (attached). Two items of note are not addressed on balance sheet. The national LP owes the LPM an additional \$721 in UMP payments, and the IRS is attempting to levy over \$1200 in penalties & interest because Form 990 filed last April was unsigned and had the wrong tax ID number listed on it. A letter has been sent to the IRS asking to have the fees waived. It would be better to wait until the end of the meeting to vote on the proposed budget, so that it can be adjusted accordingly if there are any motions for additional expenditures.

Motion by Diane Barnes, second by Jerry Bloom, to send a letter from the LEC to the national LP requesting that they not withhold UMP payments. Carried by voice vote.

JB-Affiliate Organization. No progress has been made in the last month regarding the unaffiliated areas of the state. There is some concern regarding the St. Clair County affiliate because their Chairman is dealing with legal difficulties. Paul Hitch will contact the affiliate's other officers to help determine whether they are able to sustain themselves an independent affiliate. Shiawassee is another concern as it is mostly made up of members of the Steele family, some of



whom have expressed that they are likely to withdraw from active involvement.

JB-Activist meeting will be held January 25 at 12:30pm. The meeting will include a pot-luck lunch. Greg Stempfle requested that the newsletter be included as an agenda item for

that meeting.

SVO-Convention Report (attached). Need to fill in details of roundtable discussions. By-laws and Platform committee chairs need to be appointed. At the February LEC meeting standing rules need to be adopted for the convention.

GD-Greg Dirasian distributed a letter (attached) expressing concern about the LPM Discussion List (lpm-discussion@yahoogroups.org). Recommended periodically posting an advisory (contained in the text of the attached letter). Motion by Paul Hitch, second by Dave Collver, to close agenda item and move to next item on the meeting agenda. Motion failed by 4-3 vote.

Motion by Ben Bachrach, second by Keith Wesselmann, to approve periodic posting of the suggested note suggested in Greg Dirasian's letter.

Motion by Keith Wesselmann, second by Dave Collver, to strike second sentence from first paragraph, second paragraph, fifth and sixth paragraphs, and add " , www.lpmich.org" to third paragraph. Carried by voice vote.

Motion by Dave Collver, second by Jerry Bloom, to close discussion. Carried by voice vote.

Main motion carried by voice vote.

DB-Holiday party will be held December 16 at LPM Headquarters in Hazel Park.

JH-Operation Farm Team strategic plan was distributed (attached).

Motion by Keith Wesselmann, second by Jerry Bloom, to implement Operation Farm Team. Carried by 6-1 vote.

GS-Newsletter report. The printer has finished producing the newsletter, which will go to the post office within two days and members will receive it by the end of the week. Mr. Stempfle expressed gratitude to Greg Dirasian for his assistance with this issue.

BB-Federal campaign finance law changes that took effect November 6 mean that the national LP can no longer accept any money from the LPM Operating Fund. We can either start a new fund in order to comply, or the treasurer can personally pay liabilities to National and be reimbursed by the LPM.

ES-Membership report. Current membership is 1,092. Plan for increasing membership includes having office staff/volunteers call lapsed members, promoting affiliate meetings in local newspaper community calendars, and through affiliate chairs.

JH-Members speaking session. Tom Jones reported that the Green Party is having a meeting for election reform at their headquarters. David Raaflaub encouraged the LPM to get behind the proportional representation initiative. Greg Stempfle announced that Michael Donahue has been appointed Vice Chair of the Wayne County affiliate, succeeding the late Bill Shotey. Ray Warner pointed out that the ACLU has increased its membership by 50,000 since September 11, 2001, which means there is a market for liberty for those who can get their message out.

BB-Motion by Ben Bachrach, second by Dave Collver, to accept proposed revision of

# Bill Shotey

1932-2002



Bill Shotey

Bill Shotey, long-time Libertarian activist, passed away on November 20, 2002 at the age of 70 in Phoenix, AZ where he had gone to spend the winter with family.

Although his first involvement with the LP was in California, Bill really became a major force in the party after he returned to his home state of Michigan in 1987.

He immediately got involved in his Wayne County affiliate, serving as vice chair

of the LPM's second largest affiliate for more than a decade. Bill took primary responsibility for organizing monthly Wayne County meetings and was especially adept at bringing in an impressive list of guest speakers, including such libertarian movement notables as Reason Magazine editor, Bob Poole, and local celebrities such as WWJ talk show host, David Newman, as well as numerous, national LP figures such as Karl Hess, Dr. Ron Paul and Harry Browne.

In addition to his Wayne County involvement Bill also dedicated himself to the LPM, becoming the party's first media liaison, obtaining numerous television and radio appearances and newspaper interviews, for dozens of LP candidates and activists.

Bill was also the LPM's premier fund-raiser — a key player in many efforts including the Michigan 16-5 committee in 1996 that successfully led the top of ticket campaign for Harry Browne that resulted in retention of our ballot status.

He also used his talents for lobbying, becoming chairman of the LPM

## LEC Minutes

budget. Carried by voice vote.

JH-Motion by Dave Collver, second by Keith Wesselmann, to adjourn. Carried by voice vote.

Respectively Submitted,

Keith Wesselmann, LPM Secretary

*Below is the advisory which the LEC has asked to be posted on the unofficial lpm discussion list.*

Dear List Subscribers,

Please note that this is an UN-official discussion list and is not monitored by the LPM. Postings to the list are merely the opinion of the poster and not necessarily based on fact.

Anybody who has legitimate concerns about the Libertarian Party of Michigan may raise those concerns with the volunteer in charge of that particular area (web site, newsletter, membership, etc.). Contact information is available on our Web site, [www.lpmich.org](http://www.lpmich.org).

If that person is unable to help, then those concerns should be brought to the attention of the LEC. If the LEC cannot or will not help, those concerns may be raised with the LPM Judicial Committee.

Yours In Liberty,

LPM Executive Committee

lobbying committee that successfully achieved a change in Michigan's ballot access retention law.

In 2000, he received the LPM Defender of Liberty Award.

Most recently, Bill joined with three other long-time party members to form an independent political action committee called the Small Government Alliance that within six months had already raised and spent more than \$30,000 for, among other causes, the reelection campaign of state representative Leon Drolet (an LPM member who was elected as a Republican) and the defeat of the Proposal K arts tax.

After attending the election night party at the LPM HQ celebrating both victories, Bill flew with his mother to his brother's home in Arizona for some much deserved R&R in sunnier climes. Sadly, he was taken ill the next day with heart-related problems and rushed to the Phoenix VA hospital (he was also a veteran) where he passed away two weeks later.

In addition to his mother and brother Bill is also survived by a sister. Bill's loss is a great tragedy, not only for his family, but for the Libertarian Party and the entire cause of freedom. He will be sorely missed.

## Memorial Service

On March 2nd, there will be a memorial held at the LPM HQ beginning at 7:00. Because Bill Shotey's entire family is living in Arizona, no services have been held here in Michigan. We would like to celebrate the life of this great man and bring closure to his sudden passing. Please bring along any pictures you may have of Bill from various LP events he attended. Contact Wayne Co Chair Greg Stempfle for more information. Plans will be posted Online once they become finalized.

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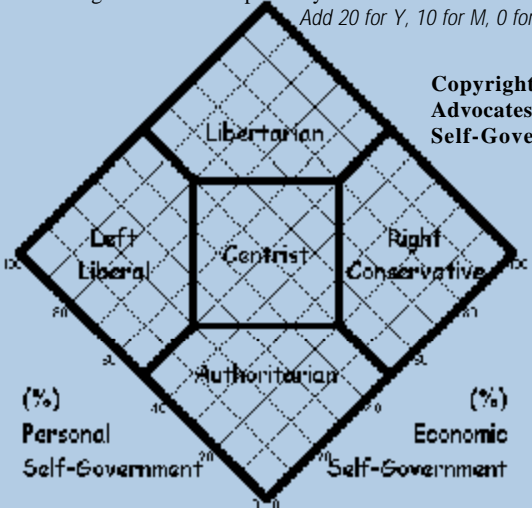
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# World's Smallest Political Quiz

Personal Issues	Y	M	N
Military service should be voluntary. (No draft)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Govt. should not control radio, TV, the press or the Internet	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Repeal regulations on sex for consenting adults	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Drug laws do more harm than good. Repeal them.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Let peaceful people cross borders freely.	<input type="radio"/>	<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"/>	<input type="radio"/>
People are better off with free trade than with tariffs.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Minimum wage laws cause unemployment. Repeal them.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
End taxes. Pay for services with user fees.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
All foreign aid should be privately funded.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Add 20 for Y, 10 for M, 0 for N</i>			



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*If you score Libertarian, we invite you to join the Libertarian Party.*

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

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Signature required for national membership)*

Please charge this to my credit card (Visa or Mastercard only):

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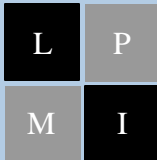
My check or money order (payable to LPM) is enclosed.

Mail to: **Libertarian Party of Michigan**  
**619 E. 9 Mile Rd.**  
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