

Michigan Libertarian

Volume 33, Issue 5

November/December 2004

Looking Back

Election 2004 Analysis

by Leonard Schwartz

Since 1980 the Libertarian Party has claimed that it is the third largest political party in America. That claim has been true regarding the number of states in which the party is on the ballot, the number of candidates on the ballot, and the number of members elected to public office.

Regarding the number of votes that our candidate for president received, however, that claim was not true in the three previous presidential elections. The Libertarian candidate came in fourth place behind the Reform Party candidate in 1992 and in fifth place behind the Reform Party and Green Party candidates in 1996 and 2000.

In 2004 the Libertarian Party is once again the undisputed third largest party. Michael Badnarik received more votes than all the other small party presidential candidates combined. He receive well over twice as many votes as the Constitution Party candidate and over three times as many votes

(cont'd on pg. 14)



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by Ernie Whiteside

What do the results of the 2004 election say about the prospects for Liberty in our lifetime? Our nation, state, county and city have told us where their minds and hearts are ... or have they? First, let us examine the macroscopic national picture.

Total Number of Votes in the 2004 Presidential Election 115,427,728. Estimated Voting Age Population of the United States (July 1, 2003) 217,766,271.

Nationwide, a record turnout of voters at the poles made news headlines! George W. Bush enjoyed the highest number of popular votes cast for any winning presidential candidate and John F. Kerry enjoyed the largest number of popular votes ever cast for a losing candidate. The real headline should read, "Non-Voters are the Sleeping Bear." Had even half of the non-voters turned out for Michael Badnarik and the other half for David Cobb, the election would have been a four way race with no clear victor.

I continue to be amazed that almost half of the nation is letting the other half rule them! I know from past surveys that most of these non-voters are NOT apathetic, they simply do not see how either of the apparent victors will provide them with real representation. Demopulbicans and Republicrats both offer America a future with larger, more expensive and more intrusive government.

ONLY Libertarians offer America any hope that government will get smaller, less expensive and less intrusive.

The Michigan political picture is not dramatically different than that of the nation. My analysis is somewhat different though. Each statewide race listed has votes received and percent of ballots cast. Statewide candidates are also compared to percent of votes cast for the Secretary of State in the 2002 general election. If any political party's principal candidate receives 5% or more of the total votes cast for all candidates for the office of secretary of state in the last preceding state election, either in the state or in any political subdivision affected, that political party is eligible to make its nominations by the direct primary method. Also, if the principal candidate of a political party receives a vote equal to 1% or more of the total number of votes cast for the successful candidate for the office of secretary of state at the last preceding general November election in which a secretary of state was elected, that political party is eligible to have the name of its candidate printed on the ballots at the next ensuing general November election, and a column provided on the ballots for that party.

Candidate	Votes Rec'd
% of Ballots	% Sec State
Michael Badnarik (LIB)(President)	10,548 0.22%
David Cobb	0.34%

(GRN)(President)	5,311	0.11%	0.17%
Michael Peroutka (UST)(President)	4,962	0.10%	0.16%
Ralph Nader (NPA)(President)	23,934	0.49%	0.77%
Scotty Bowman (Board of Education)	136,274	2.8%	4.4%
Ernie Whiteside (Board of Education)	59,873	1.2%	1.9%
Michael Corliss (UoM Board of Regents)	75,118	1.5%	2.4%
James Hudler (UoM Board of Regents)	63,930	2.1%	1.3%
Bill Hall (MSU Board of Trustees)	89,092	1.8%	2.9%
Michael Miller (MSU Board of Trustees)	80,634	1.7%	2.6%
Jerry Jankiewicz (WSU Board of Gov's)	99,342	2.0%	3.2%
Thomas Jones (WSU Board of Governors)	80,036	1.6%	2.6%
Leonard Schwartz (Sup Ct Chief Justice)	443,049	9.1%	14.3%
Total number of Ballots Cast Statewide	4,863,255		
Total number of Votes Cast for Sec of State in 2002	3,099,208		
All third parties that put forward candidates			(cont'd on pg. 4)

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The *Michigan Libertarian* is published bimonthly as the official newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Michigan, 913 W. Holmes, Lansing, MI 48910. Phone: (888) FREENOW

Submissions: Please email articles to newsletter@lpmich.org
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Preserving Your Reproductive Rights

by Erin Stahl

President Bush has announced his plan to select Dr. W. David Hager to head up the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Reproductive Health Drugs Advisory Committee. The committee has not met for more than two years, during which time its charter lapsed. As a result, the Bush Administration is tasked with filling all eleven positions with new members. This position does not require Congressional approval. The FDA's Reproductive Health Drugs Advisory Committee makes crucial decisions on matters relating to drugs used in the practice of obstetrics, gynecology and related specialties, including hormone therapy, contraception, treatment for infertility, and medical alternatives to surgical procedures for sterilization and pregnancy termination.

Whether you are pro-choice or pro-life this guy Dr. W. David Hager, is bad news for the women in your lives whom you love. I can see it now if he is appointed...we as women will have NO say in our reproductive lives with the amount of legislation this guy will propose. It sounds as if it would even get to a point where he wouldn't want women having an epidural during birth because "It could harm the baby".

These issues are for the individual, the family, the church, and their doctor NOT government. I don't want my body legislated to the point where I will be a virtual prisoner of my body due to legislation and I know you wouldn't want that for your loved ones either. So please read the following and pass it on.

Dr. Hager is the author of "As Jesus Cared for Women: Restoring Women Then and Now." The book blends biblical accounts of Christ healing Women with case studies from Hager's practice. His views of reproductive health care are far outside the mainstream for reproductive technology. Dr. Hager is a practicing OB/GYN who describes himself as "pro-life" and refuses to prescribe contraceptives to unmarried women.

In the book Dr. Hager wrote with his wife, entitled "Stress and the Woman's Body," he suggests that women who suffer from premenstrual syndrome should seek help from reading the bible and praying. As an editor and contributing author of "The Reproduction Revolution: A Christian Appraisal of Sexuality Reproductive Technologies and the Family," Dr. Hager appears to have endorsed the medically inaccurate assertion that the common birth control pill is an abortifacient.

We are concerned that Dr. Hager's strong religious beliefs may color his assessment of technologies that are necessary to protect women's lives for to preserve and promote women's health. Hager's track record of using religious beliefs to guide his medical decision-making makes him a dangerous and inappropriate candidate to serve as chair of this committee. Critical drug public policy and research must not be held hostage by antiabortion politics. Members of this important panel should be appointed on the basis of science and medicine, rather than politics and religion. American women deserve no less. There is something you can do.

Below is a statement to be sent to the White House, opposing the placement of Hager:

"We oppose the appointment of Dr. W. David Hager to the FDA Reproductive Health Drugs Advisory Committee. Mixing religion and medicine is unacceptable in a policy-making position. Using the FDA to

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Building For the Future

by Dan Sheill

For the libertarian movement to grow and thrive, it is imperative that our ideas are exposed to and inculcated in the minds of America's youth. Here in Michigan, the LPM can do its part toward this effort by fostering the creation and growth of student organizations on our college campuses. As a recent graduate of the University of Michigan where I was the Chair of the College Libertarians for two years, I feel that I have the authority to speak to this point.

LPers, keep in mind that these student groups need not be strictly partisan organizations. There are many philosophical small "l" libertarians out there who are turned off by partisan politics, and many College Republicans or even Democrats may show interest in becoming part of the group as long as they know that they would not have to switch parties to do so. Keep in mind the overall objective here is to create more libertarian-minded people. The Libertarian Party is simply one means to that end and not an end in and of itself. One need look no further than the Hillsdale Liberals for an example of a non-partisan student club that is nonetheless one of the most successful nationwide.

Purpose of College Libertarians:

Essentially, the main purpose of the College Libertarians is infuse the ideas of liberty in our youth and thereby help develop future community leaders who will espouse the values of freedom over statism. This is drastically needed on college campuses (especially ones like Michigan where although communism has finally lost credibility, the supposed merits of Western European-style social democracy is continuously praised by most professors in the social sciences).

College Libertarian groups are also a great way of developing social networks amongst like-minded individuals. I can attest from experience that being a libertarian at a large university can at times feel like being alone in the wilderness. By effectively advertising the presence of a college libertarian club on campus you can bring together a group of people who otherwise would have never met. And finally, by maintaining a visible presence on campus, a student group contributes to desperately needed name recognition and credibility of the Libertarian Party.

Priorities:

As the group founder or present chair, you

will have the responsibility of tackling all the routine tasks and busy work that the university bureaucracy sets forth in front of you. First thing's first: get recognition as a student organization on your campus. Contact your Office of Student Affairs, Student Government, etc. and acquire whatever sign-up sheets are necessary to form a sanctioned student group on campus. For example, at Michigan four people were needed to sign three separate sheets addressing everything from registration with student government to access to the organization's financial account and statements.

The benefits of being recognized often include free use of university facilities for meetings, access to free web-space for a club website, and eligibility for student government funds to host speakers or other events. (As a matter of principle, though, you may decide to forgo any kind of university funding and make the involuntary student activity fees a staple issue for campus outreach efforts.)

The national LP suggests at the end of each year, the student club should elect new officers for the following school year. However, this is often an unrealistic goal and strict compliance with their blueprint can be impractical. At the end of each year, make sure instead there is at least one person, whether or not it's yourself, that can be counted on to keep the group going in the future.

Also, maintain regular communication and association with the local county party affiliate. They can provide you with both moral and financial support for minor expenses. And since members of the local affiliate, unlike college students, are not transient, they will have a greater interest and ability to ensure that a student group remains on campus permanently. As College Libertarian chair, you should act as sort of a liaison between the county party and campus organization.

When I took over as Chair of the College Libertarians at Michigan, the entire group was literally passed on to only two people. I was made Chair and the other kid was vice chair. By next fall, the other kid was no longer active in the group and I was left by myself to start a new year. The College Libertarians will usually be a student organization that is much smaller in raw numbers relative to the campus Republican and

Democratic counterparts. Therefore, maintaining separate officers for positions such as chair and treasurer can be counterproductive. Unless you have a core of five to seven members that you can count on never missing a meeting, it's more efficient to leave the treasury and executive powers vested in the group chair. And if there's a vice chair, make him the secretary as well, since it's impractical for the chair to write the minutes to a meeting which he is conducting.

Meetings:

The frequency of meetings will vary with the size, commitment, and available time of your group. I personally believe, however, that the College Libertarians should meet a bare minimum of twice a week. Even though no one may show up at first (believe me I've been there) don't get discouraged and decide to hold fewer meetings. Doing so would only be moving backwards towards disbanding before you ever get started.

If you're currently a student at a college campus which does not have a libertarian group but you would like to start one, my first word of advice is simply to be persistent yet patient with your efforts. You're not going to create a new group overnight and it will take time to see the fruits of your labor reaped. Remember the words, "If you build it they will come!"

The structure of meetings can be informal and do not have to rigidly follow Robert's Rules of Parliamentary Procedure, although avoid reverting into a debate club when you do have them. Because of this, I personally do not feel that by-laws are necessary. Although if you choose to have them here is some inspiration: <http://www.lp.org/services/clh/constitution.html>.

I do not believe in separate meetings for social, business, and discussion purposes as the time commitment to do all three is unrealistic and it is only practical to address the multiple agenda items of the group at each consecutive meeting when thoughts come to mind. It is also not necessary to collect dues as a prerequisite for individuals to attend and vote at meetings (because frankly it's hard enough to get them to show up in the first place). Although, unless you have a "sugar daddy" such

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Election 2004 Analysis

(cont'd from pg. 1) thereof, by the voters. The average vote take was 1.8% with the range being from 1.2% to 3.0%. U.S. Taxpayers consistently enjoyed slightly more than average support; Greens and Natural Laws had slightly less than average support. Libertarians enjoyed average support but were inconsistent in their vote take covering the full spectrum of possibilities.

U.S. Taxpayer candidate, Karen Adams, was the high vote taker with 144,751 votes (3.0%) and Libertarian, Scotty Bowman came in second with 136,274 votes (2.8%). Scotty Bowman's excellent showing may not be a true reflection of party strength, since he shares his name with a relatively famous hockey coach. The Natural Law Party top vote taker was Katherine Dern with 87,475 votes (1.8%) and the top Green vote taker was Peter Ponzetti with 85,557 votes (1.8%).

All of the third parties maintained their ballot status for the 2006 general election but none of them succeeded in taking 5% or more of the 2002 Secretary of State vote needed to become an eligible to participate in primary elections.

The excellent vote take of Leonard Schwartz for Supreme Court Chief Justice is an indicator of how much better candidates do when they must run in a NON-partisan race.

Presidential candidates for all third parties took VERY small percentages of the vote. This clearly demonstrates how lukewarm support for any third party really is. Voters may have sympathy for, or leanings toward, any of the third parties, but when it comes to using their vote to support the candidates for the highest office in the land, they generally vote for major party candidates. Still, we can learn something from the numbers. About 0.1% to 0.2% of the voters strongly support third party candidates. While 1.1% to 2.8% have preferences for third parties but do not have a strong sense of support for candidates that they think will lose in races for higher offices.

Libertarian candidate for president, Michael Badnarik did twice as well as Green, Taxpayer and Natural Law candidates in the election and nearly as well as Ralph Nader. This demonstrates that our presidential and other

higher office candidates, their campaign teams and the Party in general are doing relatively more for our lower office candidates than those of the other third parties. It should also be noticed that Badnarik enjoys only the support of 0.22% of Michigan voters while enjoying 0.33% of voters nationwide. This demonstrates that the party members in Michigan did not support his candidacy as well as he supported our party.

Now, we will look more microscopically at candidate performance on the county level. Here we will evaluate not only the presidential and education board races but a race for state representative. We will compare Badnarik's performance with that of the various other candidates for state representative.

Generally, presidential and education board candidates enjoyed support in Monroe County similar to, or slightly better than, that enjoyed statewide when evaluated as a percentage of ballots cast; 1222 votes were cast for Badnarik and votes cast for education board candidates ranged between 757 and 2,316 with an average of 1,721 votes being cast for Libertarians.

Libertarian candidate Lance Piedmonte, actively campaigned for state representative district 56. He was a candidate with connections in the Republican Party and name recognition in Monroe.

Candidate	Votes	% of Votes
Herb Kerhl (DEM)	21,551	49.1%
John Manor (REP)	20,670	47.1%
Lance Piedmonte (LIB)	1,068	2.4%
Robert Kull (GRN)	594	1.4%
Total Votes Cast	43,883	

Piedmonte's vote take was similar to those taken by state representative candidate's statewide. The average percentage of votes taken by Libertarians was 2.1% with the ranging being from 0.9% to 3.0%. The support for Libertarians did not appear to be affected by Democratic or Republican leanings, close elections or

a fourth candidate, although if the fourth candidate ran with No Party Affiliation, they did much better than the Libertarian (3.3% and 4.1%) and appear to have taken votes away from the Libertarian in one race but not in the other. Taxpayers and Greens did not appear to take votes from Libertarians. The U.S. Taxpayer candidate did nearly as well as the Libertarian and the Green was somewhat lower in vote take.

The estimated population of Monroe County that is voter age is 112,827 of which only 74,674 cast ballots. IF these residents had divided their votes between the Libertarian and Green candidates in about the same proportion as the voters did, the Libertarian would have been in a tight three-way race.

The U.S. Congressional races were also very interesting with many contested by multiple third-party candidates. Libertarians ran in all fifteen districts. In all but two races, Libertarians fared as well or slightly better than other third party candidates. One Detroit district preferred the Green candidate and a Taxpayer candidate fared better in District Seven than any other third party candidate for U.S. Congress (3.0%). Libertarian candidates averaged 1.2% of the vote with a range of 0.7% to 2.0%. Libertarian vote take did not appear to be affected by Democrat or Republican leanings, although Greens fared better in heavily Democrat districts. The presence of other third party candidates on the ballot did not appear to affect the vote take of Libertarians.

A recent survey of voters indicated at 70% of all likely voters had heard of the Libertarian Party. While we enjoy greater name recognition than at any time in the 30 year history of the Party, we do not appear to be any closer to winning partisan elections for state and national office. The non-voting population may be source of future improvement in the Party's vote take and cooperative efforts including Greens, Taxpayers and Natural Laws should be encouraged since those who lean in the direction of any of these parties do not appear to be likely to vote for one of the other third parties in upcoming elections.

2004 Election Results

Results are unofficial

Candidate Party votes %

President

Bush, George REP 59,290,486 51.0
 Kerry, John DEM 55,755,514 48.0
 Nader, Ralph IND 495,734 0.4
Badnarik, Michael LIB 396,658 0.3
 Peroutka, Micheal UST 147,743 0.1
 Cobb, David GRN 105,966 0.1

State Board of Education

McGuire, Marianne DEM 2,110,358 25.3
 Danhof, Nancy REP 1,955,833 23.5
 Moyer, Herbert DEM 1,949,122 23.4
 Smart, Robert REP 1,807,760 21.7
Boman, Scotty LIB 136,704 1.64
 Graeser, Gail UST 92,854 1.11
 Ponzetti, Peter GRN 84,789 1.02
 Poortenga, Stephanie UST 79,463 0.95
Whiteside, Ernie LIB 60,082 0.72
 McLogan, Colette NLP 57,516 0.69

U of Michigan Board of Regents

Maynard, Olivia DEM 2,090,531 25.5
 Taylor, Martin DEM 1,912,883 23.3
 Anderson, Patrick REP 1,860,077 22.7
 Meyers, Carl REP 1,825,478 22.3
 Adams, Karen UST 144,968 1.77
 Debusschere, Mary NLP 77,244 0.94
Corliss, Michael LIB 75,196 0.92
 Damren, Nathaniel GRN 74,589 0.91
 Sanger, Joe UST 73,618 0.90
Hudler, James LIB 64,052 0.78

MSU Board of Trustees

Ferguson, Joel DEM 2,049,803 25.1
 Foster, Melanie REP 1,924,157 23.6
 Thompson, Phil DEM 1,906,673 23.3
 Pittman, Randall REP 1,826,786 22.4
 Van Sickle, Crystal UST 129,845 1.59
Hall, Bill LIB 89,241 1.09
 Dern, Katherine NLP 86,920 1.06
Miller, Michael LIB 80,809 0.99
 Burgis, Benjamin GRN 74,919 0.92

WSU Board of Governors

Abbott, Tina DEM 1,994,009 24.8
 Miller, Annetta DEM 1,992,068 24.8
 Haroutunian, Susan REP 1,769,818 22.0
 Hillemonds, Paul REP 1,836,098 22.8
Jankiewicz, Jerry LIB 99,525 1.24
 Adams, Philip UST 97,627 1.22
 Guttschall, Margaret GRN 81,639 1.02

Jones, Thomas LIB 80,180 1.00
 Oakford, Kathleen NLP 78,117 0.97

Candidate Party votes %

Supreme Court

non-partisan, nominated by parties
 Kelly, Marilyn DEM 2,130,324 35.0
 Markman, Stephen REP 1,667,873 27.4
 Thomas, Deborah DEM 1,259,666 20.7
 Zahra, Brian REP 593,362 9.7
Schwarz, Leonard LIB 444,099 7.3

US Congress

Dist 1

Stupak, Bart DEM 211,483 65.6
 Hooper, Don REP 105,669 32.8
 Newland, David GRN 3,107 0.96
Loosemore, John LIB 2,291 0.71

Dist 2

Hoekstra, Peter REP 224,470 69.1
 Kotos, Kimon DEM 94,772 29.2
Van Til, Steve LIB 2,840 0.87
 Graeser, Ronald UST 2,668 0.82

Dist 3

Ehlers, Vernon REP 214,375 66.6
 Hickey, Peter DEM 101,405 31.5
Adams, Warren LIB 3,694 1.15
 Sales, Marcel UST 2,545 0.79

Dist 4

Camp, Dave REP 149,093 64.4
 Huckelberry, Mike DEM 110,692 34.8
Chia, Al Jr. LIB 2,758 0.87

Dist 5

Kildee, Dale DEM 158,709 91.6
 Kirkwood, Myrah REP 96,934 31.3
 Mikkelson, Harley GRN 2,473 0.80
Foster, Clint LIB 2,346 0.76

Dist 6

Upton, Fred REP 197,377 65.4
 Elliot, Scott DEM 97,935 32.4
 MacPhee, Randall GRN 2,306 0.76
Haas, Erwin LIB 2,265 0.75
 FitzSimmons, Dennis UST 2,167 0.72

Dist 7

Schwarz, Joe REP 175,453 58.3
 Renier, Sharon DEM 109,218 36.3
 Horn, David UST 9,006 2.99

Seagraves, Jason GRN 4,008 1.33
Proctor, Ken LIB 3,082 1.02

Candidate Party votes %

Dist 8

Rogers, Mike REP 207,880 61.1
 Alexander, Robert DEM 125,566 36.9
White, Will LIB 3,590 1.05
 Mangopoulos, John UST 3,287 0.97

Dist 9

Knollenberg, Joe REP 199,160 58.5
 Reifman, Steven DEM 134,696 39.5
Schubring, Robert LIB 6,825 2.0

Dist 10

Miller, Candice REP 227,696 68.6
 Casey, Rob DEM 98,047 29.5
Basso, Phoebe LIB 3,966 1.2
 America, Anthony NLP 2,149 0.65

Dist 11

McCotter, Thaddeus REP 186,385 57.0
 Truran, Phillip DEM 134,314 41.1
Basso, Charles LIB 6,489 1.98

Dist 12

Levin, Sander DEM 140,934 68.3
 Shafer, Randell REP 87,579 29.0
Gach, Dick LIB 5,036 1.66

Dist 13

Kilpatrick, Carolyn DEM 171,811 78.2
 Cassel, Cynthia REP 40,571 18.5
 Lavigne, Thomas GRN 4,204 1.91
Gordon, Eric LIB 3,199 1.46

Dist 14

Conyers, Jr., John DEM 211,646 83.8
 Pedraza, Veronica REP 35,028 13.9
Donahue, Michael LIB 2,272 0.9
 Weltman, Lisa GRN 2,193 0.87
 Sears, Wilbert UST 1,288 0.51

Dist 15

Dingell, John DEM 218,416 70.9
 Reamer, Dawn REP 81,816 26.6
Stempfle, Greg LIB 3,400 1.10
 Eller, Mike UST 2,507 0.81
 White, Jerome IND 1,815 0.59

State House

Dist 12

Tobocman, Steve DEM 13,680 86.7

2004 Election Results

Salazar, Anita REP 1,775 11.3
Warner, Raymond LIB 326 2.07

Schwartz, Michael DEM 21,613 45.3
Allen, Nathan LIB 1,092 2.3

Diaz, Mariano LIB 1,233 2.99

Candidate Party votes %

Dist 13

Farrah, Barbara DEM 26,393 64.0
 Stasik, Darrell REP 14,302 34.7
Morse, Bruce LIB 534 1.30

Dist 16

Plakas, Jim DEM 26,257 70.6
 Lauster, Jeffrey REP 9,284 25.0
Nagy, David LIB 900 2.40
 Lowry, William UST 764 2.05

Dist 17

Dillon, Andy DEM 25,197 59.3
 Husk, Darryl REP 16,213 38.2
Morgan, Kerry LIB 1,091 2.57

Dist 23

Law, Kathleen DEM 23,998 54.6
 Vollenweider, Bill REP 19,202 43.7
Secula, Richard LIB 727 1.66

Dist 26

Donigan, Marie DEM 22,772 49.1
 Ginotti, Carlo REP 20,957 45.2
 Savage, Dale IND 1,529 3.29
Sjoberg, Sara LIB 1,148 2.47

Dist 27

Meisner, Andy DEM 32,441 73.1
 Axtell, William REP 10,749 24.2
Sherman, Lloyd LIB 1,188 2.68

Dist 28

Wojno, Lisa DEM 24,014 70.4
 Knue, Timothy REP 9,573 28.1
Samoranski, Stephen LIB 539 1.58

Dist 31

Miller, Fred DEM 21,263 54.9
 Morelli, William REP 16,518 42.7
Miller, James LIB 949 2.45

Dist 32

Acciavatti, Dan REP 28,987 65.7
 Landsiedel, Michael DEM 14,129 32.0
Zemens, Joseph LIB 1,006 2.28

Dist 39

Law, David REP 24,988 52.4

Candidate Party votes %

Dist 45

Garfield, John REP 31,982 63.1
 Werth, Thomas DEM 17,361 34.3
Fontana, Retta LIB 1,326 2.6

Dist 54

Wheeler Smith, Alma DEM 28,562 67.8
 Myers, Jason REP 12,694 30.1
Raaflaub, David LIB 860 2.04

Dist 56

Kehrl, Herb DEM 21,551 49.1
 Manor, John REP 20,670 47.1
Piedmonte, Lance LIB 1,068 2.43
 Kull, Robert GRN 594 1.35

Dist 71

Jones, Rick REP 28,260 59.0
 Latourette, Ryan DEM 18,566 38.7
Powell, Mark LIB 1,095 2.29

Dist 72

Steil Jr., Glenn REP 33,277 68.4
 Burke, Thomas DEM 14,592 30.0
Wenzel, William LIB 765 1.57

Dist 73

Pearce, Tom REP 35,034 68.0
 Clowney, Frederick DEM 15,276 29.7
Heeren, Ron LIB 1,179 2.29

Dist 74

Van Regenmorter, Bill REP 38,372 75.1
 Sloboda, Dawn DEM 12,005 23.5
Gelineau, Tracey LIB 719 1.41

Dist 77

Green, Kevin REP 26,149 66.1
 Abbasse, Albert DEM 11,448 28.9
 Stedman, John IND 1,617 4.09
Dial, Wayne LIB 339 0.86

Dist 86

Hildenbrand, Dave REP 34,657 67.2
 Turner, James DEM 15,993 31.0
Gelineau, Bill LIB 938 1.82

Dist 90

Huizenga, Bill REP 32,380 78.6
 Bartlett, Jo DEM 7,607 18.5

Candidate Party votes %

County Clerk/Register of Deeds

Kent County

Mary Hollinrake REP 162,887
 Susan Lindhout DEM 100,917
Lynne Bradley-Horan LIB 6,529

Oakland County

Ruth Johnson REP 309,231
 Jason Ellenburg DEM 249,571
Joseph Server LIB 18,800

Ottawa County

Daniel Krueger REP 95,282
Rebecca Brockmeier LIB 11,351

County Commissioner

Hillsdale County Dist 5

Brad Densmore REP 1825
James Parker LIB 213

Macomb County Dist 1

Andrey Duzyj DEM 7,192
 Andrew W. Berner REP 2,974
Paul Stables LIB 166

Macomb County Dist 3

Phillip A. DiMaria DEM 9,114
 Larry Burton REP 3,239
Lisa A. Ladochi LIB 443

Macomb County Dist 4

Jon M. Switalski DEM 8,260
 Michael W. Chupa REP 5,320
Michael Jablonski LIB 263

Macomb County Dist 5

Susan L. Doherty DEM 8,525
 Nicola Hawatmeh REP 5,063
James Allison LIB 224

Macomb County Dist 6

Joan Flynn DEM 8,637
 Frank Anthony Rocca REP 5,551
Laurel Pietrangelo LIB 244

Macomb County Dist 8

Diana J. Kolakowski DEM 7,075
 Norbert Galeczka REP 3,465

2004 Election Results

Daniel J. Flamand LIB 411

Candidate Party votes %

Macomb County Dist 19

Paul Gieleghem DEM 9,214

Delphine Becker REP 5,106

Scott W. Allen LIB 413

Macomb County Dist 20

Nancy M. White DEM 7,644

William A. Hertel REP 5,025

Nicole Michalak LIB 492

Macomb County Dist 21

Leonard Haggerty DEM 8,478

Beulah L. Sattley REP 2,959

John C. Bonnell LIB 596

Macomb County Dist 24

Peggy A. Kennard DEM 9855 60.8

Jack A. Deorr REP 5555 34.3

Keith P. Edwards LIB 798 4.9

Oakland County Dist 7

Christine Long REP 17,411

Kathleen M. Leep DEM 7,721

Dan Sheill LIB 890

Oakland County Dist 11

Tim Melton DEM 10,796

Randy Speck REP 8,070

Brian Kelly LIB 740

Oakland County Dist 18

David T. Woodward DEM 13,664

Peter H. Webster REP 11,350

Fred Martin LIB 846

Oakland County Dist 21

Vincent Gregory DEM 16,443

Eric J. Holmes REP 6,675

Darrell Johnson LIB 849

Wayne County Dist 4

Jewel Ware DEM 38,320

Edward W. Karpinski LIB 1,604

Township Trustee

Gaines Township (4 positions)

Daniel Fryling REP 8,298

Connie Giarmo REP 8,235

Carol Vanlaan REP 8,158

Jamie Lewis LIB 1,200

Candidate Party votes %

Portsmouth Township (4 Positions)

Gene Van Driessche DEM 1,171

James Banaszak DEM 1,160

Barbara Pett DEM 1,158

Kenneth Miller DEM 1,045

Christopher Rupp REP 735

Nance Corrian REP 618

Timothy Kaczmarek REP 597

Richard Jozwiak LIB 202

City Council

Ann Arbor Ward 3

Jean Carlberg DEM 8,160

Marc Reichardt GRN 860

Rich Birkett LIB 557

Ypsilanti Ward 2

John Gawlas DEM 2,057

Tom Bagwell LIB 420

Ballot Proposals

Proposal 1

Gambling Approval

YES 2,681,384 58.24

NO 1,922,276 41.76

Proposal 2

Define Marriage

YES 2,686,140 58.54

NO 1,902,145 41.46

Events

December 2, 2004 - 7:30 PM

Libertarian Party of Washtenaw County Monthly Business Meeting. Dinner at 7pm, meeting 7:30pm.

Location: The back room of Cubs' AC Restaurant (located in the Colonial Lanes Bowling Center) at 1950 S Industrial Hwy, Ann Arbor.

Contact: Jeff Weber **Phone:**

(734) 434-6486 **E-mail:**

humanism@comcast.net

December 8, 2004 - 6:00 PM

The Libertarian Party of Southwestern Michigan will hold our monthly Executive Committee Meeting on Wednesday December 8th at 6:00pm. The public is always welcome.

Location: IHOP 1981 Pipestone Road Benton Harbor, Mi 49022

Contact: Jason Gatties **Phone:**

(269) 465-6725 **E-mail:**

jasongatties@gmail.com

December 9, 2004 - 7:00 PM

Libertarian Party of West Michigan monthly meeting.

Location: Club North Banquet Room at 1359 Plainfield NE; just North of Leonard in Grand Rapids.

Contact: Membership Director

Steve Van Til **Phone:** (616) 738-

2807 **E-mail:** stevev@lpwm.org

December 12, 2004 - 12:00 PM

Regular Executive Committee Meeting of the LPM. All dues paying members are welcome to attend.

Location: LPM State Office 913 W. Holmes Road; Southwind Office Park - Conference Room Lansing, MI 48910

Contact: Mike Donahue, Chair-

man, LPM **Phone:** (313) 837-

9082 **E-mail:**

forumshopper@comcast.net

February 26, 2005 - 6:00 PM

Freedom Dinner 2005 hosted by the Tri-City Libertarian Party

Location: The Grand Banquet & Conference Center, Essexville, MI

Contact: Rae Jozwiak **Phone:**

(989) 922-5226 **E-mail:**

jozie@mail.com

Oakland Residents More Interested in Libertarians than Democrats or Republicans

West Bloomfield, MI—Oakland County residents appear to be more interested in Libertarians than Republicans or Democrats. At least, that is the conclusion Libertarians draw from a comparison of Alexa ratings. Alexa.com is an independent organization that ranks web site popularity. Alexa is often referred to as “the Nielsen of the Internet.”

The Libertarian Party of Oakland County web site (www.LpocMi.org) has a 3 month average traffic rank of 105,831 with the average for the last week being 63,757. By comparison, the Oakland County Democratic Party (www.ocdp.org) and the Oakland County Republican Party (oaklandgop.net) web sites receive so little traffic that they are unranked. For comparison, Yahoo.com is ranked 1 and Google.com is ranked 3. The Oakland Press web site is ranked 81,821 and the Daily Tribune web site is ranked 361,433.

“Our traffic rank started to climb when we launched our blog in August,” said LPOC webmaster Jerry Bloom. “The blog references current Oakland County news items and provides a Libertarian perspective. We even have a ‘We told you so’ category that references current news items and compares them to statements/predictions that Libertarians have made in the past on the same issue,” Bloom noted.

“Perhaps local media will take a cue from this and start covering Libertarian candidates and issues more prominently,” suggested Brian Kelly, candidate for Oakland County Commission. “Clearly the voters are interested enough in the Libertarian perspective to seek out our web site and participate in our blog. There is a market for Libertarian/small-government candidates and ideas and we are here to fill that market need.”

The LPOC blog discusses Oakland County issues and some statewide issues. It shies away from national issues hoping to put greater emphasis on local issues which are often overlooked.

Libertarians Chide Congress for Passing Bill Filled with Pork — and Turkey, and More

WASHINGTON — Just in time for Thanksgiving, Congress has passed another obscenely expensive budget bill crammed with pork — and turkey, and potatoes, and soybeans, and bananas, and 11,768 other items that have no business being purchased with taxpayers’ money, Libertarians say.

“This turkey of a bill couldn’t fly anyplace except Washington, DC,” said Joseph Seehusen, executive director of the Libertarian Party. “And while special interests have a lot to be thankful for, this legislation should cause ordinary Americans to lose their appetite.”

The \$388 billion omnibus spending bill for 2005, passed by Congress last weekend, contains an eye-popping 11,772 earmarked “special projects,” adding up to \$15.8 billion. Though the mammoth spending bill was temporarily held up by a tax provision, Bush is expected to sign it once that measure is removed.

And that’s bad news for taxpayers, Libertarians say.

“Congress’ Thanksgiving recipe for pork includes, well, pork,” Seehusen observed. “Specifically, the Missouri Pork Producers Federation has been awarded \$1 million to convert hog waste into energy. And just to prove they’re in the holiday spirit, these turkey-barreling politicians threw in \$225,000 for the National Wild Turkey Federation in South Carolina.”

Also on the legislative menu: \$1,593 to store potatoes in Madison, Wisconsin; \$800,000 for “soybean rust” research in Ames, Iowa; \$250,000 for asparagus technology and production in Washington state; and \$25,000 for a banana factory for an arts program in Bethany, Pennsylvania.

But that’s not all, Libertarians warn. As if to prove that no funding request is too frivolous, Congress will also spend \$25,000 to study mariachi music in Nevada; \$100,000 on a swimming pool in Ottawa, Kansas; \$306,000 to repair an outhouse in Indiana; and even \$75,000 to renovate the Merry Go Round Playhouse in Auburn, New York.

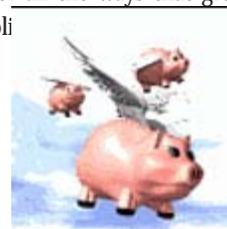
“Clearly, having the opportunity to spend other people’s money brings out the animal in-

stinct in politicians,” Seehusen said. “That’s why they squandered \$1 million for a ‘world birding center’ in Texas; \$150,000 to pay for ‘beaver management’ in Wisconsin; and \$75,000 for hides and leather research in Wyndmoor, Pennsylvania.”

Americans who want to get an even better idea of the size of the bill can simply pick up a Thanksgiving turkey, Seehusen suggested. “This 3,000-page bill weighs in at 14 pounds, a good size for a bird, but a bit overweight for a responsible spending plan.”

Perhaps the most telling provision in the mammoth bill, Libertarians say, is the \$1.5 million that was quietly inserted for the Rep. Richard Gephardt Archive at the Missouri Historical Society — demonstrating that politicians never forget their favorite special interest: themselves.

“Programs like the Richard Gephardt archive prove that pork-barreling politicians continue to inflict financial damage on the country long after they’re retired,” Seehusen said. “Unfortunately, taxpayers don’t need an archive to remember all the ways that greedy politicians are gobbl-



Chair's Message

by Mike Donahue

Well, here we are at the end of another year. And what a fast one it's been, what with the election and all. Even though we didn't elect our first Libertarian President it was a great effort by all our candidates and one of which we can all be proud and stand tall. Michael Badnarik was a fine candidate who brought great pride to our Party and gratitude by all of us for his hard work and dedication. And across our State of Michigan we had almost 40 candidates putting forth the Libertarian message and giving the voters a real choice in choosing their representatives at all levels of government. We continue to get more recognition of our Party's existence with each passing election cycle. I know, as State Chair, that I received several contacts from media outlets and educators for information about our Party. In each of the four interviews I had from print and electronic media I was always treated with decency and a real interest in what we stand for and why we feel the country needs another choice in a political party. That's all very encouraging. Sometimes we get down on ourselves that we aren't making the kind of headway we wish but if you stop and recall the times you saw or heard a reference to

Libertarian during the campaign you have to acknowledge that we continue to be recognized at an increasing rate by both the media and citizens in general. We ARE making headway. Remember, the country didn't get in this mess overnight. We won't get out of it overnight. We must continue to dedicate ourselves to the goal of swaying voters to do something peacefully at the ballot box before our problems give rise to violent solutions.

While we're on the topic of the election campaign, we can't pass up the opportunity to thank our own Fred and Barb Collins for serving so effectively as Co-Chairs of the Badnarik/Campagna Campaign. They really did an outstanding job and did us Michigan Libertarians all proud. In case you didn't hear, the Campaign raised over one million dollars and was able to put more TV advertising together than any previous Libertarian presidential campaign. Again, we ARE making headway. Well done, Fred and Barb. Well done.

Speaking of advertising, I also want to thank the many members of the Party who contributed to our State Party's fundraising efforts for a radio ad blitz just before the election. Because of your generosity, we were able to place

ads for Badnarik and the Party on radio stations all over the state the last two weeks of the campaign. It was a great success and one which I hope we can capitalize on in the coming years. And many thanks to Past Chair Tim O'Brien who helped out with the implementation of the ad project, working with Jim Miller, our Vice-Chair to put it all together. Those two deserve our heartfelt thanks for their efforts.

As I said at the beginning of this column, we shouldn't lose hope that our efforts aren't succeeding. I just learned that a Libertarian candidate, Ben Brandon, was elected County Executive in Georgia in a PARTISAN election, beating a Republican in a runoff. Reports like that further prove we ARE making headway. Let's do something like that in Michigan in the next election cycle. If they can do it in Georgia we can do it here.

As we approach the end of 2004, I wish all of you the Merriest of Christmases and Happiest and Most Prosperous of New Years. Thanks for all you do for the greatest political party in America.

Mike Donahue, Chair

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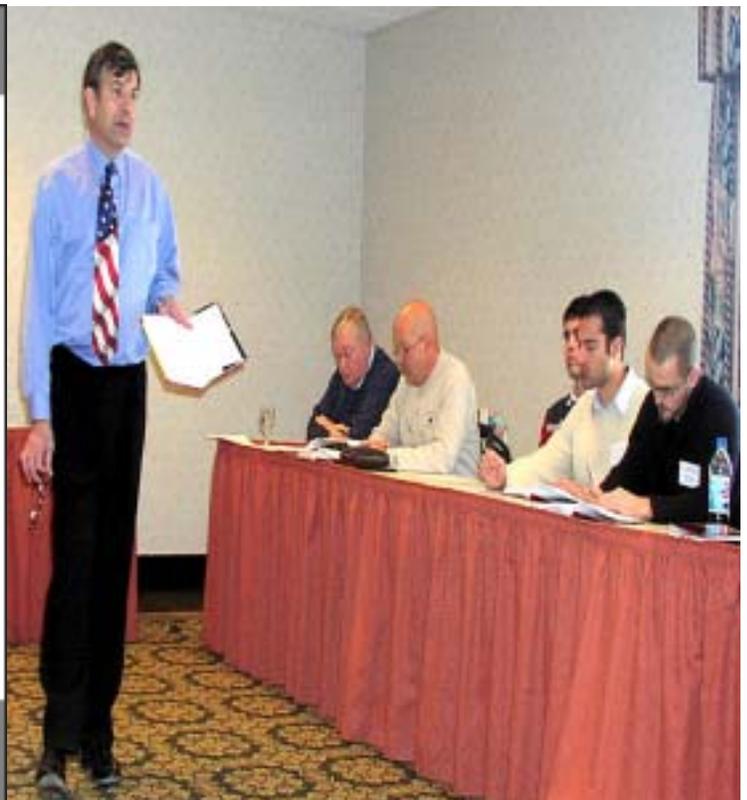
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Bruce Yuille
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Annual Michigan Liberty Fest Draws a Crowd

by Jun Yang

Former Democratic candidate John Kerry wasn't the only one who lost the presidential election to President Bush.

Behind the limelight, third party candidates fought the same fight and suffered the same loss as Kerry, and among them was Michael Badnarik of the Libertarian Party.

Members of the Libertarian Party met Saturday night to celebrate what they described as a success.

"We are the new refounding fathers and mothers and we will restore liberty," Badnarik said during a speech given to about 50 Libertarians gathered at the Hampton Inn & Suites, 2200 Hampton Place in Okemos. "We are making incredible progress.

"We will use this as the spring board for future success."

The party raised \$1 million and drew 400,000 votes in the election, which was cost-efficient compared to the major parties that poured hundreds of millions of dollars into their campaigns, Badnarik said during the speech.

The Libertarian Party members said the party's campaign was successful because more people are now aware of the party and its ideas, regardless of the election's outcome.

"The campaign was a huge success," Badnarik said. "We have several million Americans who have now heard about the Libertarian Party, that never knew we existed.

"Thirty-two percent of people in the United States know my name, which is an amazing improvement since half the members of the Libertarian Party didn't know who I was at the national convention in May."

Badnarik said the ideas of the party - the adherence to the constitution, individual rights and private property - can't be challenged by any Americans.

"Theoretically, all Americans believe in the constitution," he said.

MSU history senior Sean Huberty, a member of MSU Libertarian Club, attended the event and said he joined the party when he was 18 years old after doing some research on American democracy.

He said he found out that the U.S. society is more like a republic and the Constitution is not as respected as it should be.

"I like to see civil liberties stand against everything in the country," he said.

For third parties, the most eminent goal for the election was to increase the public awareness of their presence and ideas. And the party representatives said the goal was met to some degree.

Still, some third party members and representatives said the results of the election were disappointing but not surprising, because third party candidates were locked out of due process to make an impact.

"They were thrown out of the ballot," said Steve Schofield, press secretary of the Reform Party of Michigan. "The two parties tried to keep them off and they were not allowed to participate in debates."

For the most part, a common third party message during the election was that the parties are viable options for people tired of American politics.

"People are sick of it, and don't think there's anything they can do about it, but the Libertarians think there is something that we can do and we are doing that," said Will Tyler White, who ran for the 8th District U.S House and lost to U.S. Rep. Mike Rogers, R-Brighton.

Badnarik said he will try to run for office in his home state of Texas in 2006 and will run for the White House again in 2008.

"We are building momentum," he said. "We will do even better in 2008."

Re-printed with permission from the State News

by William Tyler White

The annual Michigan Liberty Fest banquet began with a cash bar social hour at the Hampton Inn & Suites in Okemos on November 13. Sponsored by the Capital Area Libertarian Party, the event was opened by a town crier in colonial garb with a clanging bell exclaiming "Here ye, hear ye". This was followed by a humorous proclamation, supposedly direct from "King George the W" of the District of Columbia realm.

Presidential candidate Michael Badnarik delivered the keynote address, fresh off the cam-

paign trail. When asked what was the dumbest question asked by interviewers, he said it was "Who are you going to vote for?". He went on to cover some of the details of his arrest at the Presidential debates in St. Louis and the proposed recount in Ohio.

Author of a book on the U.S. Constitution titled "It's Good to be King", Mr. Badnarik presented a constitutional integrity seminar on Sunday at the same location. The seminar was well attended, with twenty-seven students enrolled for his insightful tutoring. Included in the fee was an autographed copy of his book, now a bestseller on Amazon.com.

Awards were presented after the banquet to Defenders of Liberty. LPM Chair Mike Donahue, acting as master of ceremonies, named Stewart Ruley posthumously as a Supporter of Liberty for his gracious estate gift to the Libertarian Party of Michigan. The Communicator of Liberty was presented to Jamie Lewis for his work on the state newsletter and untiring efforts in western Michigan as an activist and candidate. The award for Producer of Liberty went to Tim Beck, organizer of the Detroit Coalition for Compassionate Care, which was responsible for the medical marijuana initiative for Detroit approved in the November election.

Some of the libertarians attending came from the nearby states of Indiana and Ohio, which made for a full house. Winners of the traditional raffle took home antiqued copies of the original Constitution, "Liberty Works" mugs, and some federal reserve notes. The following Monday a nice write-up appeared in the MSU State News (45,000 readers) titled "Libertarians celebrate awareness, progress".

The event was videotaped and broadcast on the Lansing area cable access show "Voice of Liberty" the following week. Copies are available for a nominal fee by contacting Will Tyler White by phone at 517 349-3806 or his email address, treasurer@lpmich.org.

The Most Important News You Never Heard



by Ernie Whiteside

The month of October was a busy month for news professionals with headlines from the upcoming election, the war in Iraq and many other events. But I'll bet there is one piece of news that you DIDN'T hear. In the month of October, the United State federal government hit its statutory debt limit of \$7.38 trillion.

ABC, NBC, CBS, CNN, FOX, they were all silent as lambs! George Bush didn't tell us, and neither did John Kerry. No whistle-blowers, no turncoats, every insider kept this dirty little secret to themselves.

On Thursday, November 17, 2004, the United States Senate approved an \$800 billion increase in the federal debt limit. The new debt limit is \$8.18 trillion.

So how does a government stay in business for a month when it has hit its debt limit? They did what you and I would go to jail for if we did it, they took cash from a civil service retirement account. They will pay it back of course, but any of us caught with our hand in the cookie jar would say the same thing ... and go directly to jail.

Who remembers the last time congress had to increase the debt limit? It was May 19, 2003 and the limit was raised from \$6.4 trillion to \$7.38 trillion. Almost a trillion dollars in additional debt incurred in just seventeen months!

Many Americans regularly hear reports on the performance of the stock market, but what most fail to realize is that the value stock in your average company doesn't change much. If Acme Corp has profitably manufactured widgets for the last ten years; chances are that its value is well established. So why does the price of stock vary so much from day to day, week to week and month to month? It doesn't!

The value of the United States Federal Reserve Note is constantly changing. The Federal Reserve Note is a debt instrument (i.e. promissory note, mortgage note, etc.). If there are too many notes in circulation, the value drops, or if there is some doubt about whether or not the notes will be repaid, the value again drops. This creates volatility in the stock market and even more so in the international markets where we buy and sell labor, raw materials and finished goods.

To quote myself, "Everything should be a simple as possible, but never simpler." To make this really simple, let us consider the relative value of dollars and a commodity that is known to have a stable value in the world markets, gold.

On April 2, 2003, gold closed at \$225.95. Gold had traded under \$300 for most of the previous 27 months. Since then, gold has been on the rise and especially so in the last few weeks. Through 1970, gold could be bought for \$35 or less. Since then, the value of the dollar has been wild, like a roller coaster ride with gold peaking well over \$612 in the inflation year of 1980 and visiting the \$400 plus range numerous times since.

Between 1992 and 2001, the value of the dollar continuously strengthened. It annoys me to say that these were the Clinton years. From the first fiscal year of George W. Bush to the present, the dollar has slipped and the debt has skyrocketed.

On Friday, November 18, 2004, gold traded over \$447, a sixteen-year high! To greatly simplify this, the United States Federal Reserve Note (dollar) is trading at its lowest rate relative to gold in sixteen years. And that's not all!

The dollar has been slipping in the past several weeks relative to major currencies on the world market and saw its all-time record low against the Japanese yen on Friday.

So, I close with the same thought that I began with; why isn't this news? Why didn't anybody tell us? Who is pulling the strings that still the tongues?

"The budget should be balanced; the treasury should be refilled; public debt should be reduced; and the arrogance of public officials should be controlled." -Cicero. 106-43 B.C.

The Patriot Act Hits Close to Home

by Jason Gatties

Ibrahim Parlak, owner of Cafe Gulistan in Harbert, Michigan, was taken into custody by the Department of Homeland Security on July 29, 2004 on the grounds that his activism for Kurdish rights in Turkey in the 1980s make him a threat to national security.

He was detained based on charges from a Turkish military court, for which he already served his sentence in Turkey in the late 1980s. He came to the U.S. 13 years ago and was granted political asylum based on the fact that he was persecuted and tortured in Turkey, but now the DHS is calling him a threat to national security for the very same reasons he was previously granted asylum. No circumstances have changed nor has new information surfaced since the US gave Parlak asylum, and he has no criminal record or violations during his time in the U.S.

Parlak possibly faces deportation to Turkey, where he will be at risk of harm or even death. He is an active contributing member of our society, who brings employment and culture to our community and donates time and money to local causes. He holds pacifist beliefs and does not support or endorse violent means to any political ends.

The Libertarian Party of Southwestern Michigan would like everyone who believes in FREEDOM and believes the USA Patriot Act violates the U.S. Constitution, we ask that you get involved and help Ibrahim and others in his situation, who are being held hostage by the Patriot Act.

Ibrahim's hearing is set for Tuesday December 7th at 9am in Detroit. For more information regarding this hearing, please visit <http://www.cafegulistan.com>. If you would like to get involved and show support towards Ibrahim's cause, please visit the "Free Ibrahim" section of the Libertarian Party of Southwestern Michigan website located at <http://www.lpswmich.org/ibrahim.php>.

LPM Committee Meeting Minutes

Libertarian Party Of Michigan
Executive Committee Meeting
October 10, 2004

Minutes of the October meeting have not yet been approved by the LEC and should be considered unofficial at this time

Called to order by LPM Chairman Mike Donahue at 12:07pm.

Roll call:

Chair	Mike Donahue	Present
Vice Chair	Jim Miller	Present
Secretary	Tom Quinn	Present
Treasurer	Will White	Present
At-Large Director	Dan Sheill	Present
At-Large Director	Rae Jozwiak	Present
At-Large Director	Nathan Allen	Present
At-Large Director	Jim Allison	Present
At-Large Director	Jerry Bloom	Present

Bloom asked for a change in the agenda to include discussion of St. Clair County under Old Business, and LNC under New Business.

Minutes of special LEC meeting of August 29 were read.

Motion by White, second by Miller, to amend minutes by striking the reference to "non-affiliated areas" from the motion dealing with spending funds for outreach.

Motion passed on voice vote.

Minutes from the regular LEC meeting of July 25 were read.

Motion by White, second by Bloom to accept minutes of July 25 and amended minutes of Aug 29.

Motion passed on voice vote.

Treasurer White presented the treasurer's report. Balance of \$34,182.14 as of September 30. Federal fund has been properly set up and registered with the FEC. First report is due next week. This has been much more work than was anticipated.

Chairman Donahue reported:

* The final payment has been received from the Stuart Ruley estate.

* Communication has been received from The Heartland Institute regarding booklets promoting school vouchers. Booklets will be sent to affiliate chairs.

* No reply from Greg Dirasian on question about ownership of web Domain name.

Discussion on web site matters ensued.

Motion by Bloom, second by White, to purchase Domain name LPMICH.NET

Motion passed on voice vote.

White announced that he will donate Domain name LPMICH.COM to the LPM.

Motion by Bloom, second by Allison, to reimburse White for his costs with LPMICH.com, not to exceed \$200.

Motion passed on voice vote.

* LEC Incorporation paperwork has been received from Bill Hall and distributed to

LEC members. Discussion ensued.

Motion by Jozwiak, second by Miller, to adopt the articles of incorporation for the LEC.

Bloom and Allen said they would have to abstain until they had more time to look over the material.

Motion by White, second by Allison, to table previous motion for incorporation until December 12 meeting.

Motion passed on voice vote.

Miller reported that there has been \$5000 in donations received in the federal campaign fund for radio ads. He will start buying air time next week.

White reported that Libertyfest will be held on November 13. The guest speaker will be Michael Badnarik.

White left the meeting at 1:52.

Miller left the meeting at 2:00.

Recess at 2:00. Return at 2:11.

Jozwiak reported that Tri-City is still having trouble accessing Nidus. Bloom will look into this. Donahue reported that National has had delays in getting its new Razor's Edge database up and running, and we will have to make do for the time being.

Jozwiak reported that our spring convention will be held on April 23, 2005 at the Holi-

day Inn in Mt. Pleasant. She welcomes suggestions for speakers.

The new newsletter editor, Dan Sheill, passed out copies of the newsletter. He plans for one more issue this year, some time after Libertyfest. Thanks and congratulations were offered for his taking on this responsibility.

Allison reported that there have been delays in obtaining materials from the Badnarik campaign, but he expects to have them in hand the first part of this week.

LPM member Keith Edwards reported that he is making progress on the operations manual. He asked to be included in the list of those receiving minutes of LEC meetings.

Bloom presented the bylaws for the St. Clair County affiliate. There is still some question as to whether or not this group was dissolved by the LEC. Edwards will check past meeting minutes as he works on the operations manual.

There was general discussion on promoting the LPM. It seems reasonable to develop a long term plan. No action was taken.

Bloom inquired as to how much communication the chairman receives from the LNC. Donahue says he doesn't get very much.

The next regular meeting will be at 12:00 noon on December 12 in the LPM conference room.

*Minutes prepared by LEC Secretary
Tom Quinn*

Reproductive Rights

cont'd from pg. 2

promote a political agenda is inappropriate and seriously threatens women's health. Members of this important panel should be appointed on the basis of science and medicine, rather than politics and religion."

American women deserve no less.

Building for the Future

cont'd from pg. 3

as the local county party affiliate for minor routine expenses, it may be a good idea to collect a few dollars from the most committed activists.

The chair should always come prepared with a written agenda for the meeting and allow the group members to interact accordingly. It is important to have a secretary who will take note of the session's minutes. Once the meeting is over, these minutes can be forwarded to the group e-mail list so that individuals who would have liked to have attended (but could not because of homework or scheduling conflicts) can still be kept up to date on what is going on and possibly chime in their "two cents" as well. It is vital that you maintain regular correspondence with the group via e-mail because you will encounter people who will never come to a meeting, but who will staff tables, circulate petitions, write articles for your newsletter, or help in any number of other ways.

If there is a single political issue that the group in particular wants to discuss, my advice is to get into contact with another student organization where there is common ground and hold a joint meeting. This is a great way to engage other students and expose them to the ideas of libertarianism (But keep in mind, proselytizing seldom ever works, as most people do not become libertarians over night.) Projects that may at first seem overly ambitious can more realistically become possible with the re-inforcing support that members from other student groups provide.

When group activity was essentially dormant during my first semester as College Libertarians Chair, I simply started attending meetings of the campus American Civil Liberties Union and that led to joint efforts against the U.S. Patriot Act and calls for a National ID card. I was also involved with Students for a Sensible Drug Policy and later U of M NORML as every year our groups came together to organize the infamous Hash Bash. The College Libertarians would also attend events organized by other groups for outreach purposes. At the annual "Pride Day" on campus, we would pass out literature and buttons to interested gays and lesbians in the crowd. The important thing is to stay visible so that you're constantly talking to

new people instead of just yourself.

Membership and Recruitment:

At the beginning of the school year, most colleges host club fairs where essentially every student organization is represented. At Michigan, it was called Festifall, and this is a great, if not the most effective way to recruit new members. Grab a table, a couple chairs, and a noticeable sign that advertises your organization. Then simply let passers-by from the student body check out LP literature, have questions answered, and fill out sign-up sheets so that you can remain in contact. Hold your first mass meeting within a week or two of this event so that the memory of these students visiting the College Libertarian booth is still fresh in their mind.

Another great way to stay visible on campus is to constantly write "Letters to the Editor" to the school newspaper which is likely to be biased toward a liberal persuasion. You should choose a headline that will convey at once what the point of the release is and maintain a libertarian theme throughout the message. For example, The Michigan Daily has a section called "Viewpoint" where every week they allow interest groups on campus to editorialize about hot-button issues that are currently affecting campus.

"Releases should be delivered in person when possible as this gives you the opportunity to develop and cultivate media relationships, and gives journalists the opportunity to interview you. Make an effort to get to know the people who work on your campus newspaper. NEVER display anger to journalists, no matter how unfair they are" (LP website). You may also consider purchasing an ad in either the main campus newspaper or its conservative counterpart. However, this can be quite expensive with often little payoff towards your recruitment goals.

A group website is an inexpensive yet effective way to continuously advertise the College Libertarians on campus. You can post articles, a calendar of events, as well as contact information. Here are three examples which I feel are the best to emulate:

University of Georgia: www.uga.edu/libertarians/

Hillsdale
www.hillsdaleliberals.com

Virginia Tech: www.libertarian.org.vt.edu/who.htm

The College Libertarians can also produce their own newsletter and post it online. I suggest simply writing for the county party's newsletter since it is more cost effective to pool your resources together and frankly the sub-par quality of most of these publications could desperately use the fresh injection of new blood. This also encourages more communication between the campus and county party. Display the publication at special-interest events, waiting rooms, libraries, and literature racks. Or, if there is a conservative paper on campus you may consider writing for them since this is a great way to rub libertarianism off on those most potentially susceptible to it.

At Michigan, there was a Student Organization Resource Center where registered student groups could apply to reserve advertising spaces on campus buses, small billboards, or banners. At this place you could also acquire, paint, markers, poster-board, and other supplies (although shopping at Staples or CVS was still cheaper).

Flyering is the most effective method though as you can print hundreds if not thousands of copies quickly and cheaply. Make sure the flyers are bright neon colors and contain "attention getter" messages, along with contact info for the College Libertarians. If there is another campus nearby you may consider flyering it as well to either recruit new members or even to jump-start a new student chapter into being. Flyer no sooner than a couple days before a scheduled event or meeting as such postings are regularly torn down. Be sure to obey the poster rules of your school.

Activities:

You need to give group members a reason to show up to meetings and remain involved. Plan events and host speakers to come to your campus. The Institute for Humane Studies www.theihs.org as well as Young America's Foundation www.yaf.org are wonderful resources to help get your group started. In April of 2003, Tom Palmer of the CATO Institute visited campus and gave a talk on the virtues of globalization. It was by far the most successful event during my tenure as chair. If you're thinking that inviting a speaker is a little too expensive then

cont'd on pg. 15

LPM Affiliate Contacts

<u>Affiliate Name</u>	<u>Contact Name</u>	<u>Website/E-mail</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Capital Area Libertarian Party	Bob Broda	www.calparty.org	517-321-7647
Libertarian Party of Kalamazoo/St. Joseph County	Matt Umlor	www.kalamazoolp.org	269-324-2282
Libertarian Party of Livingston County	David Buck	Not Available	810-220-5741
Libertarians of Macomb County	Keith Edwards	www.macomblp.com	586-777-7468
Midwest Michigan Libertarian Party	Brian Kluesner	www.pecktec.com/lpmwm/	616-723-7087
Libertarian Party of Oakland County	Nathan Allen	www.lpocmi.org	248-363-3790
Libertarian Party of South Central Michigan	James Parker	jamesp@hillsdale.epcorp.com	517-439-0643
Libertarian Party of Saint Clair County	Mark Byrne	iwantska@hotmail.com	810-987-9856
Libertarian Party of Southwest Michigan	Jason Gatties	www.lpswmich.org	269-465-6725
Libertarian Party of Washtenaw County	Lawrence Johnson	www.lpwash.org	734-476-7817
Thumb Area Libertarian Party	Paul Hitch	phitch@intouchmi.com	810-667-7218
Traverse Bay Libertarian Party	Jerry Coon	jtcoon@gtii.com	231-369-2395
Tri-Cities Libertarian Party	Richard Jozwiak	www.TriCityLibertarianParty.org	989-922-5226
Libertarian Party of Wayne County	Gnadt Loel	cynical_bob@juno.com	313-381-7697
West Michigan Libertarian Party	Ron Heeren	www.lpwm.org	616-363-8999
Kettering University	Adam Hogan	hoga4008@kettering.edu	Not Available
Hillsdale College	Heidi Morris	hcmorris@hillsdale.edu	www.hillsdaleliberals.com
Northern Michigan University	Michael Brown	docbrown_77@yahoo.com	Not Available
University of Michigan College Libertarians	Andrew Moylan	admoylan@umich.edu	734-730-0036
Michigan State University Libertarian Club	Brendan Dennis	dennisb3@msu.edu	www.msu.edu/dennisb3/libertarian3
Western Michigan University	Brian Harris	bharris5781@vipmail.kvcc.edu	Not Available

Looking Back

(cont'd from pg. 1)

as the Green Party candidate. Badnarik also received nearly as many votes as Ralph Nader, who ran as an independent candidate in most states. Here are the national numbers (as reported on www.sfgate.org on November 15).

505,328 Nader

406,588 Badnarik - Libertarian Party

152,428 Peroutka-ConstitutionParty(US TaxpayersParty in Michigan)

112,110 Cobb - Green Party

24,528 Peltier - Peace & Freedom Party (not on ballot in Michigan)

10,285 Brown - Socialist Party USA (Natural Law Party in Michigan)

Here are the nationwide number of candidates for some major offices (as reported in Ballot Access News): Governor: 8 Libertarian, 2 Constitution, 0 Green US Senator: 21 Libertarian, 10 Constitution, 8 Green, US House of Representatives: 143 Libertarian, 43 Constitution, 47 Green State legislatures: 377 Libertarian, 108 Constitution, 94 Green.

In Michigan the presidential numbers were: 23,934 Nader 10,548 Badnarik 4,952 Peroutka 5,311 Cobb 1,443 Brown (The Natural Law Party was started by followers of the Maharishi Mahesh Yogi. The party is no longer active, but still has ballot status in Michigan. The Socialist Party USA hijacked the party in Michigan in 2004. I suspect that many persons who voted for Brown were unaware that he is really a socialist.)

Here are the number of candidates for some major offices in Michigan: US House of Representatives: 15 Libertarian, 7 Constitution, 6 Green, State

Important Date

by Rosemarie Jozwiak

Mark your calendar for the 2005 LPM State Convention. The convention will be held on Saturday, April 23rd, at the Holiday Inn Resort and Convention Center, 5665 East Pickard Road, in Mt. Pleasant.

For those wishing to stay on site, a block of rooms has been reserved for the LPM (first come basis) for both Friday and Saturday night. A flyer listing local hotels, prices, location, and contact information will be sent within the next few weeks to all affiliate chairs to share with their members. More information will be published as plans are finalized.

The Holiday Inn offers a full range of amenities and activities - including a Saturday night Retro Dance in Boomers Lounge as well as an 18 hole championship golf course. The opening of the course is dependent on the weather. Golf packages are available.

We strongly suggest making your reservations early as rooms sell out quickly due to golfing and the close proximity to Soaring Eagle Casino.

For reservations call: 1-989-772-2905 or 1-800-292-8891. For info: www.hiresort.com

News From West Michigan

by Bill Bradley



Councilman Bill Bradley of South Haven

The Van Buren County Libertarian Party is back in action with a new name, new territory and new officers.

Because we now cover Berrien and Cass Counties in addition to Van Buren, the Executive Committee recently decided to change our name to the Libertarian Party of Southwest Michigan. The Committee also chose new officers to replace those who resigned to make room for new members from the newly added counties. All the previous officers remain on the Executive Committee with the exception of former Secretary/Treasurer Barbara Bradley who resigned for health reasons. Barbara had tendered her resignation some time ago, but agreed to stay until the changes could be finalized. Serving for the remainder of the vacated terms are new Chairman Jason Gatties, of Bridgman, new Vice-Chairman Michael Christenson of Edwardsburg, and new Secretary/Treasurer Bill Bradley of South Haven. Rounding out the Executive Committee are former Vice-Chairman Harold Hestor of South Haven and Mike Dickson of Geneva Township.

A little history:

As some of you know, the last 18 months have been tough ones for the Libertarian Party in Van Buren County. In fact, for all practical purposes, we went into hibernation and had not planned to reactivate until next January. We did not even expect to be able to participate in the Libertarian election campaign this fall. Now with new officers and manpower, It

looks like we are going to get back on track sooner than we anticipated. We still have some reorganizing to finish and need to make sure everything is coordinated and working properly, but we are proceeding as fast as manpower and time will allow.

An invitation to you and to your friends

Thanks to the new Chairman and his wife, We have a new website, www.lpswmich.org. Please take a few minutes to check it out and then tell us how you like it.

Libertarians to were on the local radio in October.

On Thursday, October 7 at 11 o'clock in the morning, Chairman Jason Gatties and Secretary Bill Bradley were guests on Benton Harbor's WSJM radio show "In the Spotlight with Brenda Layne" at 1400 on the AM radio band. The popular talk show features guests and subjects of interest to people in Berrien, Cass and Van Berrien Counties.

From this experience we determined that many of those who have a familiarity with Libertarian principles have an incorrect notion of us as individuals and as a political party. In order to address this problem — and the general problem of being relatively unknown — we decided to advertise ourselves with radio ads during the month of October. Admittedly, results for this outreach are hard to measure. But we take satisfaction in knowing that we have taken steps to let people know who we are and what we stand for, in a manner different from the information table we have had at the local gun show.

"If you always do what you have always done, you will always get what you always got."

Plans for the future are currently being laid.



Building for the Future

cont'd from pg. 13

attention with a budget on the cheap.

For example, the classic "affirmative action bake sale" comes to mind. Before Gratz v. Bollinger, the University of Michigan would award 20 points on a 100 point scale for admission to applicants for being an "underrepresented minority." Well, when I was at Michigan, the conservative paper on campus, the Michigan Review, held a bake sale in the student commons where brownies would cost \$1.00 for white and Asian customers, but only \$.80 for black and Hispanic patrons. Needless to say, this tactic was controversial but controversial enough to make the local news that night.

My sophomore year the College Libertarians produced a commercial on public access television that talked about the "protection" benefits that concealed weapons provide. Then, later that month we passed out pamphlets providing information on how to acquire a concealed weapons permit at the annual "Take Back the Night" rally on campus. This event was primarily concerned with the problems of date rape on college campuses as well as general violence towards women and we were surprisingly recieved quite favorably by the organizers of the rally.

You can also do petitioning. When the LPM lost its ballot status in 2001 we set up tables in the residence halls during meal hours to collect signatures to put the party back on the ballot. We also used Hash Bash as a stage to collect signatures for drives such as the Personal Responsibility Amendment in 2001 which would have legalized the cultivation and possession of small amounts of marijuana in Michigan.

Conclusion:

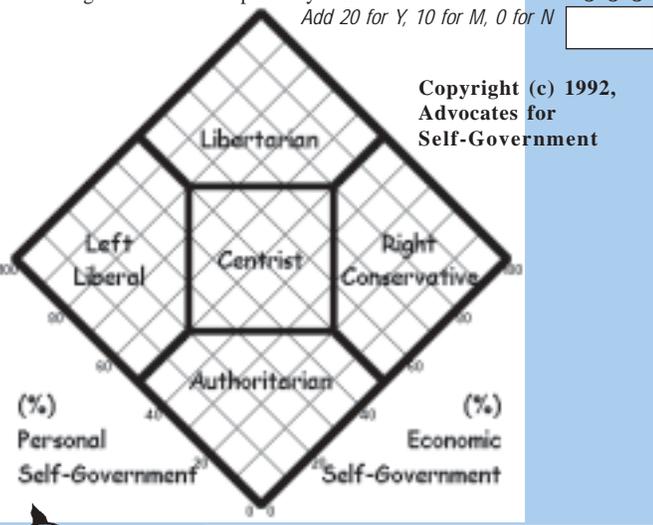
You may not accomplish or even agree with everything that is set forth in this article. However, the main objective is to simply go out and be active on your campus. Go forward with a full a head of steam and then learn from your mistakes like I did through trial and error. Simply motivating yourself to promote the ideals of freedom in this particular way will be one of the most rewarding experiences of your life.

World's Smallest Political Quiz

Take the **WORLD'S SMALLEST POLITICAL QUIZ**. Then, use the Self-Government Compass to find your political position. Mark Y when you agree with a statement, M for Maybe, Sometimes, or Need-More-Information, or mark N for No.

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>			<input type="text"/>

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>			<input type="text"/>



If you scored Libertarian, we invite you to join the Libertarian Party.

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____
 ZIP Code: _____ Email Address: _____
 Phone: _____
 Occupation: _____
 Employer: _____

\$25 Michigan & National \$35 Tri-Level (County, Michigan & National)

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.

Signature: _____
(Signature required for national membership)

Please charge this to my credit card (Visa or Mastercard only):
 Card #: _____ Exp Date: _____

Signature: _____

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

Mail to: **Libertarian Party**
2600 Virginia Avenue NW, Suite 100
Washington D.C. 20037

Federal law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, and occupation and name of employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. Political contributions are not tax deductible.

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http://www.lpmich.org

Michigan Libertarian