

Michigan Libertarian

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November/December 2002

Defender of Liberty Awards

by Keith Edwards

Fred Collins, Dick and Rae Jozwiak, and Paul Soyk were honored as the winners of the Defender of Liberty Awards at the annual banquet of the Libertarian Party of Michigan on November 9, at Mac and Ray's Restaurant in Harrison Township.

The Producer of Liberty Award went to the Jozwiaks of the Tri-Cities affiliate for a dedicated behind the scenes Libertarian whose quiet labors over the years exemplify the backbone of the Libertarian Party. They have helped that group in many ways. Jim Fitzpatrick nominated them.

Fred Collins of Oakland County received the Promoter of Liberty Award, which is given for doing the most to promote the LP and Libertarian Principles. He was our first successful candidate for a city council seat and is now serving his second term on Berkley's Council. His efforts have helped inspire three more successful candidates in other cities. He was nominated by Keith Wesselmann and David Eisenbacher.

(cont'd on pg. 14)



Libertarian Party of Michigan
619 E. 9 Mile Rd
Hazel Park, MI 48030
Tel: (248) 591-FREE
Fax: (248) 591-0190
<http://www.lpmich.org>

Wayne/Oakland LPs Team Up To Defeat Arts Tax

by Keith Wesselmann

The Libertarian Parties of Wayne and Oakland counties joined forces to help defeat Proposal K during this election. Proposal K was the re-incarnation of a similar proposal that was on the ballot in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties in 2000. This year, it came back in just Wayne and Oakland counties.

Proposal K ('K' supposedly for 'Kids') was a half-mill increase of property tax in the two counties for ten years. The tax would be used to support 17 cultural institutions in the area plus some local programs, plus \$1,000,000 for administration.

by Greg Stempfle

As vote returns came in from across the state and country last Tuesday night, one thing was becoming increasingly clear: the night belonged to the Republicans. Despite Democrat Jennifer Granholm taking the governor's position, the Republicans took the rest of the statewide slate and retained strong control in the State House, State Senate, State Supreme Court and US Congress.

Unfortunately, Libertarian vote returns were no better than the Democrats. There were no significant LP victories this year and most

Both LP affiliates contributed money to run a newspaper ad campaign. The LP of Oakland County sent a fundraising letter to its members, asking them to donate just one year's worth of the tax so that they could keep the other nine years worth of the tax increase to use as they choose. Later, they issued a press release, chastising Republicans.

It seems that the Oakland county GOP executive committee passed a resolution opposing Proposal K while the Republican controlled Oakland County Board of Commissioners voted to put this on the ballot. And, while the Oakland GOP executive committee op-

posed the proposal, the Oakland GOP chairman, L. Brooks Patterson, was not only supporting the proposal but appearing in television ads to support it.

LPOC chair, Fred Martin, noted in a press release that, "You won't see me in a commercial urging people to vote for Proposal K." The LPOC press release went on to say, "Tax-loving Republicans who want to have it both ways should no longer be surprised by their dwindling support in Oakland County."

Proposal K proponents spent about \$3 million dollars to try and get the proposal passed (not to mention the *(cont'd on pg. 14)*

Election Results By The Numbers

of our active campaigns failed to achieve their goals.

On a statewide level, neither of our "Top of Ticket" candidates, Scotty Boman or Diane Barnes, both for State Board of Education, earned the necessary amount to elevate the LPM to "major party status". However, all of our candidates smashed the ballot access threshold, securing the LPM a spot on the 2004 ballot. The LPM will nominate our candidates at a convention in the spring of 2004 and will be the fourth party listed on the ballot (behind Greens).

In two-way races, LP candi-

dates earned an average of 14.5% of the vote compared to 2.3% when both major parties fielded candidates. The highest percentage for the LPM was Greg Willis, who earned 30.1 % of the vote for Wexford County Commissioner. The top vote getter this year was Scotty Boman, who earned 89,000 votes for State Board of Education. Michael Donahue, one of our Supreme Court candidates, earned 328,868 votes or 7.5%. Raymond Warner earned 8.4% of the vote in a 2-way race against Democrat Carolyn Cheeks- *(cont'd on pg. 4)*

LPM Officers and Directors

Chair	James Hudler	chair@lpmich.org
Vice Chair	Jerry Bloom	vicechair@lpmich.org
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Newsletter	Greg Stempfle	newsletter@lpmich.org
Database Output	Emily Salvette	salvette@ameritech.net
Database Input	vacant	vacant
Pledge Program	Dan LaFavers	dlafavers@provide.net
Campaign Managers	Barbara Goushaw	bgoush@aol.com
Campaign Fund	Dianne Szabla	dianneszabla@netscape.net
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Submissions: Please email articles to newsletter@lpmich.org

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

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Learning Curve

by Greg Stempfle

In October the Libertarian Executive Committee named myself, Greg Stempfle as the new newsletter editor for the Michigan Libertarian. I will be replacing Greg Dirasian, who stepped down earlier in the year.



Because of the transition, the September/October issue of this newsletter was skipped. This is the first issue that I have edited.

I have been involved with the LP since 1996 when I met Harry Browne at Michigan State University. I was editor of the Wayne County Libertarian for over two years and am currently that affiliates Chair.

For this newsletter, I plan on continuing with the same professional format, using Adobe Pagemaker, which has been used during the previous two years. In each issue, published bi-monthly, I would like to include the following...

- **Calendar of Events-** A listing of state and affiliate meetings as well as upcoming events of libertarian interest. Please keep me informed about activities across the state.

- **Affiliate News-** What is going on across the state; meeting, places affiliate contact information, etc... Let me know when your affiliate holds their meetings or when you have officer elections or nominate candidates for public office.

- **Current Issues-** Articles about issues in Michigan with a libertarian perspective. We have to make the newsletter interesting to non-members as well as members.



Michigan Libertarian Editor
Gregory Stempfle

- **Legislative Watch-** An attempt to follow bills in the state legislature and ballot proposals of interest to libertarians. As soon as the next legislature is seated in January, I'm sure there will be plenty of new bills to report on.

- **Letters to the Editor-** I will not be shy about printing constructive criticism and the opinions of others.

- **National News-** What's going on at the National Party level and any news about our 2004 Presidential candidates.

Please send articles or inquires to either newsletter@lpmich.org or stempfle@hotmail.com. Any assistance or publishable material is welcome. The LPM online newsletter will also serve as a feeder for news and events so feel free to publish articles there if they need to be read in a more timely fashion.

Operation Farm Team Announced

by James Hudler



The Libertarian Party of Michigan announced its new plan at LibertyFest on November 16, 2002. The plan, dubbed Operation Farm Team, intends to get 10 Libertarians elected to the Michigan House of Representatives in 2006.

In 1993 and 1994, the entire LPM united behind the Jon Coon for US Senate campaign. It was an ambitious goal and even though Jon Coon was not elected, the LPM experienced growth, excitement, and a positive "can do" spirit. The fall out of that campaign kept us upbeat for years afterwards. Some of the members that joined us during that period went on to become elected to other low-level offices. Fred Collins, Berkley city councilman, is an example of one of those members.

Operation Farm Team is based on two principles.

First, while the presidency may still be beyond our grasp, we have proven that we can marshal the resources to get people elected to lower level offices. In 2001, we ran 5 candidates for various city council races around the state. Three of those people (60%) were elected, and a fourth came very close.

In these smaller offices, Libertarian campaign managers are much more skilled than their competitors. Can we reproduce those results (60% win rate) when we run 20 candidates? We don't know. We have never tried before. Every two years, we run about 100 candidates, but most of those are just educational races. One thing is for sure, if we don't try, we'll never find out.

Second, Libertarians elected to low level offices have a better chance of being elected to higher-level partisan offices than Libertarians who have no history of public service. Those Libertarians who are already serving on city councils and in other elected positions are known in their communities. Their pictures appear in the media, voters approach them for help on various issues, they regularly meet and greet people in their community, and they become known for their common sense.

If such Libertarians choose to run for higher office, the voters are inclined to say, "I know him, he is my city councilman and he is the only

one who consistently votes against raising my taxes." By being in the public light, these officeholders take away the fear that a voter might have in voting for our little-known minor party.

To the best of my knowledge, this is the first time that the LPM has put together a multi-year, multi-election strategy for success. The strategy itself is based on our experiences. It is now up to us to make sure we apply our best efforts to replicate our best performances throughout our 30 year history.

The theory behind the plan is simple. The details are numerous.

In 2001, the LPM tried a plan called "Just One." The goal of "Just One" was to get each of our affiliates around the state to identify "just one" candidate that they could put all their resources behind and get elected. Only five of our affiliates tried, and, as previously noted, 60% of them won.

How do we get the other 14 affiliates to participate?

First, the LPM needs to do a better job of promoting the "Just One" plan. Affiliate chairs can expect to receive regular mailings urging them to identify a candidate and race that they intend to pursue. But, all of our affiliate chairs are volunteers. They have jobs, families, and homes that require their primary attention. And, they don't necessarily have the time to identify the candidates and opportunities where they can win. And, they don't necessarily have the skills to get all the work done that needs to be done to run an affiliate *AND* run a candidate.

Therefore, our first goal is to hire a Field Director. The Field Director's job will be to work with the affiliates and provide them with training and support so they can be better chairs. Then, the Field Director will work with chairs to help find candidates and winnable races.

Once that is accomplished, the Field Director will work with the local chair, candidate, and the candidate's campaign manager to make certain that they have the skills to run credible races. The Field Director will also help connect these people with some of our more experienced campaigners throughout the state.

When the Field Director is not working in the field, he will work out of LPM Headquarters in Hazel Park, helping run the office, fielding calls from the media, and remotely providing support to the campaigns.

The Field Director will also provide support to volunteers. For example, if our public relations person writes a press release, the Field

Director will be responsible for making certain it is faxed out to the media. And, especially, the Field Director will provide support to the membership committee, members being the raw materials of our success.

Over the next four years, the Field Director will help affiliates and candidates. We will get more people elected to low level offices. We will get more people appointed to their local boards and commissions. In odd-numbered years, we have our best opportunity to get people elected to non-partisan, low level offices. In even-numbered years, we will run as many educational candidates as possible to make our presence known and build name-brand recognition.

We will continue to do this until we have built up a Farm Team of people who are elected and appointed to low-level offices. Then, we will run the Farm Team for partisan offices and some will get elected. The goal is to get 10 people elected to the Michigan House of Representatives. We want to elect enough people to keep either major party from having a majority. Then, both parties will need to work with us to get things accomplished.

The Field Director is the focal point of this whole operation. We need the Field Director to provide the support necessary for affiliate chairs and volunteers who are already working all they can to get the job done.

Here's the catch. We will not hire a Field Director until we are certain that we have the funds available to pay him for at least the first few months of his employment. We have set a goal of \$10,000 in our Field Director fund before we hire. When we reach \$7,500 in that fund, we will send out an announcement and begin accepting resumes for the position. We have already identified one potential candidate (from outside of Michigan) for this position. We hope to have the Field Director on board and working by February 1, 2003.

We need the help of every member of the LPM to accomplish this. We have set up a special location on the web site where members can donate securely via credit card. That location is: <https://mi.safeserver.com/Chargelt/FarmTeam.html>

Or, you can just send a check to LPM HQ (the address is on the front and back of this newsletter). Or, please respond generously to our fundraising letter soliciting your help. 2003 is an odd-numbered year. It is our year to excel at getting people elected. Please make your best contribution today so we can get started!

Townsend Race Earns an A for Effort

from Liberty Bell Online

As far as we can tell, there were no major libertarian success stories in Michigan this election cycle. Success, however, is a relative term in 3rd party politics. Libertarian candidates must campaign at the local level year in and year out and instead of looking at their win ratio as a measure of success, instead, look at creating a regular base of support of 10% or more.

In one of the most anticipated races, Stephen Townsend lost his hard fought bid for Midland County Commissioner. Out of 4,090 votes cast, Townsend earned 822 to his opponent's 1,981. This left 1,287 votes that were either cast for straight party democrat, for the write-in candidate or for no candidate.

Townsend's campaign anticipated a problem with straight party ticket voters. About 40% of the voters vote straight party and that meant that Townsend had to get about 75% of the independent voters or get some of the straight party voters to split their tickets or get new voters to the polls.

If one was to eliminate the estimated 982 straight party votes from Townsend's Republican opponent's totals, the independent vote was 999 to 822, a much closer race. However, independent voters are not actually independent because even though they will split their ticket, independent voters tend to lean either Republican or Democrat. Townsend ran in a Republican district.

In the final analysis, in Townsend's dis-

trict, people are still unwilling to accept the idea of a third party candidate holding office. Townsend's opponent refused to campaign and publicly stated a number of times (which was printed in the newspaper) that "if God wants me to be a commissioner, I will be a commissioner," stating that he was running a faith based campaign. Many observers thought of him as an inarticulate kook and the Midland Daily News endorsed Townsend calling him the "clear choice for voters," the strongest endorsement they gave of any candidate.

Townsend ran a slick well organized cam-



Stephen Townsend
Tri-Cities LP Chairman

paign that included two libertarian party flyer lit drops, 3 Townsend lit drops, 3 Townsend direct mailings and 2 negative opponent mailings aimed at jarring loose straight party ticket voters (over 50,000 pieces of lit). He had 25 4x8 billboards and hundreds of yard signs. He was extensively covered by the press picking up 27 mentions by the newspaper since March and numerous additional letters of support to the editor.

The most telling factor that the substantial majority of voters will not yet consider a third party was that Townsend first ran for commissioner in 2000 against a 14 year, well liked incumbent and while he ran a good first campaign, it was still quite amateurish and yet he garnered an impressive 26% of the vote.

This time in 2002, despite running a professional well thought out campaign against an opponent who clearly doesn't belong in office and who didn't bother to campaign for it either, Townsend only was able to move the percentage to 29% — which is basically no statistical difference.

Townsend should be congratulated on a well run, professional campaign. He represented his party well.

The Liberty Bell Online is a publication of The Liberty Leadership Council - a Michigan Libertarian PAC that is working to make the Libertarian Party the third major political party in Michigan. www.MakingFreedomRing.com

Election Results - By The Numbers

(cont'd from pg. 1) Kilpatrick for US Congress in Wayne County. Ray's return is the highest percentage ever for a LPM Federal candidate.

Outlying counties saw an increase in the number of candidates fielded for County Commission races, especially active candidates. Many of these races turn into 2-way contests between Libertarians and one major party candidate. These offices may be where the LPM begins to make some inroads in the coming years.

Digging deeper in the data reveals a few interesting facts as well as some points of optimism.

Libertarians are the top third party:

The LP continues to dominate third party politics in Michigan. Eighty-seven Libertarian candidates appeared on the November ballot, compared to 34 for the Greens, 14 for the US Taxpayers, 9 for the Reform, and 4 for the Natural Law Party. LP candidates went undefeated against candidates from the Reform, Natural Law, and US Taxpayers Parties and won 7 out of 9 races against Green Party candidates. Results from the education boards shows that voters have a clear preference for Libertarian Party candidates by a percentage or two when pitted against another third party candidate.

Balance of Power:

Libertarians held the balance of power in two key State House Districts in Wayne County and Macomb County Commission seat.

Grosse Isle Libertarian Rick Secula got 522 votes for State House (24) in a race where the Democrat won by 260 votes.

Dearborn Heights Libertarian Christopher Gonzalez got 907 votes for State House (17) in a race where the Democrat won by 581 votes.

Macomb Libertarian Michael Jablonski got 337 votes for County Commission (4) in a race where the Democrat won by 40 votes.

For a complete rundown of Libertarian election results, please turn to pages 5-7.

2002 Election Results

Results are unofficial

<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>votes</u>	<u>%</u>
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Governor

Granholm, Jennifer	DEM	1,628,537	51.4
Posthumus, Dick	REP	1,503,500	47.4
Campbell, Douglas	GRN	25,586	0.8
Pilchak, Joseph	UST	13,038	0.4

Secretary of State

Land, Terri Lynn	REP	1,699,268	54.9
Hollowell, Melvin	DEM	1,328,274	43.0
Ziarno, Ray	GRN	38,225	1.2
Conces, Charles	UST	26,663	0.9

Attorney General

Cox, Mike	REP	1,496,442	48.9
Peters, Gary	DEM	1,489,664	48.7
Kaufman, Jerry	GRN	47,805	1.6
Van Sickle, Gerald	UST	27,400	0.9

US Senate

Levin, Carl	DEM	1,892,030	60.6
Raczkowski, Andrew	REP	1,183,407	37.9
Borregard, Eric	GRN	24,045	0.8
Mangopoulos, John	REF	12,821	0.4
Dern, Doug	NLP	10,547	0.3

State Board of Education

Bauer, Elizabeth	DEM	1,400,226	25.0
Curtin, Carolyn	REP	1,289,361	23.1
Warren, Michael	REP	1,282,209	22.9
Quarles, Nancy	DEM	1,240,641	22.2
Boman, Scotty	LIB	88,070	1.6
Barnes, Diane	LIB	74,528	1.3
Shelley, Karen	GRN	56,062	1.0
Moxley, Kyle	GRN	43,778	0.8
Czak, Judith	UST	42,867	0.8
Monroe, Ron	UST	42,098	0.8
Kitchen, Michael	NLP	31,113	0.6

U of Michigan Board of Regents

Newman, Andrea	REP	1,414,937	26.1
Richner, Andrew	REP	1,279,191	23.6
Stephens, Greg	DEM	1,270,585	23.4
Ahmed, Ismael	DEM	1,081,993	19.9
Fawcett, Susan	GRN	120,029	2.2
Hall, William	LIB	78,267	1.4
Petering, Matt	GRN	60,237	1.1
Gualdoni, Rick	UST	56,180	1.0
Arndt, David	NLP	42,189	0.8
Waun, Nick	REF	27,144	0.5

<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>votes</u>	<u>%</u>
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WSU Board of Governors

Dunaskiss, Diane	REP	1,326,784	24.9
Bernstein, Richard	DEM	1,254,496	23.5
Atchison, Leon	DEM	1,238,084	23.2
McLemore, Andrew	REP	1,160,567	21.8

Van Oast, Stacy	LIB	74,829	1.4
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Jones, Thomas	LIB	58,997	1.1
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Kline, Frederick	GRN	57,214	1.1
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Miller, Robert	UST	54,480	1.0
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Oakford, Kathleen	NLP	54,415	1.0
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Dunn, Harold	UST	48,445	0.9
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Supreme Court

non-partisan, nominated by parties

Weaver, Elizabeth	REP	1,371,989	31.1
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Young, Robert	REP	1,352,803	30.7
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Drake, Maggie	DEM	615,915	14.0
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Brennan, Martin	DEM	521,503	11.8
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Donahue, Michael	LIB	328,868	7.5
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Hadden, Donnelly	GRN	120,054	2.7
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Yuille, Bruce	LIB	93,408	2.1
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US Congress

Dist 1

Stupak, Bart	DEM	150,519	67.7
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Hooper, Don	REP	69,061	31.1
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Loosemore, John	LIB	2,728	1.2
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Dist 2

Hoekstra, Peter	REP	155,819	70.4
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Wrisley, Jeffrey	DEM	61,319	27.7
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Aleck, Laurie	LIB	2,662	1.2
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Graeser, Ronald	UST	1,531	0.7
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Dist 3

Ehlers, Vernon	REP	152,904	69.9
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Lynnes, Kathryn	DEM	61,964	28.3
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Quinn, Tom	LIB	2,607	1.2
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Lucey, Richard	REF	1,125	0.5
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Dist 4

Camp, Dave	REP	149,093	68.2
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Hollenbeck, Lawrence	DEM	65,847	30.1
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Johnson, Sterling	GRN	2,261	1.0
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Chia, Jr., Al	LIB	1,272	0.6
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Dist 5

Kildee, Dale	DEM	158,709	91.6
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Foster, Clint	LIB	9,344	5.4
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Mikkelson, Harley	GRN	5,188	3.0
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<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>votes</u>	<u>%</u>
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Dist 6

Upton, Fred	REP	126,926	69.0
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Giguere, Jr., Gary	DEM	53,796	29.3
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Overton, Richard	REF	3,188	1.7
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Dist 7

Smith, Nick	REP	121,140	59.6
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Simpson, Mike	DEM	78,439	38.6
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Proctor, Ken	LIB	3,508	1.7
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Dist 8

Rogers, Mike	REP	153,804	66.5
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McAlpine, Frank	DEM	71,196	30.8
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Yeutter, Thomas	LIB	3,166	1.4
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Dist 9

Knollenberg, Joe	REP	141,079	58.1
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Fink, David	DEM	96,840	39.9
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Schubring, Robert	LIB	4,922	2.0
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Dist 10

Miller, Candice	REP	137,339	63.3
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Marlinga, Carl	DEM	77,049	35.5
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Coon, Renae	LIB	2,536	1.2
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Dist 11

McCotter, Thaddeus	REP	126,050	57.2
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Kelley, Kevin	DEM	87,400	39.7
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Boyd, William	GRN	4,243	1.9
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Malone, Dan	UST	2,710	1.2
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Dist 12

Levin, Sander	DEM	140,934	68.3
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Dean, Harvey	REP	61,503	29.8
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Gach, Dick	LIB	2,694	1.3
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Revis, Steven	UST	1,362	0.7
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Dist 13

Kilpatrick, Carolyn	DEM	120,576	91.6
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Warner, Raymond	LIB	11,062	8.4
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Dist 14

Conyers, Jr., John	DEM	143,705	83.1
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Stone, Dave	REP	26,395	15.3
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Schorr, Francis	LIB	1,522	0.9
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Litle, John	GRN	1,236	0.7
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Dist 15

Dingell, John	DEM	136,501	72.4
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Kaltenbach, Martin	REP	48,294	25.6
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Stempfle, Gregory	LIB	3,869	2.1
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2002 Election Results

Candidate Party votes %

State Senate

Dist 8

Basham, Raymond DEM 43,873 64.3
 Montelauro, Pamela REP 22,120 32.4
Morse, Bruce David LIB 2,216 3.2

Dist 9

Olshove, Dennis DEM 47,516 60.8
 Stevens, Cecelia REP 28,581 36.6
Edwards, Keith LIB 2,031 2.6

Dist 10

Switalski, Michael DEM 42,821 53.1
 Rice, Steve REP 36,424 45.1
Allen, Scott LIB 1,450 1.8

Dist 14

Jacobs, Gilda DEM 65,538 68.4
 Wilkins, Marc REP 28,250 29.5
Sherman, Lloyd LIB 2,030 2.1

Dist 28

Sikkema, Ken REP 72,783 73.1
 Berry, Michelle DEM 25,389 25.5
Heeren, Ron LIB 1,369 1.4

Dist 29

Hardiman, Bill REP 44,186 53.8
 Pestka, Steve DEM 36,744 43.2
Adams, Warren LIB 1,178 1.4

Dist 30

Kuipers, Wayne REP 70,792 75.2
 O'Brien, John DEM 21,658 23.0
Bradley-Horan, Lynne LIB 1,627 1.7

Dist 35

McManus, Michelle REP 50,200 61.0
 Dahlberg, Carl DEM 30,009 36.5
Atkinson, Donald LIB 2,050 2.5

State House

Dist 13

Farrah, Barbara DEM 17,370 64.8
 Stasik, Darrell REP 8,805 32.9
Gordon, Eric LIB 613 2.3

Dist 16

Plakas, Jim DEM 16,693 71.9
 Homeier, Eric REP 5,595 24.1
Nagy, David LIB 913 3.9

Candidate Party votes %

Dist 17

Paletko, Daniel DEM 14,772 49.5
 Handy, R. Miles REP 14,191 47.5
Gonzalez, Christopher LIB 907 3.0

Dist 19

Pastor, John REP 22,170 62.9
 Lowry, Kerry DEM 12,209 34.6
Shesterkin, Mike LIB 895 2.5

Dist 20

Stewart, John REP 19,910 61.2
 Blackwell, Mark DEM 11,581 35.6
Dean, James LIB 1,027 3.2

Dist 21

LaJoy, Philip REP 15,591 53.8
 Slavens, Mark DEM 12,769 44.0
Century, Ken LIB 640 2.2

Dist 22

Hopgood, Hoon-Yung DEM 14,042 68.9
 Vaughan, Ronald REP 5,696 27.9
Kainz, Charles LIB 657 3.2

Dist 23

Law, Kathleen DEM 13,429 49.5
 Jones, Douglas REP 13,169 48.5
Secula, Richard LIB 552 2.0

Dist 24

Brandenburg, Jack REP 17,697 53.6
 Benson, Frank DEM 14,296 43.3
Stahl, Erin LIB 1,049 3.2

Dist 28

Wojno, Lisa DEM 14,898 67.1
 Stevens, Scott REP 6,898 31.1
Allison, James LIB 412 1.9

Dist 31

Gielegghem, Paul DEM 14,663 60.4
 Russo, Sheryl REP 8,921 36.7
Miller, James LIB 701 2.9

Dist 42

Accavitti, Frank DEM 15,746 64.9
 Riske, Jim REP 7,560 31.2
Bonnell, John LIB 955 3.9

Dist 72

Steil Jr., Glenn REP 24,152 72.8
 Vogt, Christopher DEM 8,388 25.3
Good, David LIB 654 2.0

Candidate Party votes %

Dist 73

Hart, Doug REP 24,370 69.9
 Clowney, Fred DEM 9,845 28.3
Horan, Thomas LIB 628 1.8

Dist 74

Van Regenmorter REP 28,234 78.1
 Barringer, Beverly DEM 7,492 20.7
Gelineau, Bill LIB 407 1.1

Dist 75

Kooiman, Jerry REP 15,340 53.9
 Vander Meulen DEM 12,737 44.7
Haas, Erwin LIB 408 1.4

Dist 76

Sak, Michael DEM 11,770 60.7
 Kubik, Mark REP 7,216 37.2
Mastin, Paul LIB 405 2.1

Dist 77

Voorhees, Joanne REP 17,894 70.5
 Smith, Virginia DEM 7,037 27.7
Dial, Wayne LIB 441 1.7

Dist 86

Koetje, James REP 24,865 68.9
 McDonald, James DEM 10,456 29.0
Steinport, Pat LIB 747 2.1

Dist 94

Howell, Jim REP 20,757 57.5
 Braun, Tim DEM 15,020 41.6
Carter, Scott LIB 320 0.9

County Commissioner

Allegheny County Dist. 9

Thierwechter, Lou REP 1,796 71.7
Clegg, Charlie LIB 708 28.3

Clare County Dist 2

Adams, Wendy LIB ? 4.0

Clare County Dist 4

Tadros, Albert LIB ? 1.0

Clare County Dist 6

Gargin, Dennis LIB ? 16.0

Eaton County Dist 12

Baker, Daryl REP 1,514 79.9
Remer, Paul LIB 381 20.1

2002 Election Results

<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>votes</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>votes</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>votes</u>	<u>%</u>
<u>Gladwin County Dist 6</u>				<u>Macomb County Dist 11</u>				<u>Wayne County Dist 13</u>			
Lang, Nancy	LIB	?	9.0	Szczepanski, Ed	REP	6,053	86.1	Hubbard, Susan	DEM	23,608	61.2
				Yope, Craig	LIB	977	13.9	Kovacs, Chris	REP	13,780	35.7
<u>Hillsdale County Dist 4</u>				<u>Macomb County Dist 22</u>				Bachrach, Ben LIB 1,181 3.1			
Vanlerberg, Maxine	REP	848	85.6	Slinde, Betty	DEM	4,444	62.7	<u>Wexford County Dist 5</u>			
Benzing, Brad	LIB	143	14.4	Quinlan, Mary	REP	2,382	33.6	Smit, Laura Lee	REP	464	69.9
<u>Hillsdale County Dist 5</u>				Titran, Al LIB 259 3.7				Willis, Greg LIB 200 30.1			
Britton, Alice	REP	1,132	89.8	<u>Macomb County Dist 24</u>				<u>Macomb CCC Trustee</u>			
Parker, James	LIB	128	10.2	Kennard, Peggy	DEM	7,448	61.0	<i>non-partisan (12th Place)</i>			
<u>Ingham County Dist 11</u>				MacDonald, Robert				LaButte, Jeff 10,466 2.5			
Holman, Diane	DEM	3,628	52.3	Morisi, Wendy	LIB	319	2.6	Ballot Proposals			
Such, Andy	REP	3,198	46.1	<u>Manistee County Dist</u>				<u>Proposal 1</u>			
White, Will Tyler	LIB	114	1.6	Kluesner, Brian	LIB	?	?	<i>Eliminate Straight Party Voting</i>			
<u>Kalamazoo County Dist 3</u>				<u>Midland County Dist 4</u>				NO 1,771,965 59.7			
Barnard, Robert	DEM	1,289	64.0	Dauer, Tom	REP	1,981	70.7	YES 1,197,724 40.3			
Remmert, Amy	REP	627	31.1	Townsend, Stephen LIB 822 29.3				<u>Proposal 2</u>			
Proni, Tullio	LIB	99	4.9	<u>Oakland County Dist 5</u>				<i>Sell Bonds for Sewer Repairs</i>			
<u>Kalamazoo County Dist 7</u>				Scott, John				YES 1,771,162 60.2			
Buskirk, David	DEM	2,012	59.8	Deni, Paul	DEM	6,668	44.7	NO 1,170,578 39.8			
Easter, Kim	REP	1,184	35.2	Martin, Fred	LIB	405	2.7	<u>Proposal 3</u>			
Phillips, Gerald	LIB	170	5.1	<u>Oakland County Dist 25</u>				<i>State Employee Collective Bargaining</i>			
<u>Kalamazoo County Dist 8</u>				Coulter, David				NO 1,576,187 54.2			
Zull, John	REP	3,294	85.8	Collver, David	LIB	1,265	12.5	YES 1,334,237 45.8			
Gerow, Joy	LIB	543	14.2	<u>Washtenaw County Dist 1</u>				<u>Proposal 4</u>			
<u>Kalamazoo County Dist 14</u>				Yekulis, Joseph				<i>Redirect Tobacco Settlement Money</i>			
Heppler, Jeff	REP	3,386	84.7	Burkhardt, Wendy	DEM	4,537	38.2	NO 2,005,868 66.3			
Ottenwess, Ron	LIB	611	15.3	Hudler, James	LIB	282	2.4	YES 1,017,946 33.7			
<u>Lake County Dist 9</u>				<u>Washtenaw County Dist 11</u>				<u>Proposal K</u>			
Grace, Thomas	DEM	331	84.0	Irwin, Jeff	DEM	5,715	90.3	<i>Arts, Parks, and Kids (Wayne and Oakland)</i>			
Peck, Trevor	LIB	63	16.0	Montgomery, James	LIB	615	9.7	<u>Wayne</u>			
<u>Macomb County Dist 1</u>				<u>Wayne County Dist 2</u>				NO 220,415 43.0			
Liberato, Ralph	DEM	4,358	67.2	Parker, Bernard	DEM	25,194	92.6	YES 292,599 57.0			
Dial, Tim	REP	1,970	30.4	Watson, Daniel	REP	1,548	5.7	<i>Tax increases must pass by 60% in Wayne County</i>			
Stables, Paul	LIB	157	2.4	Beck, Timothy	LIB	471	1.7	<u>Oakland</u>			
<u>Macomb County Dist 4</u>				<u>Wayne County Dist 4</u>				NO 218,035 53.9			
Walsh, Mike	DEM	4,703	48.5	Ware, Jewel	DEM	27,073	96.0	YES 186,827 46.1			
Chupa, Michael	REP	4,663	48.1	Karpinski, Edward LIB 1,142 4.0							
Jablonski, Michael	LIB	337	3.5	<u>Wayne County Dist 5</u>							
<u>Macomb County Dist 6</u>				Varga, Ilona							
Flynn, Joann	DEM	5,652	57.4	Gnadt, Loel	LIB	1,189	6.2				
Stowell, Aaron	REP	3,998	40.6								
Pietrangelo, Laurel	LIB	190	1.9								

Soyk Sentenced

by Keith Edwards

Former Libertarians of Macomb County Chair Paul Soyk was sentenced to five months imprisonment for income tax evasion on September 16 in federal court. The judge had discretion to sentence him to 10 to 16 months, half of which must be in a facility, so this was the lightest possible sentence. There would be a supervised release period of two years as well in which he must file tax returns and pay current and back taxes, the latter for 1996-1999.

Soyk maintained at his trial that there was no law requiring the filing of a tax return or payment of income taxes and his sincerity in stating that was his belief contributed to his receiving the minimum. He is considering an appeal.

He claimed that the Government failed to introduce any admissible evidence of his awareness of the IRS Code, regulations of court decisions rejecting his interpretation of the law to prove he had a "pertinent legal duty" to file a return or pay income taxes.

"Allow me to thank everyone for their support and kind words and willingness to associate with a convicted felon. I really appreciate it and it has meant a lot to me during this ordeal, an ordeal that I am quick to point out I brought upon myself," Paul said.

Needless to say, that support is very strong among libertarians here in Michigan, who agree that taxation is theft and that the federal income tax is the most burdensome, complicated, intrusive, and aggravating of all the forms of theft devised by the government. We admire Paul for all the research he has done on taxes and especially for his courage in fighting this evil.

I had the honor to present him to the State Convention in May where he received a thunderous and prolonged ovation. We wish Paul our very best and we will celebrate his return with the same love and respect he has always earned. He was scheduled to report to a halfway house November 4.

Editor's Note: Paul Soyk was the winner of one of the Defender of Liberty Awards which were presented on November 9th at the annual LibertyFest banquet. The nomination for this award was made by James Miller.

Being a Libertarian in Office

by Bill Bradley

I have been a member of the South Haven City Council since January 2002. It has been an interesting and generally enjoyable experience. I recommend it.

If you think you would like to advance the Libertarian cause by serving in public office, the easiest way to start out is to get appointed to some board of commission. No campaigning for one thing.

You can probably get an appointment by showing up at meetings and getting to know the people already appointed to the board or commission. If you dress neatly, are polite and don't make a nuisance of yourself, the board members soon become comfortable with your presence. They may ask you why you keep showing up and you can say, Oh, I am just interested in (whatever it is that they are doing) and that you might even consider serving on the board sometime. Eventually, they begin to think of you as harmless, even if you are a Libertarian. Then when an opening comes up, you may get the job just because they will recommend you to whoever will make the appointment, not even bothering to look for anybody else.

A lot of the anti-libertarian stuff you run into in government, started out in some board or committee somewhere in the bowels of government. If that is where you are, you may be able to stop some of it right at the source.

Since I took office, I have tried to establish

a reputation for looking after the public purse. I believe this is a good way to establish broad support within the community. Almost everybody thinks government costs too much.

I consistently vote against spending taxpayer's money on items that people can do for themselves. I try to avoid being against whatever it is that the people want. Instead, I try to

be in favor of them doing it themselves. I try to make the point that it is immoral to give a benefit to Peter and make Paul pay for it. If Paul wants to pay, OK, but it is immoral to force him to.

At workshop meetings where we discuss various items that will come before the Council, I try to let others talk first. Then if someone has a posi-

tion similar to mine, I can support and expand on it. This helps to reduce the number of times I am the "lone ranger." I find that by supporting other members when I can, that it is easier to get their support in return.

Other times I use the "devil's advocate" approach. "Well, this is certainly worth considering, but is this the right way to accomplish it, etc?" I try to avoid being confrontational. I have found that all that does is make enemies, and your enemies usually won't support you if they can avoid it.

So far, I have been able to tip several votes away from spending the taxpayer's money, saving thousands of dollars in the process.



Councilman Bill Bradley of South Haven

Thank You, Candidates!

Being chair has its drawbacks. There are things that MUST be done, and things that I WANT to do. In this issue of the newsletter, it was imperative that I outline my vision for our future, Operation Farm Team. But what I really WANTED to do was thank all our candidates for the time and effort they put into running. I wanted to thank people for putting their names on the ballot, for filling out paperwork, for answering surveys, media interviews, going to debates, and countless other things. I could go on, but this little box was all the space left in the newsletter after covering the news. I look forward to working with all of you again in the future.

James Hudler

News From West Michigan

by Tom Quinn

This year's elections saw twelve members of the LPWM running for office with this being the first year that the Kent County ballot contained LP candidates for all state offices. Though our candidates were not fortunate enough to win any races, the fact that there was such a significant number of Libertarians on the ballot in itself garnered recognition for the local party. Several local civic groups held candidate forums, often with Libertarian candidates making up more than 25% of the participants.

Interesting comments can slip out when candidates from other parties are forced to confront the Libertarian position on issues. At one forum one opposition candidate remarked that,

"One thing we can say for the Libertarians, they are honest." At another forum another opponent commented that he wished he could take the LP position on drug decriminalization.

Earlier this fall, a candidate for circuit court was the guest speaker at the September LPWM membership meeting. In his opening remarks he stated that some of his acquaintances had advised him not to attend because the Libertarians were an unreasonable bunch that wasn't worthy of serious respect. After delivering his talk and discussing various issues and philosophies with several of the local members, he mentioned that he hoped to return and speak again some time.

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.



Mark your calendar! *It's time for the 2003* **Libertarian Party of Michigan** *State Convention*

Saturday, April 5, 2003

Eagle Crest Conference Center, Ypsilanti

- *Participate in Ann Arbor's annual Hash Bash*
- *Update the LPM platform and bylaws*
- *Be stimulated by the Drug Policy Forum/Banquet*
- *Elect Party Officers*
- *All new one-day format*
- *Exciting*
- *Efficient*
- *Fun*
- *Your participation wanted!*

Register now! *Early Bird Special:*

Only \$65 for everything, including the gala banquet if you register before January 15, 2003.

Mail your check for \$65 to the Libertarian Party of Michigan at 619 E Nine Mile Road, Hazel Park, MI 48030

Please include your name, address, and email or phone number

Contact Emily Salvette at salvette@ameritech.net or Stacy Van Oast at (586) 784-8783

Region Three Representative's Report

by Mark Rutherford

It is my honor and pleasure to report on the activities of the Libertarian National Committee (LNC) to the hard working activists of the Michigan Libertarian Party. As usual, you have run many excellent candidates, and worked hard and successfully to move forward the Libertarian political movement in 2002.

The LNC last met in Chicago on September 21-22, 2002. It was a very important meeting.

The LNC thoroughly addressed the "Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act" (BCRA). This onerous law affects national, the state parties, local affiliates and candidates. The Federal Election Commission (FEC) is still promulgating regulations on it, and attorneys (including your own Bill Hall) are still scratching their heads trying to figure out what Congress meant by it. You cannot do much justice in explaining this awful piece of legislation in a short column, but here are some of the lowlights of what it probably does to us:

1. State parties will have to set up a federal committee and bank account to direct any money to the national LP, including memberships and material sales;
2. State parties will have to set up a federal committee and bank account if they do anything in conjunction with a federal election. Anything means anything, including mentioning federal candidates in newsletters, nominating them at conventions or posting on a website a list of federal candidates.
3. Federal contributions (including payment of membership dues) are banned from anyone under 18.

Little clear guidance has come from the FEC on BCRA. For more information on BCRA, see www.fec.gov. Also, the LNC is one of scores of plaintiffs challenging BCRA. However, BCRA is currently in effect, and it will be this Spring, at the earliest, before there is a court decision on the constitutionality of BCRA.

Another topic of discussion was the recent resignation of Executive Director Steve Dasbach. In response, the Libertarian National Committee (LNC) passed the following resolution:

"In accepting the resignation of Steve Dasbach as Executive Director of the Libertarian

Party, the Libertarian National Committee thanks him for more than 20 years of service to the Party, culminating in his 5 years as National Chair and his 4 years of service as Executive Director. We commend his dedication to the cause of liberty and recognize his tireless efforts in this often difficult pursuit."

Steve's resignation as a national employee was effective November 18, 2002. National Chair Geoff Neale was designated by the LNC as acting Executive Director. After this meet-



Mark W. Rutherford
Region Three
Representative to the
Libertarian National
Committee

ing, Steve stayed on as a consultant through the effective date of his resignation to help Geoff with the transition.

I had the honor of being appointed by the LNC to serve on the Executive Director search committee. At-large

Representative Michael Dixon (Illinois) is chair of the committee. At-large representative BetteRose Ryan (Colorado) also serves on the committee.

Alternate Region Three Representative and Ohio State Chair Jeff Zwerber was appointed to serve on the LNC's Audit committee.

Also discussed was the financial situation of the LNC. The LNC passed the following resolution on the situation:

"The Libertarian Party, like many non-profits, has experienced a downturn in fund-raising over the last 12 months. Though many special projects have been successful, and Libertarian Party candidates across the country are succeeding like never before, the national office fund-raising appeals have underperformed.

"Based on this knowledge, the LNC has taken steps to control costs at the national office, and is working with our vendors to improve our cash position.

"The LNC asks for the understanding and support of our valued members and donors in this difficult time. With the continued support of our members, contributors, volunteers, and activists the

LNC is confident that the Party will return to solid financial footing in the near future, and that it will remain a strong member driven organization serving its state affiliates."

I'm pleased to report that positive steps have been taken and generous contributors have come forward, and through the hard work of treasurer Deryl Martin, National Chair Geoff Neale, the national staff and countless others, the situation is being dealt with in a positive manner. National's financial situation will continue to be thoroughly scrutinized at the December 14-15, 2002 LNC meeting in Washington when the LNC approves a budget for 2003.

Chairman Neale has also named national Marketing Director Mark Schreiber as interim Development Director. Mark is working with the rest of the national staff and the LNC to address the LP's marketing needs, as well as our long, and short term fund raising needs.

This is only the tip of the iceberg of all that is going on at the national level. It is a time of great change, with great challenges. But with change and challenges come great opportunity, and it continues to be an exciting time to be a part of the Libertarian Party. Thank you for all you do for Liberty!

The Libertarian Activist Meeting

January 25, 2003 - 12:30pm
at LPM HQ in Hazel Park
619 E. Nine Mile Rd.
Info: ViceChair@lpmich.org

*We are going to have a
pot luck lunch, so please
bring a dish to share.*

ALL members are welcome!

The main topic will be:
**Planning for
Election Success**

LPM Committee Meeting Minutes

Libertarian Party Of Michigan
Executive Committee Meeting
August 4, 2002

Called to order by LPM Chairman James Hudler at 1:02pm.

Roll call:

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

JH – We will employ the agenda distributed by Ben Bachrach (attached), except that to move item 13 to item 1. Approved by unanimous consent.

JH – State Of The Party, Chair outlined his goals for the LPM for the months ahead: 1) Raise \$20,000 in the next 6 months. 2) Promote both statewide and local candidates. 3) Increase number of affiliates and members. 4) Plan 2003 LPM Convention. 5) Research implications of achieving major party status.

KW – Minutes of June 9 meeting have been distributed. Motion by Sara Sjoberg, second by Dave Collver, to accept minutes without having them read. Carried by voice vote.

BB – Distributed and explained revised budget (attached). Motion by Ben Bachrach. Second by Keith Wesselmann, to accept revised budget. Carried by voice vote.

Motion by Ben Bachrach. Second by Jerry Bloom, to reduce previously pledged contribution to Scotty Boman for State Board of Ed. campaign from \$1000 to \$150, in order to use it for advertisement in the LPM newsletter. Carried by voice vote.

Motion by Diane Barnes, second by Sara Sjoberg, to spend up to \$400 from the Campaign Fund for the slate brochure. Carried by voice vote.

JB, PH – In the last two months, Jerry and Paul have attempted to contact the leaders of every affiliate throughout the state regarding the combining of some affiliates.

1. Motion by Jerry Bloom, second by

Paul Hitch, to revoke the charters of the Berrien, Ionia, Ottawa, and South Central affiliates because they are no longer active. Carried by voice vote.

2. Motion by Jerry Bloom, second by Paul Hitch, to make LP members of the former Berrien affiliate (including Cass County residents) members of the Van Buren affiliate. Carried by voice vote.

3. Motion by Jerry Bloom, second by Paul Hitch, to make LP members of the former St. Joseph affiliate members of the Kalamazoo affiliate. Carried by voice vote.

4. Motion by Jerry Bloom, second by Paul Hitch, to make LP members of the former Monroe affiliate members of the Wayne affiliate. Carried by voice vote.

5. Motion by Jerry Bloom, second by Paul Hitch, to make LP members of the former Calhoun, Jackson, and Lenawee affiliates members of the Branch-Hillsdale affiliate. Carried by voice vote.

Motion by Ben Bachrach, second by Erin Stahl, to extend agenda item 6 by five minutes. Carried by voice vote.

6. Motion by Jerry Bloom, second by Paul Hitch, to make LP members of the former Tuscola, Sanilac, and Huron affiliates members of the Genesee-Lapeer affiliate. Carried by voice vote.

7. Motion by Jerry Bloom, second by Paul Hitch, to make LP members of the former Ionia, Ottawa, Oceana, Isabella, Mecosta, and Gratiot affiliates members of the West Michigan affiliate. Carried by voice vote.

JH – 2003 State Convention. Steve Townsend has asked the Chair to approve his plan for hosting the convention in the Bay area. Mr. Townsend was invited to present his proposal to the LEC at this meeting, and he is not present. Emily Salvette is present to present her proposal (attached) to the LEC.

Motion by Diane Barnes, second by Dave Collver, to approve Ms. Salvette's plan for the 2003 LPM Convention. Carried by voice vote.

DB – LibertyFest 2002. Brochure is near completion, featured speaker is Wendy McElroy, registration fee is \$35, deadline to register is November 4, event is November 9 at Mac & Ray's in Harrison Township. A complimentary adver-

tisement will need to be placed in the next LPM newsletter.

JH – Newsletter editor Greg Dirasian resigned from the position. The July/August issue will be the last he edits.

Motion by Ben Bachrach, second by Jerry Bloom, to withhold decision on a new newsletter editor. Carried by voice vote.

JB – By the end of August, the leadership directory will be revised to reflect the affiliate alignment changes.

BB – Membership Committee is a very important responsibility. Membership continues to decline, and we must get "thank you" and "welcome" messages to inquiries and new members and reminders to lapsed members.

DC – Dave Collver expressed a desire to see more regular fundraising efforts. Currently James Hudler is working on a fundraising letter. Ben Bachrach believes monthly pledge program proceeds need to increase.

GS – Greg Stempfle distributed report (attached) on implications of running candidates as a major party. We will achieve major party status if Scotty Boman receives at least 5% as many votes as are cast in the Secretary of State race.

GS – Greg Stempfle reported that Scotty Boman Campaign literature will be distributed throughout September to affiliates around the state.

JH – There will not be a state party picnic this summer. All LPM members are invited to the Washtenaw affiliate's picnic.

DB – Diane Barnes expressed disappointment that James Hudler wrote a letter to Leon Drolet regarding HB5237/PA399, in spite of previous LEC decision not to send a letter regarding this issue. Discussion ensued among LEC and other LPM members present, some concurring that such a letter should not have been sent, some defending Mr. Hudler's actions. A copy of the letter (attached) was provided by Mr. Hudler to the meeting attendees.

PH – LPM Headquarters lease expires in November.

Motion by Jerry Bloom, second by Paul Hitch, to make arrangements to continue to occupy our current headquarters after the current lease expires. Carried by voice vote.

LPM Committee Meeting Minutes

JH – Dave Collver has agreed to coordinate negotiation of the lease.

PH – Anyone interested in having business cards made, please speak with Erin Stahl after the meeting.

Motion by Dave Collver, second by Diane Barnes, to adjourn. Carried by voice vote at 3:24pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Keith Wesselmann, Secretary

Libertarian Party Of Michigan
Executive Committee Meeting
October 13, 2002

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 James Hudler at 7:22pm.

Roll call:

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

JH – Motion by Dave Collver, second by Sara Sjoberg, to accept the proposed agenda (attached). Carried by voice vote.

KW – Minutes of June 9 meeting have been distributed. Motion by Sara Sjoberg, second by Dave Collver, to accept minutes without having them read. Carried by voice vote.

BB – Distributed and explained revised budget (attached). Motion by Keith Wesselmann, second by Dave Collver, to accept revised budget.

Motion to amend by Sara Sjoberg, second by Erin Stahl, to increase membership retention budget from \$1000 to \$1600 (remove proposed change). Amendment carried by voice vote.

Motion to amend by Jerry Bloom, Second by Paul Hitch, to change proposed budget for Vice Chair expenses from \$160 to \$600.

Original motion carried by voice vote.

BB-Post-convention fundraiser has gener-

ated \$110 in addition to that listed on treasurer's report. Next opportunity for fundraising will be LibertyFest.

JB-Leadership conference was held earlier today. Expressed concern about lack of responsiveness from Shiawassee County. Activists in Traverse City have been encouraged to continue working to organize in that area. About \$360 was spent on the leadership conference, and about 30 members attended. LPM Activist



Meeting will be scheduled within 90 days of the November election and can serve as an organizing convention should we achieve major party status (as required by Michigan election law). The date is tentatively set as Saturday, January 25.

DB – LibertyFest letter/brochure has been mailed out. LPM fundraiser still needs to be planned. Deadline for nominating awards is October 15.

JH – The proposal for the 2003 LPM Convention agenda has been circulated. Organizers Stacy Van Oast and Emily Salvette would like \$300 for a promotional mailing.

SJ, ES – Letter to donors & lapsed members is ready to be sent out. Current LPM membership is 1,173.

JH – Greg Stempfle has volunteered to succeed Greg Dirasian as the newsletter editor. He has been appointed to the position. Next issue is expected to go out in late November.

JH – Slate cards and slate brochures are prepared, some have been printed, and they are available online to download.

PH – There are still approximately 20 counties in Michigan that are not associated with any local affiliate. Activists from uncovered areas will be contacted to generate interest in creating affiliates.

JH – Statewide campaign report. Greg Stempfle has visited 7 affiliates in the last 2 months. Materials have been distributed throughout the state. In the remaining weeks before the election, the main focus of the election will be Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb

Counties.

DC – From discussions with the landlord, it is likely we can renew the lease for LPM Headquarters in Hazel Park for little or no increase in rent.

Motion by Ben Bachrach, second by Jerry Bloom, to authorize Dave Collver to complete the negotiation of the lease, which would then be signed by James Hudler.

Motion to amend by Jerry Bloom, second by Keith Wesselmann, to allow for an increase of up to \$35 per month rent increase. Carried by voice vote.

Original Motion carried by voice vote.

JH – Greg Stempfle circulated report on consequences of achieving major party status (attached).

JH – Members speaking session.

J.P. Denoyer announced his intention to manage a statewide petition for a ballot proposal to end the income tax in Michigan.

Keith Edwards announced that more LibertyFest brochures are available here at the meeting and inquired about Oakland Militia meetings being held at LPM Headquarters.

Motion to adjourn by Sara Sjoberg, second by Dave Collver. Carried by voice vote at 8:36pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Keith Wesselmann, Secretary

Bill Shotey Passes



2000 Defender of Liberty award winner, Bill Shotey, passed away on November 20 while visiting family in Arizona.

Bill remained here for the election night party and left for Arizona the next day. He suffered a heart attack upon arriving in Arizona and was hospitalized then passed away a few days later.

Bill, 70 years old, will be sorely missed.

No other information is available at this time. For further information, contact LP of Wayne County chair, Greg Stempfle, at: stempfle@hotmail.com.

LPM Affiliate Contacts

Affiliate Name

Libertarian Party of Allegan County
Libertarian Party of Clare-Gladwin Counties
Libertarian Party of Kalamazoo/St. Joseph County
Libertarian Party of Livingston County
Libertarians of Macomb County
Libertarian Party of Mid-Michigan
Midwest Michigan Libertarian Party
Libertarian Party of Oakland County
Libertarian Party of South Central Michigan
Libertarian Party of Shiawassee County
Libertarian Party of Saint Clair County
Thumb Area Libertarian Party
Traverse Bay Libertarian Party
Tri-Cities Libertarian Party
University of Michigan Libertarians
Upper Peninsula Libertarian Party
Libertarian Party of Van Buren County
Libertarian Party of Washtenaw County
Libertarian Party of Wayne County
West Michigan Libertarian Party

Contact Name

Rick Dutkiewicz
Ghazey Aleck
Mickey Hall
David Buck
Keith Edwards
Will Tyler White
Brian Kluesner
Fred Martin
James Parker
David Keys
Richard Friend
Paul Hitch
Jerry Coon
Stephen Townsend
Dan Sheill
John Loosemore
Bill Bradley
Brett Cashman
Greg Stempfle
Tom Quinn

Contact Info

rdoogie@datawise.net
aleckfamily@voyager.net
hpondo@aol.com
sise_george@yahoo.com
keithmarni@aol.com
whitew15@msu.edu
chair@lpmwm.org
chair@lpocmi.org
jamesp@hillsdale.epcorp.com
bstele1@tir.com
rfriend@advnet.net
phitch@intouchmi.com
jtcoon@gtii.com
libertarian@chartermi.net
dsheill@umich.edu
906-334-2922
bbradley@cybersol.com
bjcash@aol.com
stempfle@hotmail.com
mrtomq@yahoo.com

New Member Database Launched

by Jerry Bloom

At the October 13 Chairs' Meeting, the LPM officially launched its new membership database. Emily Salvette and Greg Dirasian made a presentation at the meeting to give affiliates a brief overview on the use of the new system.

This new system is not part of the proposed new national membership database system, but rather something that is entirely unique to the LPM.

Greg Dirasian has been working on creating this database for us for a long time, but encountered some difficulties with data being received from the national LP. Dan LaFavers added some additional features to give affiliates even more flexibility in maintaining their membership lists. Oakland and Washtenaw county LPs have been beta-testing the system since last year.

"I have been a long-time advocate of moving as much of our information as possible into secure web databases so we could create a 'virtual office,'" Dirasian said. "When I joined the

LP of Oakland County the person who maintained our database was in the process of moving. Tools that the previous database administrator had developed over time were lost because of differing database applications."

Rather than relying on the state party's database administrator, Dirasian embarked on an ambitious plan to put his membership database on the web with a common set of tools. Going forward, the database will now be available to everybody with the appropriate access permissions and tools for accessing the data, once created, will be available for all the affiliates to use.

The tools available include:

- New member reports
- Lapsed member reports
- New Inquiry reports
- Membership reports
- Mailing lists
- and others

Taking it a step further, address changes made to the database are automatically emailed to the national LP for incorporation into their

database and changes from national are automatically incorporated into the LPM database — all without any human intervention.

"One of the benefits of this system is that as we progress, if somebody decides that they need a new database feature, they can ask one of the developers to add it - currently, myself and Dan LaFavers - or they can do it themselves if they have the appropriate skills. But, once added it will be available to all the affiliates," Dirasian noted. "If somebody gets run over by a bus, the database will not disappear, nor will the tools, nor will the ability to continue enhancing the system."

Also provided to attending affiliate chairs was a "Web Services Manual" summarizing the web-based tools available for use by LPM affiliates. Dirasian notes that although he may have been the driving force behind making these tools available to the affiliates, other people deserve recognition for their contributions and we owe a special thanks to Ben Bachrach, Hugh Fader, Dan LaFavers, and Emily Salvette.

Defender of Liberty Awards

(cont'd from pg. 1) Paul Soyk was given the Spokesperson for Liberty Award as a member of the community whose patriotism and conviction have inspired contributions to the cause of Liberty. Although Paul is an active member of the LPM and Libertarians of Macomb County, he was awarded for his non-partisan attempt to prove that there is no law compelling payment of the federal income tax. Jim Miller nominated him.

The winners represent the qualities that are so important in the struggle against tyranny. The Jozwiaks represent persistence, Collins, confidence, and Soyk is an exemplar of integrity and courage.

Libertarian writer and feminist Wendy McElroy was the principal speaker. Her topic was Political Optimism.

This was the seventh annual Liberty Fest banquet and the fourth one hosted by Libertarians of Macomb County. Congratulations to Diane Barnes and her staff for organizing an enjoyable event. Erin Stahl, Wendy Morisi, Sharlene Strick, Laurel Pietrangelo and Marnie and Keith Edwards helped Diane.

How much Government is enough?

Number of Governments

U.S. Government	1
States	50
Counties	3,043
Municipalities	19,372
Townships or Towns	16,629
School Districts	13,726
Special Districts	34,683
Total:	87,504

Wayne/Oakland Defeat Arts Tax

(cont'd from pg.1) \$2.5 million proponents spent in 2000). Meanwhile, the coalition of the Libertarian Parties of Wayne and Oakland counties and the Small Government Alliance (SGA) spent less than \$25,000. Outspent over 100 to 1, Proposal K was defeated by an even larger margin than two years ago.

The SGA noted in a press release, "Proponents also contributed to their own undoing. Tax advocates have played the 'for the kids' card so many times that the electorate has gotten wise to this game."

Although pleased with the victory, Libertarians remain vigilant. "The 'arts' special interest groups have virtually unlimited funds and there is too much money at stake. We expect them to try again and we will be prepared. We are already making plans of our own," cautioned LPOC chair, Fred Martin.

(See a reproduction of the anti-proposal K ad on page 15).

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by

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85 min. - \$90

Phone: (248) 212-8062 rettafontana@yahoo.com

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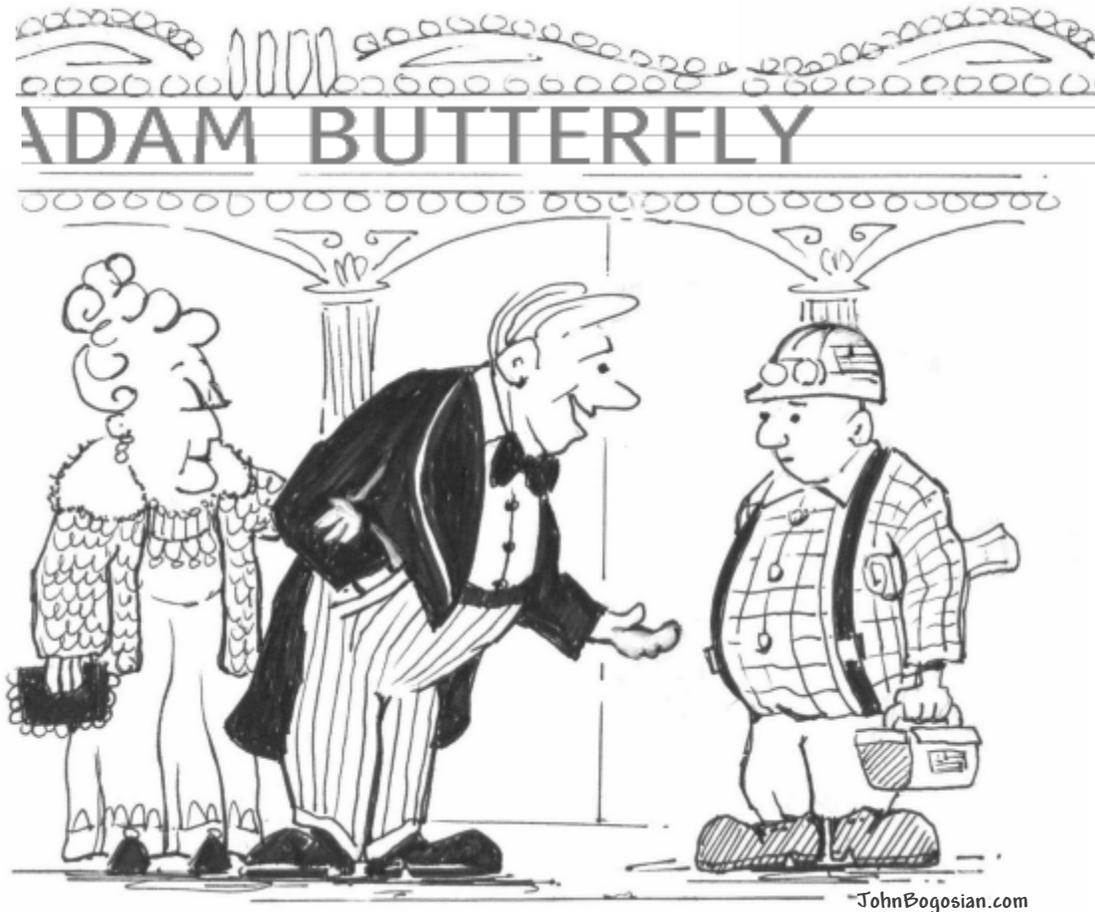
Boman Campaign Falls Short For Major Party

by Greg Stempfle

An effort to attain major party status for the LPM fell short of its goal on Election Day. Both State Board of Education candidates, Scotty Boman and Diane Barnes, failed to earn the necessary vote totals to elevate the LPM's ballot status. Had either candidate earned 150,000 votes then the LPM would have been a major party during the 2004 election cycle. Major parties, almost always Democrats and Republicans, nominate this candidates in the August Primary, elect precinct delegates and are their candidates are invited to more debates and candidate forums.

Scotty Boman, hoping that having a name similar to that of the former Detroit Red Wings coach would elevate his vote total, ran a semi-active campaign for the position. Yard signs were distributed across the state, flyers were passed out at fairs and at Red Wing games, and Scotty's race was even mentioned on local sports radio. In 2000, Scotty ran for a seat on the Wayne State Board of Governors and earned 130,000 votes. He was also endorsed by the Detroit News when he ran for Detroit City Council in 1997. Unfortunately, all of the hard work did not pay off this year. Scotty earned 88,000 and Diane pulled in 74,000 votes.

As the campaign manager for Scotty Boman, I would like to personally thank everybody who contributed to the campaign, put up a yard sign, and passed out flyers.



"Pardon me sir, could you spare a couple hundred bucks for opera tickets?"

Here's a switch...

Most tax proposals are to provide funding for things that we all need. Like police and fire services. Or schools. Historically, some have been to subsidize programs specifically for the less fortunate. Like public transportation. Or food stamps.

This year, we are being asked to increase property taxes on the homes of the poor and the working class to help support the lifestyles of the rich and famous!

Proposal K is a ½ mill increase on every home and business in both Wayne and Oakland counties. The residents of Macomb, Washtenaw, Livingston — and every other county in Michigan — get a completely free ride!

Most of the money would go to give subsidies to a select list of arts and cultural institutions that reads like the social calendar of Mr. & Mrs. J. Barrington VanderSnoot.

Among the 17 beneficiaries are:

- Cranbrook House & Gardens
- Detroit Symphony Orchestra
- Meadowbrook Hall
- Michigan Opera Theatre

The rest would go to local politicians and bureaucrats to dole out to their friends and supporters.

Is it right to tax people who prefer Rock & Roll or Hip-Hop so the wealthy can get a discount on tickets to the opera? Do we really want to take money from people who can barely afford an occasional movie to subsidize the ballet?

The economy is floundering, people are losing their jobs, our retirement savings are disappearing. Now they want us to raise property taxes and risk putting poor people and seniors out of their homes, just to make symphony tickets cheaper for rich people? "K" doesn't stand for "Kids." It stands for "Kings."

Vote NO on Proposal K!



Small Government Alliance

Box 118 ♦ Allen Park, MI ♦ 48101

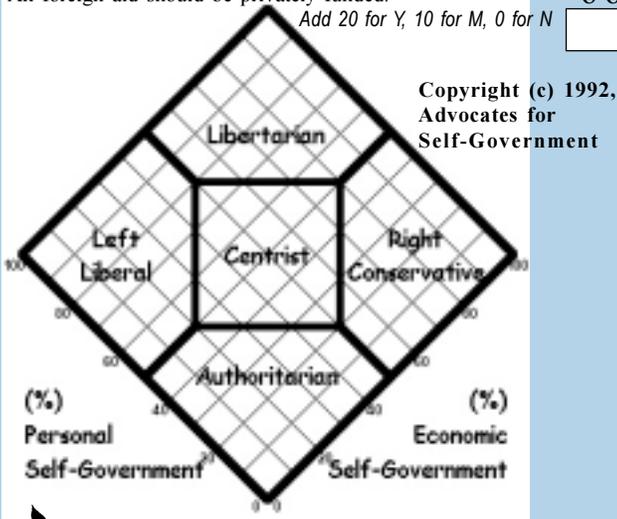
www.SmallGov.org

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"/>
Add 20 for Y, 10 for M, 0 for N			
			<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"/>
Add 20 for Y, 10 for M, 0 for N			
			<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 of Michigan**
619 E. 9 Mile Rd.
Hazel Park, Michigan 48030

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 Hazel Park, MI 48030
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 Fax: (248) 591-0190
<http://www.lpmich.org>

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