

Michigan Libertarian

Volume 38 Issue 2

Summer 2009



This is it, the last print edition of the Michigan Libertarian

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**Michigan Constitution
ARTICLE I, SECTION 5**

Every person may freely speak, write, express and publish his views on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of such right; and no law

**Libertarian Party of Michigan
Columbia Center II
101 West Big Beaver Road
Suite 1400
Troy, MI 48084**

Greetings From the New Chair

by Emily Salvette

What a great time to be a Libertarian! After eight years of Republican spending and 5 months of Democratic uber-meddling, people are desperate for a political alternative. Honestly, our phones are ringing off the hook. At TEA parties, fairs and festivals, and gatherings of new freedom-oriented groups such as Campaign for Liberty and Americans for Prosperity, we're meeting a growing number of people who are standing up for free markets and personal responsibility. Because the Libertarian Party is the only freedom-oriented group with ballot status for the 2010 elections, we have an important



*LPM Chair
Emily Salvette*

mission: Recruit these freedom lovers to run and get elected as Libertarian Party candidates. Many of these new citizen activists would make great candidates. Maybe there's a Chrysler dealer out there whose business was taken away by the Auto Task Force, or a community banker who's shaking

his head at the Fed's new regulatory power. If we can recruit them to run, I bet they can win. Think what it would be like on November 3, 2010 if a Libertarian were elected to the Michigan state House. It would rock Lansing and the nation, and send a warning shot that people are taking back their government. And what better place from which to launch that salvo than from Michigan!

How can we achieve this goal?

First, we all have to promote the Libertarian Party whenever and wherever we can. I encourage you to get out and tell everyone you know that Libertarians are pro-economic growth; specifically we think the Michigan legislature should lower taxes, make Michigan a right-to-work state, and make it easier to do business and create jobs here. If you want brochures to hand out, contact me at chair@mi.lp.org and I'll send

you a supply.

Second, we need to build our local Libertarian Party organizations, which is where volunteers and candidates can get active. Please go to your local LP meetings and help them recruit candidates, run campaigns, and raise the profile of the Libertarian Party in your community. If there isn't a local Libertarian

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LPM Officers and Directors

Chair	Emily Salvette	chair@mi.lp.org
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At-Large Director	Bill Hall	whall@wnj.com
At-Large Director	Andy LeCureaux	alecureaux@yahoo.com
At-Large Director	Brian Wright	brian_r_wright@yahoo.com
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Judicial Committee	Keith Edwards	keithmarni@aol.com
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Media	Mark Norrod	media@mi.lp.org
Fundraising	Mark Hiselman	mahiselman@comcast.net

From the Chair

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Party organization in your county, start one! Contact LPM Vice Chair Dan Johnson to find out how at vicechair@mi.lp.org.

And third, donate your time and money to the Libertarian Party of Michigan. There are many things in life that are self-organizing: language, the Jobbienooneer, Facebook, etc., but a political party is not one of them. Everything we do must come from someone's hard volunteer effort and an expenditure of someone's donated money. We need your time, your organizing skills, and your money if we are to succeed. Please go to our web site www.mi.lp.org to volunteer and donate.

It's the right time to be a Libertarian. I hear all the time from people who want honest folks in public office committed to the ideas of freedom and limited government. They've been burned voting for people who swear they want freedom to thrive but are only committed to the success of their political interests. Real change can happen, but only if each of us makes the Libertarian option a viable one. Thanks to all of you out there who accept this critical challenge. I look forward to working with you and celebrating victory with you very soon.

Last Printed Edition of the Michigan Libertarian 1972-2009

The Michigan Libertarian, the official newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Michigan, will transition to an online format starting after this issue. The Libertarian Executive Committee voted to make the format change at its June 27 meeting. The two overriding issues were cost and timeliness. The printing and mailing of the newsletter was the largest line item in the party budget. With most people getting their news and information instantly online, the change was inevitable.

The new online Michigan Libertarian will debut on August 1 and will replace the monthly LPMOnline. It will go out on the first of every month and will be distributed free to anyone who signs up, which can be done at the LPM web site www.mi.lp.org (or www.michiganlp.org).

The deadline for submissions of articles or calendar events will be the 25th of each month. I, Greg Stempfle will remain as editor, with Brian Wright, our Webmaster, doing the layout. LPM members who do not have internet access or need a hard copy of the online newsletter may request one be mailed to them by returning the enclosed donation/subscription form, or by contacting me, at 313-929-1789 or MichiganLibertarian@gmail.com.

The Michigan Libertarian has been regularly published since 1972. For the past few years, I have tried to track down and digitize as many back issues as I can find. As to date, I have 183 issues including everything since 1987, nearly everything through 1981, and about half since 1975, but nothing before 1975. I would be happy to burn a copy of the collection onto a DVD for those interested.

Jackson State Convention Wrap Up

Thanks to Nathan Allen who organized a great state convention in Jackson on Saturday, May 23rd. The convention featured provocative and informative speakers (Pat Clawson and Harry Veryser), well-run bylaws and platform deliberations that resulted in a new resolution supporting the 10th Amendment and the election of new officers.

Emily Salvette of Ann Arbor was elected state chair. This is her second stint as state chair, having served in that position from 1995-97. Dan Johnson of Jenison was elected vice chair, Erin Stahl of St. Clair Shores won the race for treasurer, and Tom Bagwell of Ypsilanti was chosen as secretary. At-large directors on the Libertarian Executive Committee are former state chair Bill Hall, Greg Creswell, Andy LeCureaux, Greg Stempfle and Brian Wright. Bill Gelineau, Keith Edwards and Daniel Grow make up the Judicial Committee.

Congratulations to those elected and thank you for your willingness to serve the Libertarian Party of Michigan. At the evening banquet, Mark Heiselman was able to raise over \$1,300 from the crowd for the LPM. Thank you, donors, and good job, Mark! If you weren't able to come to the convention and want to help the LPM bring liberty to Michigan, please make a donation today at our web site, www.michiganlp.org or return the donation slip enclosed in this newsletter.

Affiliate Contacts

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New Libertarian Executive Committee ready to work

By Emily Salvette

The new LEC met at the convention and began planning for the coming year. It is a dynamic, talented group of people whom I'm privileged to have on my team. The first week has already seen important strides. Dan Johnson got right to work as our new Affiliates Director. His job is to help affiliates grow and be successful. Affiliate leaders, please use Dan as your first contact to the state party. Contact him at affiliates@mi.lp.org.

I'm also pleased to report that Bill Hall has agreed to serve as our Political Director. Bill will be responsible for our campaign activities in the 2009 and 2010 elections. If you're thinking of running for office or would like to help on campaigns, please contact Bill at politics@mi.lp.org. Greg Stempfle has agreed to continue in the very important role of newsletter editor. The LEC is seriously considering changing our newsletter to an online format, and Greg, I'm sure, will ably manage that transition. Contact Greg at newsletter@mi.lp.org.

Our treasurer, Erin Stahl, is busy getting records changed and our bookkeeping transitioned for her tenure. But she is not too busy to thank our wonderful members and donors who support the LPM. Contact her at treasurer@mi.lp.org.

And Webmaster Brian Wright with Scotty Boman's help has been making all the changes on our web site and setting up our new mail accounts. Contact Brian at webmaster@mi.lp.org. We are still looking for a membership director and communications director. If you're interested in these positions, or volunteering in some other way, please contact me at chair@mi.lp.org.



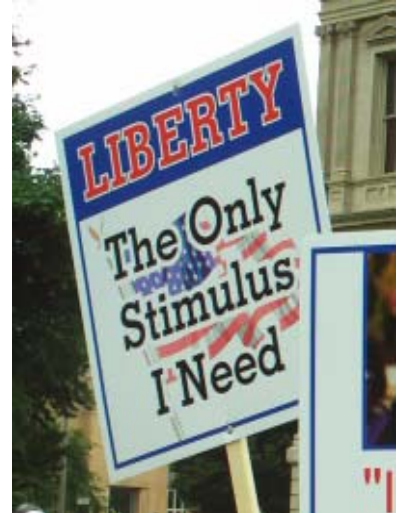
Libertarian Executive Committee; Bill Hall, Dan Johnson, Andy LeCureaux, Erin Stahl, Greg Stempfle, Emily Salvette, Greg Creswell, Tom Bagwell, and Brian Wright

Michigan Libertarian

The No Frills Fundraiser

The Libertarian Party of Michigan is the third largest political party in Michigan. Like the two major parties, we are a complex organization that needs money and volunteers to exist. We do not, and cannot, just “spontaneously” organize. And unlike the two major parties, we don’t get any tax funding or legislative support to keep us in business. We have only ourselves to rely upon.

The reality is we need to raise \$10,000 to cover our 2009 expenses. At our May 23rd convention in Jackson, we raised \$1,245 from 40 people, or about \$31 per person. We have 557 Libertarian Party members in Michigan. If each of you would give \$31 to support YOUR political party, we would have a big surplus to take us into the 2010 elections. Your financial support is very important. I’m asking you to please help at whatever level you can. Go to the Libertarian Party of Michigan web site www.mi.lp.org and make a donation today or fill out the enclosed form and mail your contribution. Thank you in advance for your much needed support.



2009 Spring Election Results

Libertarians were two for three in the elections held May 5, 2009. Bruce Gosling was re-elected to the Glen Oaks Community College Board of Trustees. He placed second out of three candidates for two positions.

For the Mount Clemens Community School Board, John Cruz came in second. He earned 37% of the vote in a three-way election for one Board position. In the Grand Rapids area, the Kent County Families for Fiscal Responsibility, a political action committee created by members of the Libertarian Party of West Michigan, provided the opposition necessary to send the Grand Rapids Transit Authority “Silver Line” millage down to defeat, 52% to 48%, even though they were outspent 100 to one. Another LPM member Kurt Perron, was elected to a 2-year term as Secretary of the Tribal Council of the Bay Mills Indian Community.



Greg Merle is the Libertarian Party candidate for the special election this fall for Michigan Senate, District 19.

2009 Fall Election Candidates

Andy LeCureaux is running for re-election to the Hazel Park City Council and Mark Byrne is running for re-election to the Port Huron City Council. Greg Merle is running in the November special election for the 19th District State Senate seat. This seat, which includes Calhoun and Kalamazoo Counties was left vacant when former State Senator Mark Schauer was elected to the US Congress in November.
