



# Michigan Libertarian

Volume 37 Issue 1

January / February 2008

## Libertarians Win Council Seats Across State

by Greg Stempfle

Election Day 2007 was celebrated across the state by libertarians as members of the party were victorious in four races. Chairman Bill Hall said these victories showcase the party's strength at the local level. "All of our candidates ran on a consistent Libertarian platform of More Freedom and Less



*Elected Libertarians Mark Owen, Andy LeCureaux, Mark Byrne, and David Eisenbacher*

Government. Contrast this with the Democrats and Republicans in Lansing busily raising taxes and spending. The fact that we re-elected our sitting Libertarian councilmen and added even more shows not only that the Libertarian message connects with voters, but also that Libertarians are effective in these positions."

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Mayor Pro Tem Mark Owen was re-elected to the Owosso City Council. Councilman Andy LeCureaux was re-elected to his fourth term on the Hazel Park City Council. Mark Byrne won his first term on the Port Huron City Council in an election that saw 4 of 6 incumbent councilmen turned out of office. David Eisenbacher returned to the Troy City Council in a landslide, winning almost 60% of the

our hard-working Libertarian candidates and their activist supporters. Whether you won or lost, we thank you for carrying the Libertarian banner and providing voters the opportunity to vote for more freedom, less government.

Newly elected councilman Mark Byrne hit the ground running. At the first meeting of the Port Huron City Council, the new board voted to rescind the previous council's water rate increase and to eliminate the city's parking enforcement officer position, along with money budgeted for a hand-held computer for the officer.

Several of our elected officials will be attending the LPM campaign conference on March 8th to share their wisdom and experience with our future candidates.

### Campaign Conference March 8

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### LPM Closes Office, Auctions Office Inventory

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### Leonard Schwartz to Run for VP

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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 shall be enacted to restrain or abridge the liberty of speech or of the press.

Libertarian Party of Michigan

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<http://www.mi.lp.org>

Volume 37, Issue 1

# LPM Officers and Directors

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## Subscribe to **LPM Online**

the weekly email newsletter of the LPM.

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## Newsletter Information

The *Michigan Libertarian* is published bimonthly as the official newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Michigan  
Phone: (888) FREE-NOW

**Submissions:** Please email articles and advertising to  
**MichiganLibertarian@Gmail.com**

or mail payment to:

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Newsletter Advertising  
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Lansing, MI 48909-7065

**Deadline:** The next deadline for submission of articles and advertising is February 8, 2008.

**Advertising Rates:** Full Pg \$100, Half Pg \$50, Quarter Pg \$25.  
25% discount for LPM Candidates, 50% discount for LPM Affiliates. No personal ads.

**Visit:** <http://www.mi.lp.org/Newsletters> for more information.

# Campaigns Я Us

by Bill Hall

We are a political party. Not a think tank. Not an educational organization. Not a single issue ballot question committee. The Libertarian Party of Michigan may focus some of its limited resources on such activities, but in my humble opinion it should do so only to foster our greater goal of running candidates in campaigns for public office.

The broader libertarian movement includes many organizations that focus on such other activities, but only we, and our party, exploit the political campaign process to create more freedom for us all by electing Libertarians. We in the LPM may disagree on tactics – how we spend our limited resources to reach our goal of electing Libertarians. However, the first question I ask myself when someone wants us to spend our limited funds on a new website, an 800 number, an office or printing thousands of brochures, is whether our limited funds would be better spent elsewhere, in order to achieve our mission of electing Libertarians to office?

The November 2007 general election was a great success for our Libertarian candidates, and the LPM. Five of our members ran spirited campaigns for their local City Councils, and four of the five – an incredible 80% — were victorious. Thank you to Mark Owen, Andy LeCureaux, David Eisenbacher, Dave Nagy and Mark Byrne for spending your time, energy and money pursuing more freedom and less government! Your successes provide inspiration, and momentum, for the upcoming 2008 general election. *(cont. on p.3)*

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# Campaigns Я Us

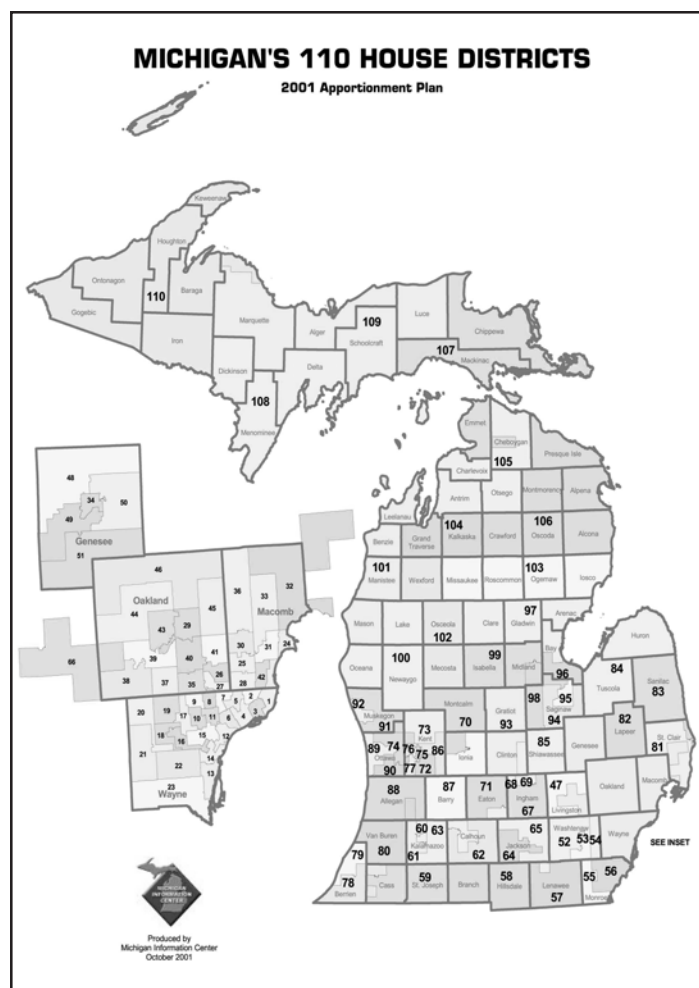
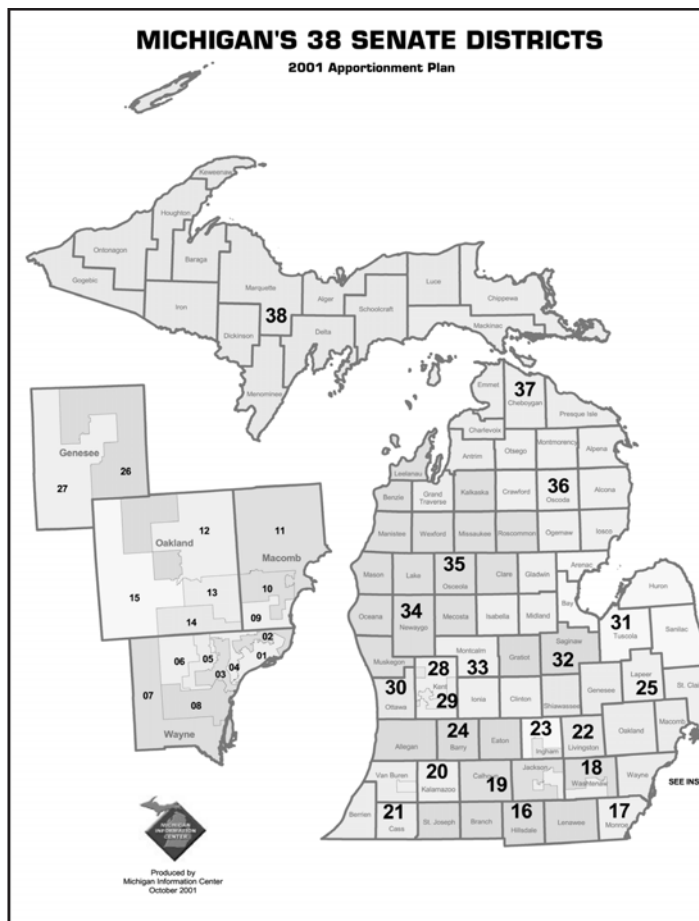
(cont. from p.2)

The LEC's primary focus for 2008 is recruiting, training and supporting our candidates, as detailed in the campaign plan adopted at its October meeting. We have a goal of running at least 100 candidates, making sure all the statewide and federal races are filled so that every Michigander can vote for a slate of at least 11 Libertarians, and contesting balance of power races, races with only one major party candidate and local races we have a chance of winning. Because we have deliberately scheduled our state convention for June 7, 2008, after the major party primary filing date, for the first time we will be able to target unopposed major party candidates.

Soon we will start our candidate recruiting process with a mailing to all 687 contributing members of the LPM, asking each of you to commit to run under the Libertarian banner in 2008. We will follow up with emails, telephone calls and features in our print and electronic newsletters. We will assist candidates early on in completing and filing the necessary paperwork to run. In recruiting candidates, we will work closely with our local affiliate leadership.

On March 8, 2008 (Save the date! – Details to be announced) we will stage a 2008 Campaign Conference free to all interested candidates that will offer not only assistance in completing paperwork, but also training in campaign basics – planning, fundraising, media, debates and reporting. We will also use the Conference as a forum for signing up and rallying our delegates to the Libertarian National Convention in Denver in May, for a Libertarian Presidential Straw Poll and to announce our Defenders of Liberty Awards. You won't want to miss it!

In addition, the LEC plans to provide candidate support, by offering every candidate a subdomain campaign website, preparing and providing template webpages, brochures and questionnaire responses, an issues briefing booklet, and generally make it as easy as possible for all our candidates to project a professional image to the voters and media. If you would like to help out in this very important project, please contact Candidate Recruiter Dr. Eric Larson at [lpmlarson@comcast.net](mailto:lpmlarson@comcast.net), Political Director Leonard Schwartz at [leonard@leonardschwartz.us](mailto:leonard@leonardschwartz.us), Campaign Conference organizers Greg Stempfle at [MichiganLibertarian@gmail.com](mailto:MichiganLibertarian@gmail.com) and Erin Stahl at [vicechair.lec@earthlink.net](mailto:vicechair.lec@earthlink.net), or Chair Bill Hall at [whall@wnj.com](mailto:whall@wnj.com). We have a wonderful opportunity to make a big impact in the 2008 elections. Let's do it!



# Affiliate Events and News

## Libertarians Reaching Out to High School Students

by Jim Allison

Volunteers from the LPM have been busy this year spreading the message of liberty to high school students. On June 21<sup>st</sup>, Will White was invited to give a presentation about the Libertarian Party to the American Legion Boys' State in Lansing. On September 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, Jeff Hampton spoke to two classes at Oak Park High School. Jeff was also gave a presentation to four classes at Brighton High School on November 27<sup>th</sup>. These engagements have kept us well on track of our goal to visit at least 20 classes by the end of the 2007-8 school year.

We also have been getting requests from students themselves. At Warren Mott High Schools, students were asked to research all the political parties and do a report on the party that they agree with the most. Six students chose the Libertarian Party as the party that they identified with, and sent us letters asking for more information and campaign materials.

If you know of any opportunities, or would like to volunteer either as a speaker or as a local coordination, please email me at [Speakers@MichiganLP.org](mailto:Speakers@MichiganLP.org). We've made great progress already, but with more help we can reach out to many more students.

## Your 2008 Resolution: Be Politically Active

The LPM needs your help, as a volunteer! Recent volunteer tasks have included: writing new releases, newsletter articles and candidate recruitment letters, poll watching, literature distribution, yard sign placement, inventorying the Lansing office, and convention planning. Tasks anticipated for the near future include: recruiting candidates via telephone, mail and email, helping plan events (e.g., a candidate training day and Presidential "straw poll" on March 8), preparing template content for candidate websites and brochures, and organizing our delegation to the Libertarian National Convention in May. To volunteer, please contact Bill Hall, [chair@michiganlp.org](mailto:chair@michiganlp.org), telephone 616-460-9516.

## Jim Montgomery

1934-2007

by Emily Salvette



Jim Montgomery, a Life Member and active supporter of the Libertarian Party, died December 14 following surgery for a ruptured aorta. A funeral was held on December 18 in Ann Arbor. His obituary appears at <http://obits.mlive.com/AnnArbor/DeathNotices.asp?Page=LifeStoryPrint&PersonID=99767569>

Jim was a thoughtful, articulate, and passionate defender of liberty. He was an engaging and gracious gentleman who enjoyed talking to people. He would carry libertarian literature in his pocket so he could share "the Libertarian word" with friends and strangers he might meet. He ran for office several times, was a generous donor to the Party and an active volunteer. As a mainstay of the LP of Washtenaw County, he was always ready to help where ever he could. During the 2003 State Convention in Ypsilanti, he hosted out-of town speakers in his home and arranged for use of the Clonlara School vans for transporting convention goers. Whether at national LP conventions or at a local meeting, he always had a smile on his face and was generous with praise for all of us.

Jim is survived by his wife of 44 years, Pat Montgomery, and their two children and 3 grandchildren. A scholarship in his name has been established at Clonlara School, which he and his wife founded. Contributions to that fund may be sent to Clonlara, 1289 Jewett, Ann Arbor MI 48104.

## At-Large LEC Member to Be Appointed

After several years' service on the LPM Executive Committee, Will White recently resigned. At its meeting on February 3, 2008, the LEC plans to select a replacement to serve the balance of his term (through June 7, 2008) as an At-Large Member of the LEC. The LEC is seeking a passionate and responsible libertarian eager to pitch in and work hard and well with others to make our party a success. Any LPM member interested in the appointment should submit their request for appointment and a resume setting forth their qualifications to LPM Secretary Emily Salvette at no later than Wednesday, January 30.

# Affiliate Events and News

## Upcoming Events

**January 15, 2008**

Democrat and Republican Presidential Primaries

**February 3, 2008**

Silent Auction of materials from the LPM office, 10 am

Meeting of the LEC, 2pm

LPM Headquarters, 2722 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing

**March 8, 2008**

LPM Campaign Conference

Best Western Hotel, 16999 South Laurel Park Drive

Livonia, just west of I-275 at 6 Mile Road

-Presentation of Defender of Liberty Awards

-Selection of National Convention Delegates

-LP Presidential Straw Poll

**May 22-26, 2008**

National Libertarian Convention, Denver

**June 7, 2008**

State Convention, Romulus

-Nomination of candidates for public office

## Defender of Liberty Awards to be Presented at Conference

In years past, the Defender of Liberty Awards ("Libbies") have been presented at our annual LibertyFest Banquet. However, because this function was not held in 2007, the awards for that year will be given at the March 8 Leadership Conference.

These awards are given to individuals, Libertarian or otherwise, who have made notable personal efforts in the defense of liberty. Winners must live and/or work in the state of Michigan.

Three categories have been established:

**Spokesperson for Liberty** - a member of the community whose patriotism and conviction have inspired contributions to the cause of Liberty

**Promoter of Liberty** - A Libertarian whose efforts have done the most to promote the LP and Libertarian principles

**Producer of Liberty** - a dedicated, behind-the-scenes Libertarian whose quiet labors over the years exemplifies the backbone of the LP.

Please send nominations to Greg Stempfle or Erin Stahl by February 23, 2008.

## March 8th Campaign Conference

Attention prospective Libertarian candidates and activists, the LPM will be hosting a campaign conference on March 8, at the Best Western Hotel in Livonia.

There will be several presentations during the day covering various aspects of campaigning divided into a morning and afternoon session. At this conference, speakers will cover the following topics.

- Introduction to campaigning as a libertarian
- Candidate and campaign finance paperwork
- Dealing with voters
- Dealing with the media
- Libertarian issues, debates, and questionnaires
- Creating a website
- Fundraising
- Learning from the Ron Paul campaign

Some of our former and current elected officials will be making these presentations and have years of valuable experience and leadership to share with our prospective candidates.

Several activities will occur during the lunch break. The LPM will be presenting the Defender of Liberty Awards for 2007. See the article on this page for more info. We will also be conducting the Michigan Libertarian Presidential Straw Poll. In fact, there are tentative plans for having some of our LP Presidential candidates attend the conference and address our activists.

A photographer will be available to take professional quality pictures of our candidates, so dress nicely!

More information will be made available as the conference nears.

Please contact Greg Stempfle or Erin Stahl for more information.

## Medical Marijuana Petition Drive Completed

by **Scotty Boman**

November 21 marked the conclusion of the petition drive to legalize medical marijuana in Michigan.

Assuming the board of canvassers approves the petitions, the initiative will be placed before the legislature for approval. If the legislature doesn't approve, the measure will be placed before the voters. Most voters, according to market researchers, support the medical marijuana initiative.

# LEC Votes to Divert Lansing Office Costs to Campaigning

by Emily Salvette

At its December 2 teleconference, the Libertarian Executive Committee voted 6 to 3 to close the Lansing office, so its costs can be diverted to electing Libertarians. This decision was a difficult one, with good arguments and strong advocates on both sides.

The office is currently used to provide the LPM a street address in our state's capital, provide a monthly meeting place for the Capital Area Libertarian Party, permit the LEC the use of the building's conference room for meetings a few times a year, and store LPM property and records. Unfortunately, it is not staffed on a regular basis, or used as a campaign headquarters. Because it is a windowless room in the building's basement, it is not suitable for meeting with the media or easily improved into professional-looking office space. Arguments for keeping it open included the sense of permanence and physical presence in Lansing it affords the LPM, the storage space it provides, and the free use of the building's conference room it affords. Arguments against keeping it open included our rare use of the space, our inability to economically upgrade it into professional-looking office space, and our ability to realize savings in rent, insurance, telephone and internet connection charges. In the end, a two-thirds majority of the LEC felt that it was best to close the office and use the savings from doing so in more meaningful ways to advance our goals.

Here are our specific plans for closing the office:

- We will continue on a month-to-month lease from our landlord and generous supporter, Jon Addiss, with hopes that we can close the office no later than April 1, 2008.
- We will maintain our PO Box in Lansing (PO Box 27065; Lansing MI 48909-7065);
- Our phone (1-888-FREE NOW) will be a virtual phone that will continue to be kept and monitored by the Chair;
- Party records have already been distributed to the officers who will maintain and pass them on to their successors. The Chair will store the few remaining LPM assets (e.g., our banner, past campaign signs, current literature, miscellaneous office supplies);
- Historical information and miscellaneous records have been saved and are being sorted by Vice Chair Erin Stahl. What we don't keep will be archived at the Labadie Collection of the University of Michigan Library, which has many of our other historical records.

While we regret closing the office, we will use the saved money (about \$200/month in rent, plus other costs) to further build our party. As our volunteer and donor base grows, a fully functioning office will be in our future. In the meantime, we will continue to look for ways to maximize our efficiency in bringing our message of freedom to the public. As always, we appreciate your feedback and continued support.

These items are currently in the LPM office, 2722 E Michigan Ave, Lansing. If you donated an item below and would like it back, please contact LPM Secretary Emily Salvette by January 15, 2008 to arrange a time to pick it up. All unclaimed items will be sold at a silent auction on Sunday, February 3, 2008 at the office. Snow date is Feb. 10. Viewing begins at 11 am, bidding closes at 1 pm. No minimum bid! Cash and Carry (bring your checkbook & your truck).

- Equipment -13.5" screen Mitsubishi TV (not sure if it works) - fair condition
- Equipment -2 scanners - not sure if they work
- Equipment -a box w/coffee pot (Connoisseur) & various computer junk (maybe speakers?)
- Equipment -old computer w/peripherals
- Equipment -Dell computer - Dimension 2400 - with peripherals - works
- Equipment -HP Photosmart C4180 All in one Printer Scanner Copier - purchased Aug. 2007(?)
- Furniture -2-door tan metal chest with 1 shelf inside 23" x 26" x 22" - good condition
- Furniture -3 chairs with arms and wheels - rose fabric - very good condition
- Furniture -30 slot wood literature cabinet 26" x 54" x 9" - unfinished - good condition
- Furniture -5'X18" table with folding legs - good condition
- Furniture -6 folding chairs - from poor to very good condition
- Furniture -6' x 4' 6-drawer metal desk - 1 drawer is file size - good condition
- Furniture -black metal storage cabinet w/2 sliding doors 42" x 18" x 18" (?) - very good condition
- Furniture -desk chair with arms and wheels - brown vinyl and fabric - good condition
- Furniture -metal and orange vinyl chair - fair condition
- Furniture -tan metal printer cabinet w/paper slot and shelf inside 20" x 26" x 22" - good condition
- Furniture -two 2-drawer tan metal file cabinets 15" x 29" x 18" - good condition
- Furniture -wood computer desk with shelves and keyboard ledge 35" x 33" x 29" - fair condition (no wheels)
- Furniture -wood computer stand with 1 shelf 48"x 28" x 24" - fair condition
- Literature - 2 boxes of "vintage" literature including ISIL stuff
- Literature -various info from other groups e.g. Mackinac Center, old Reason magazines from 2005-06
- Office Supplies -4 plastic or metal clip boards
- Office Supplies -8 empty 3-ring binders
- Office Supplies -a box of wooden clip boards - 28 legal size, 8 letter
- Office Supplies -various office supplies e.g. adding machine, staplers, telephones, paper clips, pens, pencils, reams of paper
- Stationery --1000 9X12 white envelopes with an old LPM address
- Stationery --200 #10 window envelopes with an old LPM address
- Stationery -bulk mailing supplies (rubber bands, stickers, etc)

# Become a National Convention Delegate

by Bill Hall

The 2008 Libertarian Party National Convention will be held in Denver, Colorado over Memorial Day weekend, from May 22 to May 26, 2008. During the convention, nearly 1,000 delegates from around the nation will gather to select the Libertarian Party's Presidential and Vice Presidential nominees. In addition, delegates will elect new national LP officers and debate possible changes to the national Platform and Bylaws. If you haven't attended a National Convention in the past, be prepared for an incredibly exciting event, packed into a convention hall with a thousand exuberant Libertarians meeting to chart the Libertarian Party's future course and launch its 2008 political campaign. Outside the Convention hall you'll have the opportunity to schmooze and party with delegates and others from all across the country, and meet our prospective Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates and national LP leaders personally. Whether or not you want to serve as a voting delegate at the Convention, this is a great opportunity to vacation and have some fun. For more information or to register, go to <http://www.lpconvention.org/>

Because the Libertarian Party of Michigan Convention will be held on June 7, 2008, after the National Convention, the LPM Bylaws provide that the Libertarian Party of Michigan Executive Committee will establish the procedures for selecting Michigan's delegates to the National Convention. The LEC expects to do so at its meeting in Lansing on February 3, 2008. Now is not too early for you to email LPM Secretary Emily Salvette at [salvette@umich.edu](mailto:salvette@umich.edu) to let her know you would like be a delegate. To learn more about being a National Convention delegate, and those candidates running for the Presidential and Vice Presidential nominations, plan to attend the LPM's 2008 Campaign Conference on March 8. Currently, we expect Michigan to be allotted approximately 34 delegates to the National Convention. If you aren't sure you are going to attend, but may possibly attend, then sign up to be an alternate delegate, to reserve your right to join Michigan's delegation to the National Convention. Contact Emily to add your name to the list of those seeking delegate slots!

## Advertising \$pace Available

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

# Leonard Schwartz Announces VP Bid

by Leonard Schwartz

Leonard Schwartz is seeking the Libertarian Party nomination for vice president. He has much campaign experience.

In 2006, he was the Libertarian Party of Michigan candidate for U.S. senator. He was the only Libertarian Party candidate for U.S. senator who got more votes than both the Green Party and Constitution Party (called U.S. Taxpayers Party in Michigan) candidates.

In 2004, Leonard was the Libertarian Party of Michigan candidate for justice of the state supreme court. In 2002, he was a candidate for a nonpartisan district court judgeship.

In 2000, he was the Libertarian Party of Michigan candidate for Oakland County prosecutor.

Leonard has been the political director of the Libertarian Party of Michigan since 2005. He previously served two terms as an at-large director. He also has served several years as an officer of the Libertarian Party of Oakland County, including one year as chair.

He has been a member of the Libertarian Party since 1980 and a member of the monthly pledge program since 1999.

He is a retired professor of business law and economics.

Leonard seeks a webmaster for his website now. He will need other volunteers to help promote his campaign at the LP national convention in May. To volunteer, call 248-546-3569 or write to [Leonard@LeonardSchwartz.us](mailto:Leonard@LeonardSchwartz.us).

He also seeks campaign contributions. The maximum amount is \$2300. Mail personal checks, payable to Schwartz 2008, to Leonard Schwartz, 13711 Victoria, Oak Park, MI 48237-1409.



*Vice Presidential Candidate  
Leonard Schwartz*



# Michigan Libertarian



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