



MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

NEWS LETTER OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF MICHIGAN

Michigan Constitution Article I, Sec. 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.

MAY-JUNE, 1998

TRI-CITY LP NAMED OUTSTANDING AFFILIATE

By Stacy Van Oast

Congratulations to the Tri-City LP, chaired by Clint Foster, for winning the 1997-98 Outstanding Affiliate contest. The judges decided that out of five entries, the TCLP was the most well-rounded in libertarian activism. The wide variety of activities that many different people participated in over the past year to earn the TCLP this award included membership outreach, fund raising, community involvement, new affiliate support, local government involvement, media-courting and coverage, participation in LP sponsored events and training activities, and exciting plans for the future as well!

The judges were impressed with diversity and enthusiasm shown especially by the TCLP, but all entries showed how creative and active the participating affiliates are.

Now, for next year. Hopefully, you're a little bit irked if your affiliate didn't win (or even enter!) the LPM's Outstanding Affiliate of the Year contest. Really, that's the idea, to stimulate a little bit of friendly competition, not only to make each affiliate the best it can be, but to encourage each one to be generous with its stories of successful projects (and even stories of those projects that don't work out so well) and with its enthusiasm and resources. After all, we are all after the same ultimate goal, and the best way to get there is to stay busy and to help each other out.

So, with that in mind, here is a list of things the judges are looking for, to help you out with your entries next year:

- **Membership:** Growth, participation of members, outreach for new members, renewal program success, database maintenance, inquiry packets, follow-up programs (inquiries, new members, new meeting attendees)
- **Political Activity:** campaigns/candidates, individual members' participation in community, affiliate participation in community/government
- **Newsletter:** Published regularly, quality (appearance, style), content (pertinent, interesting, exciting – does it make members proud to belong and non-members want to join?)
- **Finance:** Budget/plan, fundraising program/events, what money is being spent on
- **Meetings:** Held regularly, productive, social incentive, defined purpose of meetings and is it achieved?
- **Media:** Media plan, press releases, affiliate coverage, letters to editor (with L-word)
- **Leadership:** Organization, professionalism, strategy/goals, success, assistance to neighboring affiliates.

This affiliate contest was new last year. It is intended to provide guidelines, support, esprit-de-corps, and encouragement, as well as recognition and gratitude to each and every affiliate that is working so hard to spread our message and our goals of personal freedom and responsibility.

Thank you all for your participation – in the contest and in the world of politics!

(Contest deadline February 15, 1999. For information, contact Stacy Van Oast, stacyvo@eesc.com or 810-784-8783.

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MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

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Submissions to the affiliate news section and calendar should be sent directly to the affiliates news editor. All other material should be sent to the editor.

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Youth Contact	Greg Stempfle	313-565-4407

RUBY RIDGE WHITEWASH

By Keith Edwards

A federal judge has thrown out of court the attempted manslaughter prosecution of FBI sniper Lon Horiuchi for the murder of Vicki Weaver at the Ruby Ridge standoff in Idaho in 1992. Details in the major media were skimpy at our press time, but apparently his honor decided that Horiuchi was just doing his duty under orders. (Haven't we heard that defense from a few hundred Nazi death camp guards?) Many libertarians figured that this was going to happen when it was decided that the case had to be heard by a federal judge rather than a local one who had to face re-election.

Well, at least it's in the open now. Assassination is OK if done by a federal sniper acting under orders. It's just another regular function of government, like delivering the mail. It's official. The court just said so.

Where is Sam Adams when we really need him?

Some reports in the media have named Horiuchi as the driver of one of the tanks at Waco, but I haven't seen a clear confirmation of this. If it is true, you have to admire the guy's versatility. A sniper can kill only a couple of people at a time, but a tank driver punching in CS gas and other ingredients that produce cyanide gas and a flammable atmosphere to 80 or so at once is a real artist? Let's hope this is the ultimate in occupational upgrading, but whoops, maybe they'll give him an H-bomb next.

Well, at least Kevin Harris' indictment in the death of federal marshal Bill Degan was also quashed. Just in time, too. No telling how much longer self-defense will still be accepted.

Maybe it's time to re-establish those Committees of Correspondence that we had after the Stamp Act to keep track of the whereabouts of people like Lon Horiuchi, so we can duck out when we hear they are coming. E-mail would make it a snap. Sam?

On second thought, that's probably illegal too. Most everything is. Except assassination. Forget it.

ELECTRONIC GRIEF FOR CHIEF THIEF

By Keith Edwards

Internal Revenue Service Charles Rossotti has revealed that the IRS has not fixed the Year 2000 computer problem that arises from the failure of computers to recognize the difference between year 2000 and year 1900. Industry and commerce in general are rushing to solve the problem and there are a number of doomsday scenarios being proposed including bank and stock market disasters.

Rossotti was quoted by the Wall Street Journal in its April 22 issue that "If we don't fix this century date problem, we will have a situation scarier than the average disaster movie you might see on a Sunday night. Twenty-one months from now, there could be 90 million taxpayers who won't get their refunds and 95% of the revenue stream of the United States could be jeopardized." He calls it "a very, very serious problem."

And you thought there is never a silver lining!

The Internal Robbery Service plans to spend one billion dollars on the problem. Of course, the just spent four billion on a computer overhaul that failed to work.

So, what's a person to do?

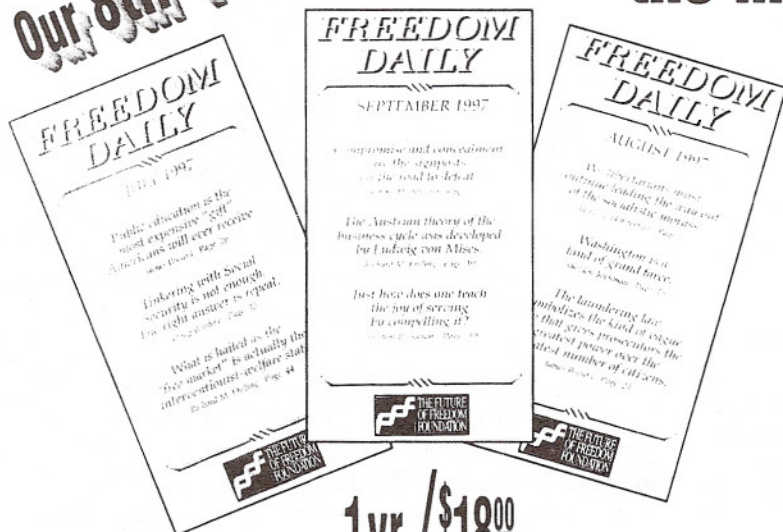
I assume that libertarians have already decided that it's a mistake to give the IRS an interest free loan by over-deducted taxes in order to produce a refund, but 1999 is a particular year in which to avoid this because that tax return is due in 2000 and you're going to be much better off owing the federales money than waiting forever for the IRS to refund your money with a sub-standard computer system. So you might want to alert your family and friends not to over-deduct.

Will the chief thief's belief that his beef will bring relief from his grief come true?

Does government work?

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MEDIA REPORT

By Keith Edwards

"The Advantages of Packing Private Heat" is the title of a James Bovard book review of "More Guns, Less Crime" by John R. Lott, Jr., printed by the Wall Street Journal on May 11. Lott, a former chief economist at the US Sentencing Commission, says that if all states "had adopted right-to-carry concealed handguns provisions in 1992, about 1,500 murders and 4,000 rapes would have been avoided." He brought out the fact that the lowest crime rates are in states with the highest gun ownership rates. Bovard added some trenchant comments of his own regarding the relative value of gun possession versus relying on public police.

And on April 13 the Journal carried an article by Ron Adkins, widower of Janet, Dr. Jack Kevorkian's first patient, titled "Don't Subsidize Assisted Suicide." While defending assisted suicide, Adkins opposed the Oregon Health Services Commission decision to add physician-aided death to services available to Medicaid patients in that state. He pointed out that Kevorkian does not charge for his services.

As usual, Investors Business Daily has carried a number of articles promoting Freedom.

On April 17, Charles Oliver wrote the lead article on "The Morality of Income Taxation: Is Redistributing Wealth A Noble Pursuit or Theft?" He quoted David Kelley of the Institute for Objectivist Studies who said "Income taxes are immoral."

Oliver also wrote an article in April in IBD titled "Capitalism Has Won The Battles, So Why Hasn't IT Won The War?" He referred to Ludwig von Mises, David Friedman and Ayn Rand, thus covering both the economic and moral aspects.

On May 8, IBD carried an unsigned editorial on "The Power of Ideas" pointing out that in 1943, when the New Deal was at its peak, four books appeared that have helped reverse the collectivist trend. They were "Memoirs of a Superfluous Man, by Albert J> Nock, The God of the Machine by Isabel Paterson, The

Discovery of Freedom" by Rose Wilder Lane, and the most famous and influential, "The Fountainhead" by Ayn Rand. Each of those books was well analyzed.

If you're not reading these two great dailies, you're missing a lot of intellectual ammunition and a big lift each morning.

OPEN LETTER TO THE EDITOR

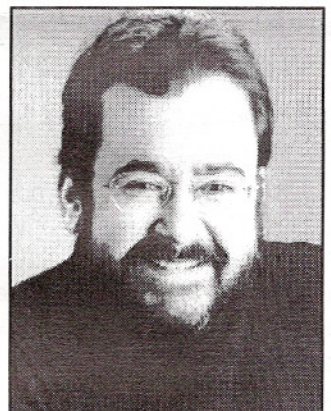
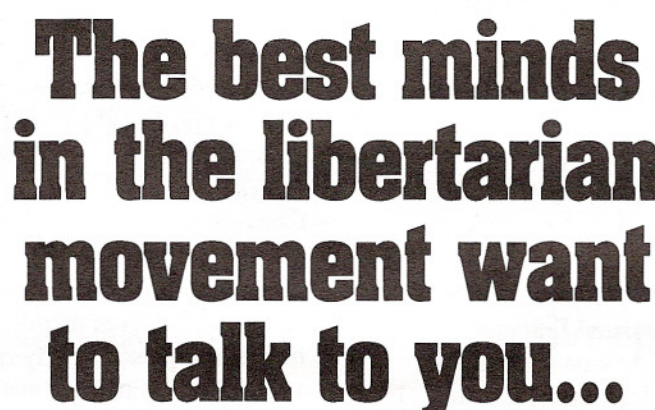
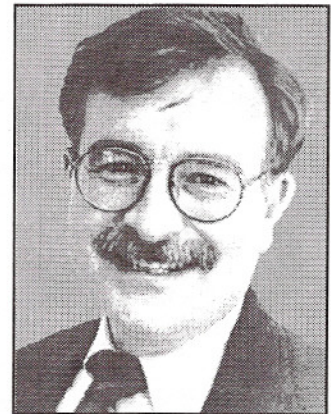
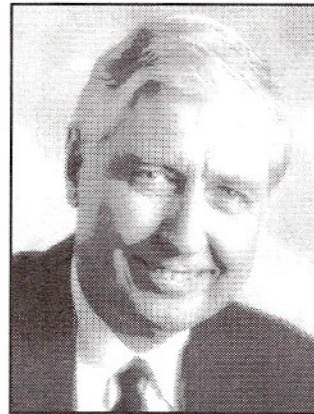
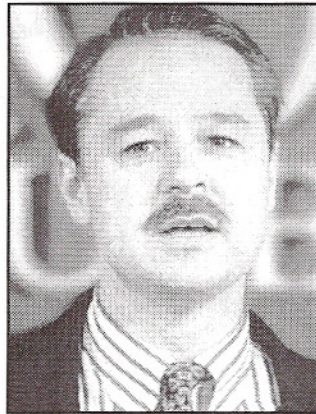
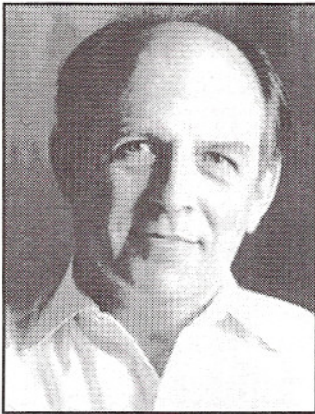
By Tom Jones

Regarding the March-April, 1998, Michigan Libertarian. The around 1,200 LPM members who were not able to attend the April, 1998 LPM State Convention should be aware that only about 70 members were at the Convention.

The "usual Jones-Raaflaub proposal to restructure the by-laws" involves having mail ballots choose party officers to give all Party members the power to elect such officers (and not just the small minority who have the time and money to attend Conventions), having separation of legislative and executive powers to avoid potential tyranny in the party, having proportional representation in the LPM's legislative body (noting that the party platform calls for proportional representation for the election of public legislative bodies), Having one ballot to elect officers (using Number Voting, 1, 2, etc.) and having Party members have the power of initiative (for By-laws amendments and resolutions), the referendum and the recall. Such Proposal was not "shot down" but was referred to the Bylaws Committee.

A plank was added to the Platform calling for the right of trial by jury in all civil or criminal cases. Currently there is no right to trial by jury in equity type cases, in suing the government and in so-called civil infraction cases.

Editor replies: Thanks to longtime LPM member Tom Jones for the corrections regarding the fate of the by-laws proposal and the addition of the platform plank. As for the attendance, many members avoid the Convention because of protracted by-laws debate. And the Party has avoided going back to the Jones-Raaflaub proposal after trying much of it in 1990-92, then repealing it.



At the 1998 National Convention.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:

CHARLES MURRAY

Author of *What It Means
To Be A Libertarian*

DAVID BOAZ

Author of *Libertarianism: A Primer*

HARRY BROWNE

1996 LP Presidential Candidate

WALKER CHANDLER

Libertarian Attorney

SHELLEY DAVIS

Author of *Unbridled Power*

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Via e-mail: LPNATCONV@aol.com

NOTE: PLEASE COMPLETE A SEPARATE REGISTRATION FORM FOR EACH ATTENDEE.

PARTY PORTRAIT

By Keith Edwards

As one of those people who were present at the formation of the Libertarian Party of Michigan in the spring of 1972, I have seen many people come and go and have taken some time off myself. But one person has been active in the LPM without a break since 1972, James Hudler.

James was a founding member, was the Party's State Chair for most of the 1970's, has been Vice Chair and except for last year has been a constant presence on the Executive Committee, to which he returned this year. He has served as Washtenaw County LP Chair many times and is the main reason for its record of continual effectiveness.

He is also the unofficial historian of the LPM with a massive archive of material and seems to have a near-total recall of the Party's history.

Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas in a recent commencement address said, "You can't be a hero and a victim at the same time. Be a hero, not a victim. . . Quitting is not an option."

Those words all apply to James Hudler. Quitting has never been an option for James.

NOTICES

There is no candidate for Washtenaw County Treasurer as reported in the last issue. That position is not up for election this year.

The Michigan Libertarian is usually mailed first class, but last month's issue and this one are going by bulk mail to see how well our bar-coding system will work. This issue will go out on June 2 or so. If yours arrives after June 9, please give me a call at 800-343-1364. We want to see if the various post offices are handling bulk mail well enough for us to save big bucks. Thanks.

Keith Edwards



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<http://www.coast.net/~lpm/>

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 Bruce Smith District 2
 Erwin Haas District 3
 Dan Marsh District 4
 Clint Foster District 5
 Glenn Whitt District 6
 Ken Proctor District 7
 Ben Steele III District 8
 Malcolm Johnson District 9
 R. Friend District 10
 Richard Gach District 11
 Al Titran District 12
 Dean Hutyra District 13
 Mike Freyman District 14
 Linda Willey District 15
 Edward Hlavac District 16

State Representative:

Joann Karpinski District 3
 Greg Stempfle District 15
 Kerry Smith District 16
 Robert Irwin District 17
 Michael Corliss District 18
 John Tatar District 19
 Doug MacDonald District 20
 Jim Sager District 22
 Gary Lloyd District 23
 Kathie Orvis District 24
 Nick Stoner District 25
 Keith Edwards District 26
 Tom Sydlow District 27
 Ron Burcham District 28
 James Pietrangelo District 29
 Gerald McKeon District 30
 John Fagan District 31
 Robert VanOast District 32

Joe Zemens District 33
 Terrence Ray, Adams District 34
 Pam Collins District 35
 Loma Tate District 41
 Mark Carney District 46
 Dan Lafavers District 54
 Teresa A. Pollok District 66
 George Sise District 67
 Mike Brinkman District 70
 Glenn Barr District 77
 Jay Sauve District 78
 Scott Beavers District 79
 William H. Bradley District 80
 Peter Porcaro District 81
 Max Dollarhite District 85
 William White District 86
 Allen Bauer District 97
 Robert Black District 110

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Diane Barnes
 Jon Coon

Regent University of Michigan:

James Montgomery
 Bill Hall

Trustee Michigan State University:

Barbara Goushaw
 Mark Heil

Governor Wayne State University:

Scotty Boman
 Tom Jones

Justice of the Supreme Court:

Jerry Kaufman
 David Raaflaub

State Senator:

Connie Catalfo District 1
 Michael Donahue District 5
 Erich Trager District 6
 Kristin Stoner District 7
 David Nagy District 9
 Don McCluskey District 10
 Scott Allen District 11
 Paul Soyk District 12
 Gary Atkinson District 13
 Tom Baker District 20
 Richard Whitelock District 23
 Mark Owen District 25
 Richard Samul District 26
 Dave Jackson District 28
 Charles Gershfield District 38

Houghton County:

Doug Hull County Clerk

Iron County:

Christine James County Commissioner, District ?

Macomb County:

Laurel Pietrangelo County Commissioner, District 6
 James Runestad County Commissioner, District 23

Oakland County:

Tonya Storey County Commissioner, District 15
 Jeff Hampton County Commissioner, District 22

Washtenaw County:

James Hudler County Commissioner, District 5

Wayne County:

Paul Woolum County Executive
 Thomas Casey County Commissioner, District 1
 Karin Corliss County Commissioner, District 12
 Loel Gnadt County Commissioner, District 13
 Mike Drummond County Commissioner, District 14
 Mike Johnson Jr County Commissioner, District 15

Wexford County:

Floyd Willis County Commissioner, District 4
 Greg Willis County Commissioner, District 5

Affiliates in Action

PAGE 10

Taxday News

Macomb County super-volunteers, Al Titran and Rosemary Racchi, were pictured -- complete with colonial costumes and protest signs -- in the *Macomb Daily* on April 16th. The front-page article was basically about people's frustration with taxes. It also mentioned the protest staged by the Libertarians of Macomb County at the Warren Post Office, and even quoted chairman Paul Soyk! Good work LMC!!

Be sure to let us know your news!

LPM Picnic Needs a Home

Well, August 9, 1998 is the date....*do you have the place???*

The Libertarian Party of Michigan picnic, an annual, memory-making event, is **homeless!**

In addition to being lots of fun (!), hosting the LPM picnic can also provide your affiliate a great fund raising opportunity *and* a terrific chance to show Libertarians from across the state how to have a party! C'mon! Show us what you've got! Call Stacy Van Oast at (810)784-8783.

Hemp Aid Rally in Southwestern Michigan....

We'll be anxiously awaiting news from the annual Hemp Aid Rally in Vandalia, MI. The Van Buren and Berrien County groups joined forces over Memorial Day weekend to register voters and spread the LP message at the 3rd annual and ever-increasingly popular event. Special thanks to **Bill Bradley** for organizing LP efforts and speaking at the rally.

Help Wanted

Keith Edwards is in the planning stages of organizing a Libertarian Speakers Bureau. The plan is to prepare a "stable" of speakers, list them in an attractive brochure, and mail that brochure to every high school and college in Michigan. But, we need your help! The brochures, which we'd like to mail out in early September, need to be personally and specifically addressed to government teachers, who are typically the people that invite us to address their classes.

You can help, by getting the name, title, and address of government teachers at the schools in your affiliate area. Here's what to do:

- 1) Prepare a list of school districts in your affiliate area, listing the high schools, junior colleges and universities in each.
- 2) List phone numbers and addresses for each school.
- 3) Call each school and ask for the name and title of all government teachers (identify who you are and explain briefly why you are calling).
- 4) Verify the spelling of names and mailing address.
- 5) Send your completed list, by July 1, to Keith Edwards:

by mail: 28960 Jane Street, St. Clair Shores, MI 48081
by email: keithmarni@aol.com,
or by fax: (810)778-6582

Thank you! Our message resonates really well with students -- help us reach them!
(Call Keith at 810-777-7468 for information)

Welcome and Congrats to U.P.L.P.

We are pleased to welcome our newest affiliate, the Upper Peninsula Libertarian Party! Organizer and chairman, Bob Black, a Libertarian activist and past candidate for state rep, attended the convention with his cohorts, Tina James and Doug Hull, where the new affiliate was officially recognized. Thank you to all who are bringing libertarianism to the UP: Bob Black, Chairman; Charlie Gershfield, Vice Chairman; Tina James, Secretary; Paul Fox, Treasurer; and John Loosemore, at-large member. Also, congratulations to the 5 candidates the affiliate nominated for the '98 elections! You're off to a great start!



LIBERTARIAN PARTY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- ☐ \$35 Yes, I want to join the LP on all three levels (national, state and _____ County)
- ☐ \$10 I already belong to the state and national LP, now I want to join my local chapter, I live in _____ County
- ☐ \$25 I already belong to my local chapter, now I'd like to join the state and national LP
- ☐ \$15 I want to learn more before I join, please send me a one year subscription of the *Michigan Libertarian* newsletter

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\$_____ Additional donation for operating fund

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This statement does not preclude self defense or resistance to tyranny.

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