



MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

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TAX PROTEST DAY APPROACHES

The Libertarian Party is working to give April 15 dual significance. Thanks to the federal government, that date marks the deadline for turning over an ever increasing share of your earnings to the IRS. In the past several years, however, the Libertarian Party has been working to give another meaning to this date: National Tax Protest Day.

When the mass of last minute filers converges on the Post Office to deliver their forms that Friday, they will be met in as many as 300 cities across the U.S. by Libertarians who will let them know, in no uncertain terms, that taxation is theft. And, if there ever was a group receptive to libertarian principles, last minute filers are it; you usually don't file late if you're getting a refund!

National Tax Protest Day has traditionally been one of the most successful events sponsored by the Libertarian Party, in terms of the number of participants, the resulting publicity, and the number of people who indicate interest in the Party as a result.

It is also one of the most fun. Local groups in the past have done

such things as hanging cards containing the names of well-known politicians around the necks of several turkeys (the feathered variety) and let them wander around the Post Office entrance. Another group brought a sheep named "Joshua Taxpayer" to the Post Office and told the questioning reporters that "each year people line up like sheep waiting to be sheared by the IRS, and then the government uses the money to pull the wool over their eyes."

Ed Jowett, national coordinator for the 1983 Tax Protest Day activities, is suggesting as this year's theme "Lady Godiva Rides," a re-enactment of that famous tax protest display. Jowett says that such a project can be successfully undertaken by a handful of activists anywhere at little cost. We already have word that at least one group in Michigan, the Kalamazoo Area Libertarians, is going to give it a try.

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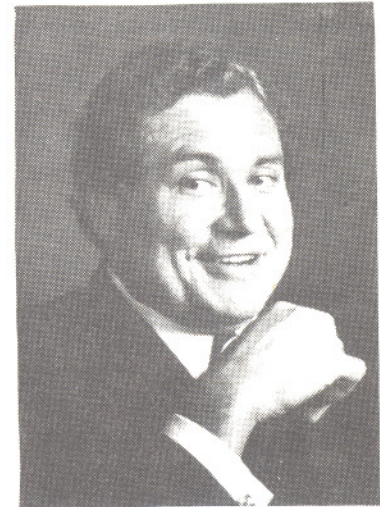
Burns Seeks Nomination

Gene Burns, a Florida radio and television commentator, has become the first person to formally announce plans to seek the 1984 Libertarian Party Presidential nomination.

Burns, operations manager and talk program host for WKIS radio in Orlando, has been accepting contributions and plans to attend many of the state conventions throughout the country in his quest for the nomination. Burns, 42, says he was a liberal democrat before becoming a Libertarian in early 1982.

Before coming to WKIS in 1971, Burns worked in news and talk programming for radio stations in Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and several cities in Upstate New York. His assignments have taken him around the world to research many controversial issues, including Viet Nam and the Middle East.

Others talked about in Libertarian circles as possible presidential candidates are Ron Paul, a three-term Republican congressman from Texas, Sam Steiger, who



Libertarian Presidential contender Gene Burns.

received 5 percent of the vote as the Libertarian candidate for governor of Arizona, and 1976 LP presidential candidate Roger MacBride.

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From the Director

ACTIVIST CHECKLIST

I have a reoccurring nightmare that somewhere out there is a person who is dying to get involved in actively working to achieve a free society, is a member of the LPM, but just doesn't know where to start. For this person I have composed the following checklist of ideas:

1. Run for a local city or county office. Not only will this give exposure to Libertarian ideas, especially if you win, but it is also invaluable experience if you ever decide to run for a state office.
2. Or, if you don't go for that, simply make it a point to notify LPM Headquarters when you hear of an opening that you think we could get a candidate to run for. It is difficult, if not impossible, for the state office to keep track of all local election opportunities without your help.
3. Give presentations on Libertarian philosophy to your local high school government classes. The only prerequisite is that you know more about the subject than the teacher and most of the students, which usually isn't that hard to do. High school and college students are usually more inclined to objectively evaluate new ideas than older generations who have given up on ever changing the system.
4. Tell your friends and relatives about the Libertarian Party and ask them to join. If you know of someone who is really interested in the LP, send their name and address to our office and we will put them on the mailing list for two months free, and sent them a packet of information.
5. Send your name in to Headquarters as a possible libertarian speaker. Local groups are always looking for people to have as speakers for their programs. You don't have to have impressive credentials, just expertise or insights into a particular topic, possibly job related or something you have researched. For example, if you are a trucker, you could speak on what it would mean to deregulate the industry or, if a doctor, the effects of occupational licensure.
6. Write letters to the editor of your favorite paper supporting libertarian principles. Or, if you are more ambitious write a guest column for the *Michigan Libertarian*. I am tired of having to use non-Michigan authors when we have so many talented people in this state. And, if you do write letters to the editor and they are printed, SEND IN A COPY.
7. Coordinate or take part in a Party sponsored event such as Tax Protest Day.

This is only a partial list of what needs to be done. However you decide to participate, keep in mind that membership in the LPM is only a beginning. If we want to see a free society, we need people out there working to achieve it!

Joseph P. Overton
Executive Director



MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

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Letters-to-the-editor and other articles submitted for publication should be typewritten and signed. Advertising is available at \$2 per column-inch for camera-ready copy and must be submitted by the 20th day of the month preceding the desired issue.



Libertarian
Party of
Michigan

The Libertarian Party of Michigan is a statewide organization of individuals dedicated to the preservation of individual rights and the advancement of freedom through political action. The Central Committee consists of two representatives from each congressional district and five members at large.

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GUEST COLUMN

WALTER WILLIAMS

Rebellion as an antidote

In the four years this column has been appearing in newspapers around the United States, a lot of mail has been received — some favorable, some critical.

The one criticism that has surfaced most frequently in my mail has to do with the fact that while many columns cite what's wrong in this great nation of ours, seldom do we propose a specific course of action for the ordinary citizen. This writer pleads guilty.

Much of the time I'm not sure what the ordinary person can do and at other times what I'd propose might lead to an arrest. You'd be

"The people who settled this country were quite different from today's American. They were bold and strong; we, by comparison, are meek and timid."

arrested because I'd propose activity, as advocated by our Founding Fathers in the Declaration of Independence, which reads, "...but when a long train of abuses and usurpations (by government) pursuing invariably the same object evinces a design to reduce them (the people) under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security."

Today, Americans have complaints similar to those of our Founding Fathers. Let's briefly examine a few of the grievances listed in our Declaration of Independence: "He has

erected a multitude of new offices, and sent hither swards of officers to harrass our people and eat out their substance." "Imposing taxes on us without our consent." "He has obstructed the administration of justice..." And these founders complained of other abuses. Re-read the Declaration of Independence, and while you're at it, the Bill of Rights — those precious first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

The people who settled this country were quite different from today's Americans. They were bold and strong; we, by comparison, are meek and timid. We've lost the guts to defend our personal liberties from attack by domestic totalitarians, and we're losing our will to defend ourselves from foreign tyrants. These great men would probably curse us for what we've become.

Those interested in being the Guest Columnist should submit their articles for consideration by the 20th day of the month preceeding the next month's issue.

What did our Founding Fathers do about government encroachments on freedom? Well, there was the Boston Massacre (1770) and the Boston Tea Party (1774) both of which are familiar to us all. But many Americans are not familiar with Shay's Rebellion (1786) during which tax collectors were shot and the federal arsenal attacked. There are many other examples of early Americans' resistance to unjust laws, including smuggling by men of no less note than John Hancock, the signer of the Declaration of Independence.

You say that's lawless behavior. You're absolutely right, but what alternative do we have? The laws were rigged against them and in favor of the ruling classes both in the colonies and in England. Similarly, today's Congress and courts are rigged against the common man in favor of the ruling class. Who are the members of this ruling class? They are all the people who use Congress to impose their values on the common man. They are the people who get politicians to decide how to spend almost one half of your earnings. They are the lobbyists for labor unions, business and professional groups and do-gooders.

Faced with government-sponsored; disrespect for private property; tampering with our families; confiscation of our wealth; interference in our economic lives, there can be only one recommended

course of action. And that course of action is detailed in our early history.

In a phrase: Work to reconvene the constitutional convention, and if the politicians work to subvert that attempt, revolt against the illegitimate use of government power.


Walter Williams is Professor of Economics at George Mason University. This article originally appeared in the Washington times.

Tax Protest from page 1

All that is really needed for a successful Tax Protest Day, however, are several people carrying signs with slogans such as "Born Free - Taxed to Death," "Taxation is Theft," "Cut Taxes, Vote Libertarian," and the popular "HONK IF YOU HATE TAXES," which is always a favorite of passing motorists.

LPM Headquarters will be making available special Tax Protest Day flyers to give out to passersby. When someone shows an interest in the Libertarian Party, their name is taken and sent to our Lansing office where they are put on the mailing list and sent additional information. This is also a great opportunity to invite these people to take part in your local group - and always have a few signs on hand for those who want to help out in the protest!




Part of the impact of Tax Protest Day will come from widespread participation across the U.S. A concerted effort has the potential of reaching many millions of people, worth millions in free advertising, as the networks and wire services pick up on the event. Let's make it a Michigan city that makes ABC World News Tonight!



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SS BILL INTRODUCED

U.S. Representative Ron Paul (R-Texas) has introduced legislation in congress to make Social Security voluntary.

According to Dr. Bruce Daniel, national coordinator for the Libertarian Party's Social Security Project, Paul had worked with LP National Director Honey Lanham on the bill and agreed to sponsor it on behalf of the LP.

Here are some of the main points of the proposal:

1. No new workers will be admitted into the Social Security System.
2. Any worker presently enrolled in the system can choose to opt out.
3. Any worker who voluntarily opts out relinquishes all claim to tax monies previously paid.
4. There will be no mandatory retirement program.
5. Persons opting out of Social Security will have their Social Security records destroyed by the Social Security Administration.
6. The contribution limits to individual retirement accounts will be expanded to include at least the present totals of the Social Security tax.
7. The earnings limitation now imposed on persons between the ages 62 and 70 shall be eliminated. This will end the present practice of the government discouraging older citizens to continue contributing their skills and knowledge in the marketplace.
8. Persons currently receiving benefits are to be notified that the system is bankrupt and his present benefit level will become a ceiling.
9. All future payments will be financed on an annual basis. The amount needed for funding will be derived from:
 1. savings through the elimination of foreign expenditures (both military and economic).
 2. selling government property;
 3. proceeds from the minting and selling of American Gold Eagle coins to the public;
 4. payroll contributions from people remaining voluntarily in the Social Security system.

10. The Social Security System must become a fully funded insurance program. The system can use general revenue only to the extent that its use is offset by implementing the first three items above (No. 9). An increase in the FICA payroll deductions on those remaining in the system will be necessary to fully fund their retirement (and all promised related benefits) and to make up any shortfall realized after exhausting the aforementioned recommendations for funding benefits for present beneficiaries.

MAKE ALL DOCTORS

COMPETE

By Patrick Cox

SAN FRANCISCO — A friend of mine, a doctor, says, "One of these days, people are going to realize that the emperor has no clothes and we might have to change our golf day from Wednesday to Saturday."

Soaring medical costs, constantly outpacing inflation by about 5 percent a year, are the result of a partnership between government and the country's most successful union, the medical profession.

The profession controls the number of medical students and doctors. They've done a marvelous job of keeping their numbers down and their costs up. The breast biopsy fee has doubled in the last 10 years from \$300 to \$600. San Francisco hospital beds have gone from \$63 a day to \$253 a day in 10 years.

The AMA, which has the richest political action committee in America, has used the government to make its licens-

ing requirements law and install third-party payments that destroy consumers' incentive to shop around but encourage unnecessary treatments.

I asked my physician friend how he set his rates: "I figure out how much I want to make and divide that figure by the number of my patients. We get away with it because patients come to us sick and in pain, with little understanding of medicine and costs."

Indeed, though the laws against advertising are crumbling, the profession still ostracizes those crass profiteers who broadcast less expensive services. Tax laws introduced by the profession have reduced the number of profit-making hospitals from 50 percent in 1910 to 10 percent now.

Non-profit hospitals have little or no incentive for economizing and no record of better or cheaper services.

Recent ideas to hold down medical costs made by politicians largely responsible for them are mere Band-aids. The real cure is the free market. Repeal laws that keep nurse-practitioners and doctors' assistants from providing services. Open medical school to all who can pay their way; let doctors compete and offer better service at lower costs.

Licensing tests, used to limit the number of doctors, would change radically if practicing physicians were forced to take them regularly. Certified for life, physicians concerned with real practices are unequipped to pass the gauntlet they set up for new entrants.

Psst. Pass it on. The emperor has no clothes.

Patrick Cox, of the Pacific Institute for Public Policy Research, is a columnist for Reason magazine. This article originally appeared in USA TODAY

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Jackson County LP Begins Advertising

The Jackson County Libertarian Party for the last several weeks has been running advertisements in the local paper, the Jackson Citizen Patriot. Under the heading "OPINION," each ad features a discussion of the libertarian viewpoint on a current issue, such as seat belt laws, taxation, jobs, and education. They also include the address and phone number of the Jackson County headquarters.

Jerry Potts, Treasurer of the Jackson County LP, said they have received several responses to the advertisements from people wanting more information on the Libertarian Party. He sends the names to LPM Headquarters where they are put on the mailing list and sent an introductory packet.

By contracting to purchase one 2 in. by 4 in. ad per week for 13 weeks, Potts said they receive a 33 percent discount over the regular rate, making the cost \$35.00 each. Although sometimes the ads are placed near the back of the paper, most have been printed on the editorial page. All have been run in the Sunday edition which has a circulation of 42,000.

"Even if we get only one solid member, it will make it well worth the effort," Potts said. "We want to show that we are serious and not just another fly-by-night political party." In addition to educating voters on libertarian principles and giving visibility to the Jackson County group, Potts believes soliciting the local paper will also result in better coverage

OPINION SEAT BELT LAWS

The individuals of a free nation have the right to decide the acceptable daily level of risk to which they expose themselves. Be it hang gliding, smoking, or driving without a seat belt, any adult should have the right to engage in whatever peaceful activity he or she chooses.

A mandatory seat belt law, however well intentioned, denies freedom of choice and merely adds to the growing number of unfair and needless regulations in our society today.



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of Libertarians in future elections.

If you would like more information on this project, contact Jerry Potts at (517) 787-3559.

MONTHLY RAFFLE

When the newsletter went to press, approximately \$150.00 had been collected in the Monthly 50-50 Raffle, guaranteeing a prize of at least \$75.00. Much more is expected

To help make for a more efficient distribution of raffle tickets, please note how many you think you can sell each month when sending in the money and stubs. If for some reason you do not want to participate in the raffle, drop us a note and we will stop putting tickets in with your newsletter.

Finally, a big thanks to everyone who is getting out and selling their tickets!! Remember, though, you don't have to buy them all yourself- sell some to your friends and co-workers. The winner will be named in the next *Michigan Libertarian*.

PETITIONING UPDATE

By the time this newsletter arrives in your mail box, Libertarian activists will have gathered over 20,000 signatures on the way to regaining ballot status. We hope to have a big push the first two weeks of March and have enough to file with the Elections Department before April. Any SCC members who have petitions, please bring them to the March 13 meeting.

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DAWSON FOR VILLAGE COUNCIL

Chuck Dawson is still going strong in his bid for a seat on the Carleton Village Council. Along with hitting the homes in his area with brochures, Dawson has been active speaking to groups at a local community college. He plans to be at the polls greeting voters on election day, March 14. Contributions can still be sent to "Dawson for Village Council," 12074 Coventry, Carleton, MI, 48117. The next *Michigan Libertarian* will give the results of the election.

1983 STATE CONVENTION COMING SOON!

Members attending the 1983 LPM State Convention will be able to combine business with pleasure as Traverse City plays host to the May 14-15 event. Preparations are underway to make this the best convention yet.

Along with electing new LPM officers and delegates to the State Central Committee, this convention will include the selection of delegates to attend the National Presidential Nominating Convention to be held in New York City August 29 - September 5.

At the end of last year, Michigan was ranked sixth in the nation by number of members, which is the main criteria used to determine the number of delegates each state may send to PRESCON *83 in New York. If we hold this position, Michigan may be able to send as many as 20 delegates.

PATRICK A. HELLER

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you haven't already sent in your membership renewal, please do. All memberships expire February 28.

Attention all SCC members who have filled or partially filled petitions: please bring them to the March 13 SCC meeting so we

Special thanks to all those dedicated volunteers who helped out at Headquarters during the month of February:

Byrne Daly
Katherine Kelly
Carol South
Rich Hayes
Miles Day

Keep up to date on LPM State Central Committee activities — subscribe to the *LPM-SCC Ephemeric*. Twelve issues for only \$5. Contact Ben Bachrach, 604 N. Vernon Ave. Dearborn, MI, 48128.

SET ASIDE APRIL 15 on your calendar for National Tax Protest Day. This is a day when Libertarians all over the country will gather at their local post office and protest the legalized theft of the Infernal Revenue Service.

In the past, Tax Protest Day has been one of the most successful events the Libertarian Party has sponsored.

Detroit area libertarians will be gathering at their post office at 11:00 a.m. on March 15 to participate in Tax Protest Day. For more information, call Virginia Cropsey at (313) 977-6628.

LIBERTARIAN?



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CALENDAR

THE STATE CENTRAL Committee will meet on Sunday, March 13, 1:00 p.m., at LPM Headquarters. All members please attend.

THE ISSUES COMMITTEE will meet on Sunday, March 13, before the SCC meeting at LPM Headquarters. The meeting will begin at 11 a.m. Everyone interested is welcome to attend.

THE MSU LIBERTARIANS meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays each month. For more information, contact Richard Hayes at (517) 355-5669.

THE MACOMB COUNTY LP meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month at the Harvest Table Restaurant, Van Dyke and 15 Mile Rd. in Warren. Dinner at 6:30 p.m., meeting at 7:30 p.m. For more information, contact Virginia Cropsey.

THE WAYNE COUNTY LP meets on the first Monday of every month at Cristoff's Public House, 13736 Michigan Ave. in Dearborn. Meetings begin at 7:45 p.m. For more information, contact Mart Hillard.

THE MIDLAND COUNTY LP meets regularly at the Grace Dow Library in Midland. The meetings feature libertarian speakers addressing a variety of topics. For more information, contact Janet Parkes at (517) 631-9737.

THE OAKLAND COUNTY LIBERTARIAN PARTY meets on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at Uncle John's Pancake House in Birmingham. Dinner at 6:30 p.m., meeting at 7:30 p.m. Please contact Joe Cote' for more information.

THE METRO DETROIT LIBERTARIANS meet on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at the Howard Johnson's Restaurant at 10 mile Road and Northwestern in Southfield. Dinner at 6:30 p.m., meeting at 7:30. For more information, contact Keith Edwards.

THE WASHTENAW COUNTY LP and the Ann Arbor Libertarian League meet every Thursday night at 7 p.m. in the basement of Dominic's Restaurant in Ann Arbor. For more information, contact Jim Greenshields or Glenn Mensching.

KALAMAZOO AREA LIBERTARIANS (KAL) will be starting libertarian philosophy discussion group meetings right away. For times and locations, contact Mary Ruwart, (616)375-4959 evenings, or (616) 385-7148 days.

Meetings and events of LP organizations, or groups of interest to Libertarians, will be announced free of charge. Send your message to: MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN, 112 W. Allegan, Lansing, Mich., 48933. Announcement of activities does not necessarily imply LPM endorsement.

DIRECTORY

LPM Headquarters	Lansing	(517) 484-2188	Jackson County LP	Jerry Potts	(517) 787-3559
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LAISSEZ FAIRE

- **THE STATE AGAINST BLACKS** by Walter E. Williams. A distinguished black economist evaluates minimum wage laws, licensing, union policy, trucking and other regulations as examples of systematic impeding of the advancement of minorities. Sees the government as a major perpetrator of racial exclusion. Views the free market as the destroyer of racial barriers and privilege. (hd, 160p) \$14.95
- **FREEDOM FOR ALASKANS** by Richard L. (Dick) Randolph. The 1982 Libertarian gubernatorial candidate gives his blueprint for rolling back the State in Alaska. Randolph, the first Libertarian State Legislator in the country, was responsible for repealing his state's income tax. (pb, 108p) \$ 3.95
- **SOCIAL SECURITY: AVERTING THE CRISIS** by Peter Ferrera. Shows that social security has been established and maintained by deceit. Includes a detailed presentation on how to get out of the system. (qpb, 160p) \$ 6.95
- **PROGRESS AND PRIVILEGE: America in the Age of Environmentalism** by William Tucker. Argues that environmentalists, who like to think of themselves as liberals, have in reality used the movement to protect the status quo at the expense of less-privileged classes. By exposing how they have distorted the issues to serve their own purposes, Tucker reveals why many problems, though serious, are soluable. (hd, 314p) \$17.95
- **A NEW BEGINNING** by Ed Clark. Presents a basic overview of the libertarian approach to the pressing problems facing our nation. By the 1980 Libertarian Party presidential candidate. (qpb, 135p) \$ 4.00
- **TOMORROW, CAPITALISM** by Henri LePage. Already translated into six languages and a bestseller in France and Sweden, this is one of the most controversial books in Europe today. Describes the recent revolution in economics toward the free market. Argues that the science of economics has been reshaped into a coherent, comprehensive approach to the study of human problems. (hd 254p) \$14.95
- **FOR A NEW LIBERTY** by Murray N. Rothbard. A biting attack on the legitimacy of the State, with numerous criticisms of government intervention. Offers market solutions to many social and economic problems and presents a "revisionist" interpretation of foreign policy and the origins of the cold war. (pb, 325p) \$ 6.95
- **THE OMINOUS PARALLELS: The End of Freedom in America** by Leonard Peikoff. Intro by Ayn Rand. What is required to turn a country into total dictatorship? How did the Nazis accomplish it? Is it happening here? Peikoff argues that today's dominant ideas are leading America down the road to a Nazi-type dictatorship in the near future. A profoundly disturbing book. (hd, 383p) \$16.95
- **ECONOMICS IN ONE LESSON** by Henry Hazlitt. Classic primer on the principles of the free market economy and the dangers of government intervention. Discusses minimum wage laws, rent control, tariffs, unions, price fixing, inflation, etc. in an easy-to-understand style. (qpb, 214p) \$ 5.95
- **THE TWELVE YEAR SENTENCE: Radical Views of Compulsory Education**, Edited by William Rickenbacker. A major attack on compulsory education from authors who range across the political spectrum. A legal and general bibliography make this an invaluable tool. (hd, 236p) \$14.50

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