



# MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

VOLUME 10, NUMBER 6

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JUNE, 1983

## PARTY OFFICERS, DELEGATES ELECTED

Over 60 Libertarians made the trek to Traverse City to attend the 1983 LPM State Convention on May 20-22. Traverse City provided an ideal location for both the relaxation and business which comprised the weekend.

In the By-Laws session Saturday morning, several changes were approved for the operating rules of the LPM.

The first proposal was to allow the convention to select delegates to the Central Committee where congressional district caucuses fail to elect them. The same proposal also gave authority to the State Central Committee to fill vacancies on the SCC after the convention without regard to congressional district.

An amendment was also approved that would declare vacant any SCC member's position if they fail to attend three consecutive SCC meetings.

And finally, in an attempt to remove all offensive language from the Party by-laws, Mart Hillard moved to change the name of the "State" Central Committee to the "Libertarian" Central Committee. The motion was approved.

In the general session later that afternoon, the convention elected 24 delegates to the National Presidential Nominating Convention in New York this August. Attention was then turned to the Central Committee, where Brian Wright was re-elected as Chair in a two way race against Sheryl Loux. Loux, however, was then elected as Vice Chair with Mart Hillard gaining the position of Secretary and Ben Bachrach re-elected as Treasurer. The session then adjourned to give county caucuses an opportunity to choose Central Committee delegates. After the session resumed, delegates were elected to

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## PETITIONS FILED

On May 10, LPM Chairman Brian Wright and Director Joe Overton filed 24,639 signatures with the Elections Department of the Secretary of State's office for ballot access in Michigan. Official confirmation of a position on the 1984 ballot is expected from the State Board of Canvassers sometime this month.

The petition filing was a culmination of what became nearly a six-month drive which started in late November, after the Party lost ballot status due to the results of the November 2nd General Election. Although the original goal was to file in January with 30,000 signatures, lower than expected participation caused the drive to be drawn out.

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*LPM Chairman Brian Wright prepares to file 2 boxes containing 24,639 signatures with the State Elections Department.*

## From the Director

### Who Are The REAL Utopians?

A common experience for a libertarian is to have someone retort that you are "too idealistic" or that your ideas are "utopian." In some instances, being called idealistic may mean that you have high standards. But usually if the context is politics, it means that they view the libertarian program for a free society as unrealistic or unworkable.

It is interesting, in light of this, to analyze exactly what libertarians are saying and what the opposite of a libertarian society necessarily entails: a state generated social orthodoxy and a planned economy.

Anytime people are allowed freedom in a certain area, there will be those who choose to act irresponsibly. While it was recognized when formulating the Constitution that freedom of religion was necessary for a healthy society, it may never have been imagined that something as tragic as the Jonestown massacre, the death of over 900 followers of a twisted religious cult, could ever occur. Nonetheless, in spite of that incident, no one has set out on a campaign for regulating the religious community; for state certification of ministers; for state licensing of churches. No, it is understood that even though abuses do exist with separation of church and state, a far greater danger would be posed by giving the state reins on religious and moral beliefs.

And yet, because most people do not understand the dynamics of the free market, supporters of government planning are largely successful by trotting out visions of Thalidomide babies and child laborers as skeletons from the capitalist closet. Surely, they say, if you call for removing government regulations in an area such as business, you are calling for danger to flourish.

Probably one of the best responses to this argument was given by Edward Baines, a nineteenth century advocate of voluntary schools. When charged that because he advocated separation of education and state he was advocating bad schools, Baines replied:

*In one sense I am. I maintain that we have as much right to have wretched schools as to have wretched newspapers, wretched preachers, wretched books, wretched institutions, wretched political economists, wretched Members of Parliament, and wretched Ministers. You cannot proscribe all these things without proscribing Liberty. The man is a simpleton who says that to advocate Liberty is to advocate badness. The man is a quack and doctrinaire of the worst German breed, who would attempt to force all mind, whether individual or national, into a mould of ideal perfection, to stretch it out or to lop it down to his own Procrustean standard. I maintain that Liberty is the chief cause of excellence; but it would cease to be Liberty if you proscribed everything inferior. Cultivate giants if you please; but do not stifle dwarfs.*

When libertarians call for liberty, they do so with not only a clear understanding of the risks involved, but also the tremendous productive power of a free people, and that the benefits certainly outweigh the occasional abuse. The social planners, on the other hand, believe that they can provide security by regulating the billions of decisions and transactions that take place between individuals each day. The prosperous and risk-free society, however, is not only an illusion, it is a contradiction, and those who advocate it, to whatever extent, are the true Utopians.



# MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

Editor: Joseph P. Overton

Printing: Nick Hamilton

Mailing: Rose Wright

*Michigan Libertarian* is published monthly as the official newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Michigan, and is sent to all members and subscribers. Complimentary issues will be sent to interested persons for two months, but will not be continued unless they become members or subscribers. Subscriptions are available for \$10/year (usually twelve issues).

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.

### OFFICERS

Brian Wright  
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*Treasurer*

Joseph P. Overton  
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James Rayman, *Dist. 18*

### At Large

Rose Wright  
Keith Bilby

Harold Adams  
Pat McKenna

Kurt Weber

# GUEST COLUMN

## THE EMERGING POLITICAL TREND

by Mark Logsdon

Sometimes when one is exposed to the establishment media it seems that our Party isn't even on the fringes of coverage of political debate. Out of touch Republican spokespersons are often counterpointed with worn-out Democrats who offer an equally ludicrous point of view. Election results from Austria are duly printed in the local paper, with results so detailed that the sixth place party is listed with its 0.66% of the vote. And yet our Libertarian candidate here in the 54th state House of

Representatives district, Bruce Smith, wasn't even listed this past November when results were printed on the outcome of local elections in this same local paper the next day. With 247 votes we deserved mention, yet were omitted.

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

There are some refreshing signs of change in this regard. Many sources indicate that the conditions for the emergence of a new force in American politics grow more favorable every day.

Two articles freshly in print agree on this point. In The Review of Politics, a University of Notre Dame publication, an article by Peter R. Moody Jr. entitled "The erosion of the Function of Political Parties in the Post Liberal State" appears. He traces the decline of dominant political parties in Europe and Japan as well as here in the United States. Moody acknowledges the development of a new cultural ethos as the former counterculture merges into the mainstream: individualism. To describe the developing multi-polar political situation, Moody uses a four-way split similar to one described by

Michael Barone and Grant Ujifusa in The Almanac of American Politics. Economic thought is divided between statist and free market viewpoints. Social mores are split between traditional and a modern "live and let live" opinion. Combining the economic and social attitudes gives the four groupings. It is easy to see that Libertarians should have a large potential out there.

The March 1983 issue of The Western Political Quarterly also contains an interesting article, "The Voting Behavior of American Political Scientists: The 1980 Presidential Election" by Walter B. Roettger and Hugh Winebrenner of Duke University. A presentation is made of periodic surveys of party identification among both academics and the general electorate. Some interesting trends show up. In 1959, 90% of political scientists and 76% of the general public identified with one of the two major parties. This slipped in 1970, and by 1980 had dropped to 76% among political scientists and 66% among the general public. Both Republicans and Democrats suffered a drop in their following. And there is a hint of much worse to come for the establishment parties: political scientists under the age of 30 are recorded in 1980 with 59% support for a major party- leaving 41% following the beat of a different political drummer.

More food for thought is the examination of the voter behavior in five progressive states that John Naisbett identifies in Megatrends as bellweather states: California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida and Washington. Naisbett indicates that the residents in these locations are more open to change and are willing to try the new. Often the rest of the country follows along in this regard later. Compared to a national 1980 Presidential vote tally that showed around 8% ready to reject the major parties, voters

in the bellweather states indicated by 11% a readiness to go a new route.

Many signposts along the way are indicating that if we as Libertarians persevere, an interesting and fruitful political future could be opening before us.

## WE ARE PRISONERS OF OUR GOVERNMENT

by Harold Adams

I am disillusioned to continually read and hear about increased government spending- deficit spending- spending that keeps right on increasing the size of our government monopoly . . . all in the name of humanity. To speak out against this growing monopoly is to be against the poor, the underprivileged and the oppressed.

Everywhere in the world the individuals of society are unwitting victims of government monopolies, monopolies that espouse ideal principles but blunder miserably in managing the affairs of man, and, in the end, are the final oppressors.

People with whom I have intimately associated in Tibet, China, Spain, Argentina, Russia, and Mexico, are victimized by government monopoly. Throughout the world people are the hapless victims of social, racial, economic, theocratic and political monopolies that exist and grow by the unlimited powers of taxation and expenditure, deception and manipulation, intimidation and war mongering; for the glory of their flag, for the good of humanity, in the name of their god.

In Tibet, the people who were once ruled by a religious monopoly and controlled by superstition, are

*continued on page 5*

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# HELP WANTED!

The Libertarian Party of Michigan wants your ideas! Being a volunteer organization, we need people like you to give direction to the following committees (See description below): Candidates, Finance, Issues, Membership, and Speakers Bureau.

Not only do members gain valuable experience in the areas a committee deals with, but they also influence the Libertarian Party's effectiveness in achieving a free society.

You do not have to be a member of the Central Committee to be on a standing committee- any LPM member is welcome. Come join the fun and help the Libertarian Party of Michigan prosper!

## ISSUES COMMITTEE

Who can Join? Any member of the Libertarian Party of Michigan.  
 Next Meeting: June 26, 11:00 a.m. at LPM headquarters. This will be an organizational meeting to to elect a chair, identify regional representatives, and set goals for the coming year.

What Does The Committee Do?  
 This committee identifies and researches issues of current interest in Michigan, produces LPM issue papers and statements, creates newsreleases, and aids candidates in developing their campaign issues.

What Does A Committee Member Gain From Joining?  
 Committee members will gain valuable skills in press relations, practical application of libertarian principles to current issues in state government, and be able to influence what issues the LPM will emphasize.

For More Information Contact:  
 Sheryl Loux - (616) 343-4737

## CANDIDATES COMMITTEE

Who Can Join? Any member of the Libertarian Party of Michigan.  
 Next Meeting: June 26, 11:00 a.m. at LPM headquarters. This will be an organizational meeting to elect a chair, identify regional representatives, and set goals for the coming year.

What Does The Committee Do?  
 This committee oversees the recruitment, development, and support of Libertarian candidates in Michigan. This includes creating opportunities for education in libertarian theory and

its application, public speaking, campaign management and election law, media relations, and other election skills.  
 What Does A Committee Member Gain From Joining?

Members are responsible for ensuring that qualified candidates are available to run on the LPM slate. Members will learn the skills necessary to manage an election campaign.

For More Information Contact:  
 Sheryl Loux - 616- 343-4737

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

Who Can Join? Any member of the Libertarian Party of Michigan.  
 What Does the Committee Do?

This committee oversees the financial operations of the LPM which includes formulating budgets, originating and planning fundraising programs, and monitoring expenditures.

What Does A Committee Member Gain From Joining?

Members are able to take part in important budgeting and planning decisions and to see their ideas implemented to maintain a solid financial base for the LPM.

For More Information Contact:  
 Ben Bachrach - (313) 563-1558

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Who Can Join? Any member of the Libertarian Party of Michigan.  
 What Does the Committee Do?

This committee is responsible for creating programs to increase Libertarian Party of Michigan membership.

For More Information Contact:  
 LPM headquarters

## SPEAKERS BUREAU COMMITTEE

Who Can Join? Any member of the Libertarian Party of Michigan.  
 What Does The Committee Do?

This committee identifies and develops libertarians who are willing to be part of a reservoir of qualified libertarian speakers for various meetings and events.

For More Information Contact:  
 LPM Headquarters

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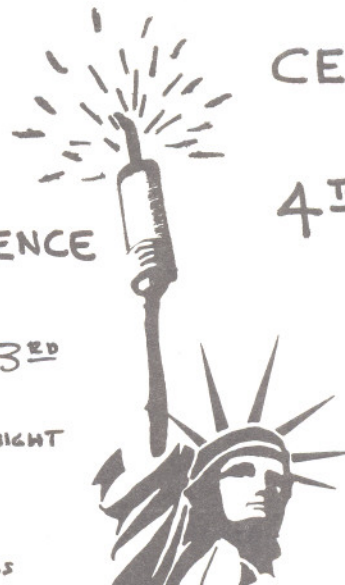
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**CONVENTION**

from page 1

fill positions still vacant as well as five at-large members.

Saturday night David Boaz spoke at the banquet on the prospects for the Libertarian Party and the characteristics required by a national political party to be taken seriously by the media and the public.

The Libertarian Central Committee met Sunday afternoon and addressed the following items:

- approved a resolution endorsing the efforts to recall Governor James Blanchard.
- approved a resolution expressing appreciation for the fine job Joe Cote' and Tom Jones did as LPM Vice Chair and Secretary, respectively.
- approved plans for the Annual LPM Picnic to be held in late July or early August.
- discussed the status of the Standing Committees.

**PETITIONS**

from page 1

Oakland County by far collected more signatures than any other county LP, coming in with 15,300. Brian Wright and Oakland County LP Chair Bill Hollander deserve special recognition for collecting an astounding 5842 and 4588 signatures, respectively.

Kalamazoo and Wayne Counties also turned in high totals.

Those who helped on this effort to put the LPM back on the ballot deserve a big thanks from everyone.

**PRISONERS**

from page 3

now ruled by a social/economic monopoly and controlled by military force. In Argentina the people have been ruled for decades by a military junta and controlled by the militia and manipulation. In Russia the people are ruled by a social/economic dictatorship and controlled by fear and isolation.

And on and on it goes. In country after country . . . in Iran, Saudi Arabia, Poland, Cuba, Lybia, China, South Africa, Ireland, England, and, yes, the United States of America, where the people are controlled and manipulated by special interest groups and massive wealth which is re-distributed in the form of transfer payments, government subsidies, credits and loans to the poor and rich alike. The United States is no different than any other country . . . except, perhaps, in the degree of its sophistication.

Now is the time for the dignity of man to prevail. Now is the time for the people of all nationalities to join hands and rise up against these monopolies (which exist for their own self aggrandisement), strip them of their powers and destroy them before man is destroyed by a monopolistic holocaust. Now is the time for all people to realize that it is far easier to contain the roar of a mouse than the roar of a lion. □

*Harold Adams, former Vice President of McCann Erickson, Interpublic, Inc. and Former President of Product Research Inc., was a member of the 1981 American/Everest Expedition to China.*

**MONTHLY  
50/50 RAFFLE**

The winner of last month's 50/50 Raffle was Dr. Carl McCahill of Adrian. Dr. McCahill received \$122.00, which he generously donated to the Libertarian Party of Michigan!! This month there will also be a \$100.00 Second Chance drawing which will include all tickets received in the last four months. Keep those tickets coming in!!

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July 20 - "Swords into Ploughshares- Some Ethical Perspectives," Richard Peacock, Lake Orion United Methodist Church; Debbie Hejl, Society of Friends, Detroit; Brian Bjorklund, St. John Fisher Chapel, Rochester; Ann Franklin, St. Alfreds Episcopal Church, Lake Orion; Chris Brockman, Church of Nature, Dryden.

All programs begin at 7:30p.m.

**ATTENTION NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATES!**

The National Convention is rapidly approaching. Information has finally been sent regarding prices of the various convention packages and hotel rates. PRESCON '83 attendees will receive a special flat rate at the Sheraton Centre Hotel. This means that all rooms except suites will be available at the rates listed below.

When making reservations, you must mention that you'll be attending the Libertarian Party convention in order to receive these special rates. For information on convention packages and their costs, see page 8.

Prices are:

Singles .....\$69/night  
Doubles .....\$82/night  
An additional charge  
\$20/night will be charged  
for each additional person  
in a room, above two.

In order to receive these rates, reservations must be made no later than August 17. For hotel reservations, call the Sheraton Centre at 800-223-6550 or 212-581-1000.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Joe Overton, current LPM Director, will be returning to Michigan Technological University to complete work on his degree starting this September. Anyone interested in applying for the position of Director on either a full or part time basis should contact LPM headquarters.

Several LPM members have expressed interest in constructing billboards advertising the Libertarian Party along well traveled streets or freeways. If you have land that the Party could use in this way, or know someone who does, please contact LPM headquarters. This would be a relatively inexpensive way to give the Libertarian Party greater name recognition.

The Church of Nature will present a series of four weekly presentations "Study War No More: Approaches to Peace" beginning June 28 at Upland Hills Ecological Awareness Center, 2575 Indian Lk. Road, Oxford, Michigan. Tickets are \$12.00 for the series by mail or \$3.50 individually at the door. Mail orders to: Church of Nature, Box 407, Dryden, MI., 48428.

The schedule is shown below. For More information, call (313)-796-3759.

June 28 - "Gandhi - A Historical Perspective," Dr. Richard Brooks, Professor of Philosophy, Oakland University.





July 7 - "Live and Let Live: Tolerance, A Necessary Condition for Peaceful Coexistence," Keith Edwards, Libertarian activist.

July 13 - "To Freeze or Not: A Debate," Al Zawacky, Editor of the Lake Orion Review, and Doug Lent, Detroit Area Nuclear Weapons Freeze.

DORIS L. BALL, Ph.D.

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# CALENDAR

The Libertarian Central Committee will meet on Sunday, June 26 at 1:00 p.m. at LPM headquarters in Lansing. The Issues and Candidates committees will meet prior to the LCC meeting, at 11:00.

The Jackson County Libertarian Party meets on the second Thursday of each month in the Hall of Fame room at the Summit Lanes Bowling Alley in Vandercook Lake. The meeting time is 7:00 p.m. For more information, contact Jerry Potts at (517) 787-3559.

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 each month at Gino's Restaurant in Keego Harbor located on Cass Lake Rd. north of Orchard Lake. For more information contact Bill Hollander at (313) 683-3066.

THE METRO DETROIT LIBERTARIANS meet regularly in Southfield. For more information contact Keith Edwards at (313) 777-7468.

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 Sheryl Loux at (616) 343-4737

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
Brian Wright	LPM Chairman	(313) 644-1816	Kalamazoo Area	Sheryl Loux	(616) 343-4737
Joe Overton	LPM Director	(517) 372-1587	Kent County LP	Bill Hall	(616) 534-5521
Ben Bachrach	LPM Treasurer	(313) 563-1558	Macomb County LP	Virginia Cropsey	(313) 977-6628
Thomas Jones	LPM Secretary	(313) 837-1123	Metro Detroit Libertarians	Keith Edwards	(313) 777-7468
National Libertarian Party		(202) 333-8209	Midland County LP	Janet Parkes	(517) 631-9737
Students for a Libertarian Society		(212) 475-9701	Monroe County LP	Chuck Dawson	(313) 654-2561
Libertarian Student Network		(202) 546-8353	Oakland County LP	Joe Cote'	(313) 646-9890
Ann Arbor Area	Glen Mensching	(313) 662-7158	Pontiac/Waterford Area	Jim Hurrell	(313) 394-1245
Bay County LP	Mike Murphy	(517) 892-5290	Saginaw County LP	Sheila Hart	(517) 790-0521
Grand Traverse Co. LP	Nick Hamilton	(616) 946-6246	St. Clair County LP	Tom Hoffman	(313) 987-6855
Ionia County LP	Dick Whitelock	(517) 647-6252	Washtenaw County LP	Jim Greenshields	(313) 665-0574
Ingham County LP	Mike Stein	(517) 482-6905	Wayne County LP	Mart Hillard	(313) 873-4866

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### BE AN EARLY BIRD AND SAVE A BUNDLE

If you reserve one of our special convention packages before July 31, 1983, you'll save a substantial amount of money. Why not fill out this coupon and save?

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