



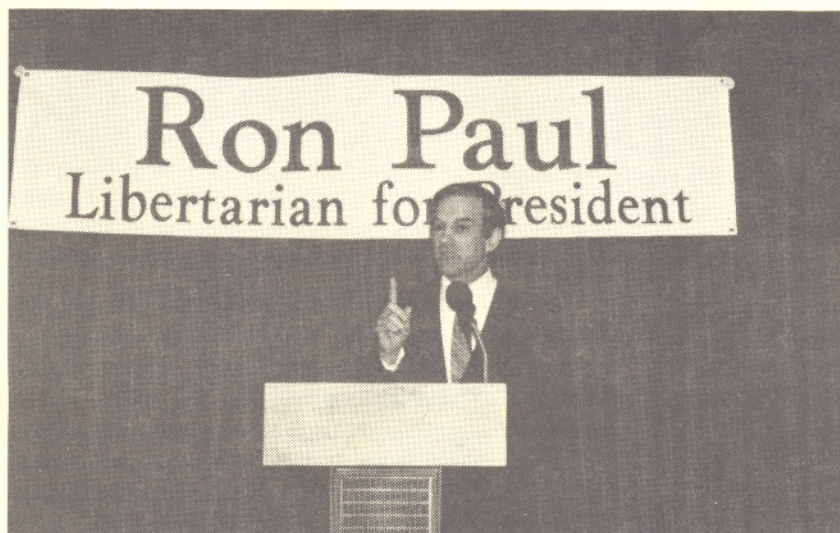
# MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

NEWSLETTER OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF MICHIGAN

MARCH/APRIL 1988

VOLUME 15, NUMBER 2

## RON PAUL IN MICHIGAN



Above: Presidential candidate Dr. Ron Paul (Photo by Kurt Westergaard)

LP presidential nominee Dr. Ron Paul made a highly successful campaign swing through Michigan on February 23 and 24 spreading the message of freedom to thousands and raising significant contributions toward the fall campaign effort.

The Michigan appearance actually began the preceding Friday when Dr. Paul was interviewed from New Mexico on Don Kostyu's *Town Meeting* program on radio station WCAR in Detroit. Kostyu remarked that "Ron Paul is the only presidential candidate addressing the real issues."

Dr. Paul then came to Michigan to keep a busy schedule the following week.

Press conferences were held in both Detroit and Ann Arbor resulting in good coverage -- particularly by the *Ann Arbor News* which ran a very favorable story complete with picture on the front page of the *People* section in their February 24 edition.

Dr. Paul was also interviewed on the radio stations WUOM in Ann Arbor and WXYT in Detroit. "Why is it that if I propose that we balance the budget im-

mediately some people say that is a strange and radical proposal?" he asked WXYT program host John McColloch. "The radicals are in charge! The radicals are the ones who say that you can print money -- create it out of thin air and *call* it money! And that you can run up a deficit of \$200 billion in one year! Here we've had a 'fiscal conservative' president (by his speeches), who has tripled the national debt -- which means he has spent *twice as much* money as all the other presidents put together! The American people have to wake up and realize that the ideas of Libertarians are really pretty main-stream when you think about it: we want limited government with a balanced budget."

Held over on the McColloch Show by popular demand, our presidential candidate had to rush over to a *Justice Pro Se* meeting in Dearborn where he addressed over 300 enthusiastic supporters. At the meeting Dr. Paul took the opportunity to point out how far we have drifted from the heritage of liberty our founding fathers left us. "Do you know what penalty was speci-

## VOLUNTEER DAY A SUCCESS

Washington D.C. The January 27 celebration of the 15th anniversary of the end of conscription in America was a resounding success. Ron Paul, LP presidential candidate, and Paul Jacob, LP National Director, among others, brought a small birthday cake to a local recruitment center and shared the festivities with some of the recruitment personnel. Libertarians in other parts of the country also took part in local events.

Following are a few facts on the success of the AVF (All Volunteer Force) as well as some opinions from surprising quarters on both the desirability of an AVF and the danger of a conscripted military:

\* America has relied on voluntarism for all but 38 years of our 212 year history.

\* The All-Volunteer Force is cheaper than a return to the draft. As Doug Bandow wrote in the *Los Angeles Times*; "Perhaps the most misleading objection to the All-Volunteer Force is that it is 'too expensive'. But a draft wouldn't lower federal costs. Roughly 90% of all spending on military compensation goes to careerists, civilians, and retirees. If the Pentagon slashed recruit pay by one-third, outlays would fall a mere \$2 billion; any savings would be offset by increased costs elsewhere. For example, conscripts serve shorter terms and re-enlist in lower numbers than do volunteers; increased turnover would increase both training expenses and re-enlistment pay scales. President Reagan's Military Manpower Task Force estimated that a return to conscription would probably hike federal outlays by \$1 billion."

\* Young people are willing to defend the country voluntarily but they should

continued on page 4

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# MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

Timothy J. O'Brien  
Editor

The Michigan Libertarian is published six times a year as the official newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Michigan, and is sent to all members and subscribers. Subscriptions are available for \$10 per year. Complimentary copies will be sent to interested persons for two issues.

Articles submitted for publication are welcome and should be type-written double-spaced and signed. Advertising is available at \$3 per inch for camera-ready copy. All materials and information submitted for publication must be received by the first of the month preceding the desired issue and sent to: Michigan Libertarian, 322 Millington Blvd., Bloomfield Hills, MI 48013.

## 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 education and political action. The Committee consists of one representative from each county.

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## FROM THE CHAIR...

Joseph P. Overton

### HUMBLE BEGINNINGS, WORLD CHANGING PROGRESS

For those who have studied the controversial movements of history - and especially for those who have been a part of one - it has to be a bit disconcerting to realize who ends up getting the credit when a radical idea finally bursts into the realm of popularity and comfortably assumes its place as the New Orthodoxy. The abolition of slavery, the American Revolution, opposition to the Vietnam War, black civil rights; all these ideological confrontations have their heroes duly recorded in the history books, those men and women whose names are synonymous with their respective achievements.

The truth of the matter, however, is that almost always the true pioneers are overlooked. Those who get involved earliest in promoting a radical idea, such as independence from England was in the early eighteenth century, are those who can withstand the greatest ridicule for one of two reasons; either they are very courageous or their cost of involvement is low - or possibly a combination of both.

Those who are concerned about how holding unpopular views would affect their business image or career, or how the neighbors will treat their spouse and children, face a high cost of involvement - often too high. The courage required to stand up to this is a rare commodity indeed. It is therefore often left up to those who may not occupy positions of high visibility, who are free to speak their mind with little impunity or concern for their reputation, to be the standard bearers for the great truths the majority will someday accept as gospel.

The unfortunate irony is that these people are often those who have little influence in their community.

But truth is persistent. And as these pioneers discuss, write pamphlets, and agitate, the ideas gain the familiarity that is a precursor to acceptance, and inevitably lower the cost involved in supporting the unpopular truth. The businessmen and community leaders, the polished orators, organizers and administrators pick up the ball and run it into respectability, ever to have their names associated with the triumph of a great cause.

And so it goes with the modern libertarian movement. For years the sparse pioneers, the outcast economists, the scoffed at non-interventionists kept the flame of liberty alive. Today within the Libertarian Party of Michigan, and the libertarian movement as a whole, we are seeing their efforts come to fruition. The Party increasingly attracts those with the popularity, leadership expertise, organizational ability and other skills necessary for success, but the great debt remains with those who will simply speak the truth. Those of us involved with this push for individual liberty know who laid the foundation: they are our friends.



# MICHIGAN LPers IN ACTION

by Virginia Cropsey

**Addison.** Dr. James Clifton, pastor of the *United Church of Christ* here, may become the first person in Michigan elected to public office as a Libertarian Party candidate. Clifton was appointed to the City Council and to the Planning Commission in recent months although he has lived in Addison for only a year. When the mayor told him he would have to decide to run as a Republican or Democrat in the March 14 City Council election, he informed her that he was a Libertarian. Clifton says he has followed the Libertarian Party since Roger Macbride's 1976 Presidential campaign.

In caucuses held February 15, two Republican incumbents, two Democrats, and Libertarian Clifton were nominated to vie for three two year terms. Clifton believes he is personally acceptable to both sides but that he needs to relieve doubts about the Libertarian label. Approximately two hundred votes should win Clifton a seat. He plans a voter mailing that will briefly explain libertarian philosophy and cover his positions on local issues: opposition to a millage increase that will also appear on the ballot and alternative zoning laws.

Contributions and volunteers are needed if we are to take advantage of this opportunity to elect a libertarian to public office in Michigan for the first time! Contact *Clifton for Trustee Committee*, 609 Lake Street, Addison, MI 49220.

**Ann Arbor.** The LP will field a full slate of candidates in the April 4 City Council election here. Candidates were selected by local LPers in a "Bowl-off" held in a popular Ann Arbor bowling alley. The *Ann Arbor News* carried an excellent story on the event complete with illustration of Bill Krebaum et al in action. The event sparked such interest from the paper that they did an additional story on the impact the LP might have on the election complete with picture of David Raaflaub conducting his one-man crusade against the city's obsession with parking tickets as a revenue source (he travels along the street just ahead of the meter maid putting nickels in those meters which are about to expire and leaving a note on the windshield explaining the crusade and asking for donations in lieu of the ticket the motorist would otherwise have found on his windshield). [Editor's note: ML is haranguing Raaflaub for a detailed account. Look for it in a future issue of ML.]

The nominees (and best bowlers) are as follows:

|              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
| First Ward:  | Bill Krebaum   |
| Second Ward: | Lisa Finkle    |
| Third Ward:  | Julie Brockman |
| Fourth Ward: | David Raaflaub |
| Fifth Ward:  | Peter Budnick  |

Campaign issues include opposing a proposed city income tax, limiting a pot-hole millage to one (rather than three) years, de-emphasizing parking citations as a revenue source, opposing construction of a new City Hall and proposing other cost-saving approaches to local government.

Krebaum, the only candidate in a two-way race (no Republican), probably has the best chance to win and will be running the most active campaign of the five. He intends to make rent control a major issue in his campaign. Send donations to *Krebaum for City Council*, P.O. Box 4539, Ann Arbor, MI 48106. Jeff Grund is Treasurer of the committee.

**Kalamazoo.** For Libertarians, taking away office is at least as important a freedom-lover's tool as gaining office. Libertarian Sheryl Loux has joined the ranks of Michigan Libertarians to use recall. Making her point with Kalamazoo City Commissioners who voted for a city income tax landed her on page one of the February 9 *Kalamazoo Gazette*. Loux had given the following public address before the Commission on February 8:

"During the fall campaign most of the elected Commissioners made the citizens aware that they may favor a city income tax, if the need arose. The justification of the need for the income tax is supposedly based on the desperate need to repair streets and sewers.

I would like to illustrate to the Commission, and the other citizens, how I could create a desperate need for shelter for my family. Families have limited budgets, just as the city of Kalamazoo does, and we are all aware that costs, including taxes, keep rising. Suppose for instance, that for next year, I have chosen not to budget the full amount for my rent, which along with food and clothing, are my family's top three priorities. However, I have budgeted money for some lower

priority items for my family. Thus, not only have I done a bad job of budgeting for my family, but also I have created a desperate need for shelter for my family. Some of my neighbors told me that I might save money by shopping around for clothes, food, and other items, but bargain hunting is against my principals, so I continue to believe I have a bare-bones budget. Among those people who are aware of my budget and attitudes, my credibility is very low; meanwhile, my family is desperate for shelter.

I believe the credibility of this Commission is at an all time low in their justification of the need to have an income tax. The Commission has approved a budget that doesn't allocate sufficient funds to the maintenance of our streets and sewers, when streets and sewers maintenance was ranked as one of the top three highest priorities in the City's own survey of the citizens of Kalamazoo. Thus, the Commission has created a desperate need for additional resources. Additionally, this Commission has rejected a privatization study, offered at no cost, to the taxpayer, which may have led to the discovery of substantial cost savings for the same level of services or even better services. This study was rejected on principal, regardless of loss of the knowledge of potential savings. This Commission appointed a citizen's committee to look at the funding of the streets and sewer maintenance who also did not have the benefit of the potential cost savings of privatizing.

Thus, for failure to allocate limited resources according to the priorities of the citizens of Kalamazoo, and for not attempting to rectify this misallocation by comparative shopping with privatization experts, I ask that the citizens of Kalamazoo join me in recalling every Commissioner that votes in favor of the income tax! If you wish to help, please call me, Sheryl Loux, at my home phone."



## TAX COLLECTOR BLUES UPDATE

**Nanking, China.** Faithful readers of *ML* may recall a story in our November/December issue describing the plight of the hapless tax collectors in China's increasingly capitalist society. It seems the representatives of the people's republic were finding it something of a struggle to exact tribute from productive people who are operating under the delusion that the wealth they produce ought to belong to them. Now comes word that citizens are actually attacking tax collectors with bricks and knives. According to an account in the *Orange County Register*, more than 300 people in Nanking waved sticks and threw stones to chase away 22 state tax collectors. Three attempts have been made to blow up tax offices. And a gang stormed a Shanxi province tax office, seriously injuring employees with iron bars, knives, and bricks. [Editor's note: It might almost lead a statist to consider getting an honest job.]

## VOLUNTEERS *from page 1*

make enough money to survive and to feed their families. In the late 1970's a recruit's base pay fell to 83% of the minimum wage. Many servicemen actually qualified for food stamps.

\* The All-Volunteer Force has a higher degree of education than the youth population at large -- 92% of recruits are high school graduates as compared to 75% of the overall population.

\* The All-Volunteer Force is less likely to become involved in a Vietnam-style war because people can stop it simply by refusing to join. With a drafted army the people have no choices to exercise.

"This is our All-Volunteer Force. These are the men and women who have freely accepted the danger, hardship, and discipline of military life, the family separations and long hours without overtime pay, the mud, the jungle, the desert, the heat, and the bone-chilling cold. America has never been protected by a finer military."

"First, we have learned that the All-Volunteer Force can be not just a success, but a huge success. This is good news for the young people of America, both for those who seek opportunities in the armed forces and for those who seek a different future. And it is good news for a nation that puts the highest value on individual choice and freedom."

"Not only are all the services more than meeting their recruiting goals, but the quality of new entrants has never been higher."

"... I believe that at least part of the criticism levelled against our All-Volunteer Force was really just a smoke screen. Behind the smoke screen was a basic unwillingness to pay the price of giving our armed forces decent compensation for their contribution to their nation's security."

-- Casper W. Weinberger,  
Secretary of Defense

"The history of this country's response to a call to arms shows that Americans have always turned out in overwhelming numbers when they felt their country was threatened and they believed that our cause was a just one. There is no evidence to suggest that this would not also be the case today.

But if the only way we can convince our young men and women to participate in the defense of this country is to threaten them with jail or a stiff fine, then the leadership of this country has failed."

-- Martin Anderson,  
former Domestic Policy Advisor for Hoover Institution

"Our country was made great by volunteers and will be kept safe by volunteers."

-- Major General James Tucker USAFR

"Our 200-year old Constitution says nothing about compulsory service, but was amended to proscribe involuntary servitude. Even 19-year-old citizens should be safe in their homes against impressment by the State for its purposes."

-- Robert P. Fairchild,  
Lt. Col. ARNG

"It is time simply to see that it is wrong to enslave, even if your goal is to preserve freedom."

-- David Dawson,  
U.S. Navy Volunteer in WW II

"Politically, the draft is clearly unconstitutional. No amount of rationalization, neither by the Supreme Court, nor by private individuals, can alter the fact that it represents 'involuntary servitude'. A volunteer army is the only proper, moral, and practical, way to defend a free country."

-- Ayn Rand,  
Novelist/Philosopher/Founder of Objectivism

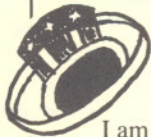
## RON PAUL *from page one*

fied in the Coinage Act of 1792 for anyone who debased our money?" he asked. Then he provided the answer: "Death!" The audience roared its appreciation of the founders' wisdom. "Now," he continued, "we hear politicians and their economists calling for 'a weaker dollar' as a matter of policy!"

The next day, Dr. Paul made the long drive out to Hillsdale College to speak with more supporters. Approximately 60 students, faculty and press attended.

Finally, the night of the 24th, Dr. Paul met with supporters at a special Champagne reception in Farmington Hills. The \$30 a ticket fundraiser was expected to draw about 25 people. Twice that number showed up.

Dr. Paul left Michigan a little tired but definitely buoyed by the amount of support his candidacy is receiving here. If everything continues as planned, we can look forward to meeting our candidate again at the state nominating convention in May.



## A HAT IN THE RING

*by Timothy O'Brien*

I am hereby announcing my intention to seek the nomination of the Libertarian Party of Michigan for the office of United States Senator. I believe my credentials as a long time Libertarian qualify me to represent us in this very important race. (And I would just love the opportunity to take a few pointed shots at Donald Riegle in a public forum). If *you* are interested in running for this or any of the other 138 offices open to our candidates, be sure to contact Brian Wright at (313) 682-2763 as soon as possible. Space in the May/June issue of *ML* will be provided to candidates to make statements supporting their bid to get the LP nomination for any of the available offices (see article elsewhere in this issue for qualifications).

Many dedicated LPers put in a lot of work to get our party on the ballot in Michigan. Lets take advantage of the opportunity they have given us by running a full slate of candidates.

*continued on page 5*



*Dear Uncle Sam:*

My friend Mack Jones, over in Rutherford County, received a \$1,000 check from the government last year for not raising hogs. So I am going into the "not-raising-hogs business" this year.

What I want to know is, in your opinion, what is the best kind of farm not to raise hogs on, and what is the best kind of hogs not to raise? I would prefer not to raise razorbacks, but if that is not a good breed not to raise, I will just as gladly not raise any Berkshires or Durocs.

The hardest work in this business is going to be in keeping an inventory on how many I haven't raised.

My friend Mack is very joyful about the future of the business. He has been raising hogs for more than 20 years and the best he ever made was \$400 - until this year, when he got a check from you for \$1,000 for not raising hogs.

If I can get \$1,000 for not raising 50 hogs, then will I get \$2,000 for not raising 100 hogs, etc.? I plan to operate on a small scale at first. Holding myself down to about 4,000 hogs which means I will have \$80,000; then I can afford a boat.

Now another thing -- these hogs I will not raise will not eat 100,000 bushels of corn. I understand that you also pay for not raising corn. So, will you pay me anything for not raising 100,000 bushels of corn not to feed the hogs I am not going to raise?

Yours Very Truly,  
Oliver Shagnaster

## Remember Income Tax Day

by Jim McAbee

Tax Protest Day will take place on Friday, April 15th, and will start at 7:30 pm. If we have more than 10 people we will split into two groups. One group will parade at the post office in Mt. Clemens, and the other group will parade at the post office in Royal Oak. If we have less than 10 people we can all parade at the Mt. Clemens facility . . . (we have 7 people committed at this time).

The Mt. Clemens post office is located on Gratiot between Church and Robertson. The Royal Oak post office is located at 200 2nd St. between Main and Washington.

At 9 pm. the group(s) will leave for the Detroit Main Branch post office located on Fort between Shelby and Washington. We will demonstrate in Detroit from approximately 10 pm. until 11:30 pm. where presumably, we will again be covered by one or more of the local TV stations on the 11 pm. news. Signs and literature will be provided, we just need people to hold and distribute them. After the demonstration in Detroit we will convene at a restaurant of our choosing (Hogans at 15 Mile & Telegraph is open until 2 am.). If you plan to attend, please call me at 752-4844. Final notice will be given to those who are participating on or about April, 8th.

Hope to see you there!!

*"If ye love wealth better than Liberty, the tranquility of servitude better than the animating contest of freedom, go home from us in peace. We ask not your counsels or arms. Crouch down and lick the hand which feeds you. May your chains set lightly upon you, and may posterity forget that ye were our countrymen."*

-- Sam Adams

## VOLUNTEER *from page 4*

"Only in the most severe national emergency does the government have a claim to the mandatory services of its young people. In any other time, a draft or draft registration destroys the very values that our society is committed to defending."

-- Ronald Reagan (as a presidential candidate)

"Where is it written in the Constitution, in what article or section is it contained, that you may take children from their parents, and parents from their children, and compel them to fight the battles of any war in which the folly or the wickedness of government may engage it?"

-- Daniel Webster

"Today all across our country we face a crisis of confidence. Nowhere is it more acute than among our young people. They recognize the draft as an infringement on their liberty -- which it is. To them, it represents a government insensitive to their rights -- a government callous to their status as free men. They ask for justice -- and they deserve it.

So I say, it's time we looked to our consciences. Let's show our commitment to freedom by preparing to assure our young people theirs."

-- Richard Nixon, 1968

"With an end to the draft, we will demonstrate to the world the responsiveness of republican government -- and our continuing commitment to the maximum freedom for the individual, enshrined in our earliest traditions and founding documents. By upholding the cause of freedom without conscription we will have demonstrated in one more area the superiority of a society based upon belief in the dignity of man over a society based on the supremacy of the state."

-- Richard Nixon, 1970

"A voluntary army would be manned by people who had chosen a military career rather than at least partly by reluctant conscripts anxious only to serve out their term."

-- Milton Friedman, 1967

"A nation founded on human liberty and individual dignity, and peopled in good part by escapees from compulsion in other lands, should have a natural distaste for conscription. On principle, the draft is as foreign as anything can be to the ideals we profess as a free, libertarian society."

-- George McGovern



# TAXES, TAXES, AND MORE TAXES

## "YOUR MONEY, OR YOUR LIFE!"

*Excerpted from No Treason by Lysander Spooner*

It is true that the 'theory' of our Constitution is, that all taxes are paid voluntarily; that our government is a mutual insurance company, voluntarily entered into by the people with each other. . . .

But this theory of our government is wholly different from the practical fact. The fact is that the government, like a highwayman, says to a man: "Your money, or your life." And many, if not most, taxes are paid under the compulsion of that threat.

The government does not, indeed, waylay a man in a lonely place, spring upon him from the roadside, and holding a pistol to his head, proceed to rifle his pockets. But the robbery is none the less a robbery on that account; and it is far more dastardly and shameful.

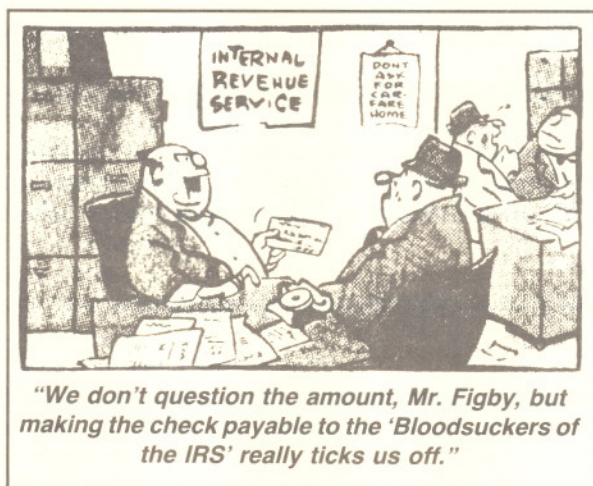
The highwayman takes solely upon himself the responsibility, danger, and crime of his own act. He does not pretend that he has any rightful claim to your money, or that he intends to use it for your own benefit. He does not pretend to be anything but a robber. He has not acquired impudence enough to profess to be merely a "protector", and that he takes men's money against their will, merely to enable him to "protect" those infatuated travellers, who feel perfectly able to protect themselves, or do not appreciate his peculiar system of protection. He is too sensible a man to make such professions as these. Furthermore, having taken your money, he leaves you, as you wish him to do. He does not persist in following you on the road, against your will; assuming to be your rightful "sovereign", on account of the "protection" he affords you. He does not keep "protecting" you, by commanding you to bow down and serve him; by requiring you to do this, and forbidding you to do that; by robbing you of more money as often as he finds it for his interest or pleasure to do so; and by branding you as a rebel, a traitor, and an enemy to your country, and shooting you down without mercy, if you dispute his authority, or resist his demands. He is too much of a gentleman to be guilty of such impostures, and insults, and villainies as these. In short, he does not, in addition to robbing you, attempt to make you either his dupe or his slave.

## MIDDLE CLASS TAX RESISTANCE

**Detroit.** Libertarians may have allies in a surprising quarter. The February 7 *Detroit News* reported east side Detroit activists have agreed to explore a city property tax strike to protest Coleman Young's downtown development at the expense of the city neighborhoods. "We're basically tired of the trickle-down theory" said the leader of one community group. The *News* said the tax rebels would have a lengthy collection process on their side. One coalition group is planning to run candidates in the city election two years from now.

## KIDDIE TAX UPDATE

Since the last issue, the Michigan legislature and Governor Blanchard, in response to a lot of negative publicity, modified the so-called "kiddie income tax" allowing for an exemption for the first \$1500 of income. Once the limit is exceeded, however, the child will be held liable for the tax retroactively to the first dollar of income, i.e. a child with \$1501 in income will "owe" \$70 in taxes.



## LEWIS TRIAL UPDATE

*by Virginia Cropsey*

Jury selection is complete in the Jim Lewis trial (see story in last issue). The former LP Vice Presidential nominee's trial on three counts of willful failure to file income tax returns has been scheduled to begin February 22 in federal court in Connecticut. Lewis has entered a motion to dismiss for lack of jurisdiction on grounds that he is not a taxpayer as defined in the code. According to Lewis, the tax code contains no definition of taxpayer. The federal prosecutor moved to suppress Lewis' evidence of the law and prohibit him from presenting it to the jury because they would be likely to be confused. Lewis responded by pointing out that, if it is the government's position that 12 ordinary people are not competent to understand the law, then he can hardly be held accountable under that law either and the charges should be dismissed. "Your honor, you can see then why I might have been confused by it," he said. Lewis is also arguing that his knowledge of the law is necessarily relevant to the issue of willfulness. The judge has taken both motions under advisement. [Editor's note: Late word is the judge denied Lewis' motion, granted the government's motion, and Jim was convicted February 24. Details in next issue.]

## SEE NEXT SIGN

**Detroit.** More instructions from the people who draft our tax forms. Go inside Detroit's McNamara Building for a tax form. None in the lobby. The elevator directory says you can get help filling out tax forms on the 19th floor. On the 19th floor a sign tells you tax forms are in the basement. Why not have a sign in the lobby to avoid the elevator ride? Not a bad idea, said one IRS employee, according to the *Detroit News*. You would think people in the business of taxing productivity would want the tax slaves on their productive way ASAP.



# ...MAYBE YOU'D RATHER NOT KNOW

by Dick Whitelock

Do you want to find out what you're really paying in taxes? Do you want to get the whole picture? Just take a few moments to fill out this itemized breakdown, subtract the total from your gross income, and find out who has the minority interest in your paycheck!

Itemize all tax payments based on yearly expenditures.

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| 1. Federal Income Tax .....   | \$ _____ |
| 2. State Income Tax .....   | \$ _____ |
| 3. Social Security Tax .....  | \$ _____ |
| 4. Property Tax .....   | \$ _____ |
| 5. City Income Tax .....  | \$ _____ |
| 6. Sales Tax on personal goods (yearly amount spent on non-food items x 4%) .....               | \$ _____ |
| 7. Sales Tax on major purchases (Cars, furniture, boats, appliances, etc. x 4%) .....           | \$ _____ |
| 8. Automobile registration (license plate) fees .....   | \$ _____ |
| 9. Driver's license fees .....  | \$ _____ |
| 10. Domestic Pet fees (dog, cat, etc.) .....  | \$ _____ |
| 11. Court Fines and fees (traffic violations, etc.) .....                                       | \$ _____ |
| 12. Building & Zoning permit fees (State, County, Township, Village, City) .....                | \$ _____ |
| 13. Highway Use Tax (if commercial trucker) .....   | \$ _____ |
| 14. Interstate Permit Fees (for interstate trans.) .....  | \$ _____ |
| 15. Hunting License Tax .....   | \$ _____ |
| 16. Fishing License Tax .....   | \$ _____ |
| 17. Fishing & Sporting Equipment Tax .....  | \$ _____ |
| 18. Watercraft Registration Tax (for boat owners) .....   | \$ _____ |
| 19. Inheritance Tax (on property valued over \$100) (2% to 10% of value for direct heirs) ..... | \$ _____ |
| (12% to 17% of value for collateral heirs) .....  | \$ _____ |
| 20. Restaurant Meals Tax (4% of amount spent) .....   | \$ _____ |
| 21. Telephone Use Tax (4% of yearly bill) .....   | \$ _____ |
| 22. Boxing & Wrestling Tax (10% of ticket amount) .....   | \$ _____ |
| 23. Horse Race Wagering Tax (4.5% of amount wagered) .....                                      | \$ _____ |
| 24. City Utility Users Tax (if applicable) .....  | \$ _____ |
| 25. Hotel & Motel Tax (4% of yearly amount spent) .....   | \$ _____ |
| 26. Self-Employment Tax (12.3% of yearly income up to \$42,000) .....                           | \$ _____ |
| 27. Railroad Retirement Tax (7.15% on annual compensation up to \$43,800) .....                 | \$ _____ |
| 28. Business Privilege Tax (License fees for business owners) .....                             | \$ _____ |
| 29. Insurance Premium Tax (if coverage is provided by out of state insurer)                     |          |
| (2% of premium for Life, Casualty, Title, Surety) .....   | \$ _____ |
| (3% of premium for Fire, Marine, Auto) .....  | \$ _____ |
| 30. Cigarette Tax (54.5¢ per pack) .....  | \$ _____ |
| 31. Beer Tax (\$15.30 per barrel) .....   | \$ _____ |
| 32. Wine Tax (16% alcohol or less; 44¢ per gallon) .....  | \$ _____ |
| (over 16% alcohol; \$2.65 per gallon) .....   | \$ _____ |
| 33. Alcohol Tax (on premises consumption; 12% state tax) .....                                  | \$ _____ |
| (off premises consumption; 13.85% state tax) .....  | \$ _____ |
| (Federal tax of \$12.50 per gallon) .....   | \$ _____ |
| 34. Gasoline or Fuel Tax (24¢ per gallon) .....   | \$ _____ |
| TOTAL OF LINES 1 THROUGH 34 .....   | \$ _____ |
| YEARLY GROSS INCOME .....   | \$ _____ |
| SUBTRACT TOTAL OF LINES 1 THROUGH 34 .....  | \$ _____ |
| TOTAL DISPOSABLE YEARLY INCOME AFTER TAXES .....  | \$ _____ |



## LIBERTARIAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

The LCC met January 16 in Lansing. The following are highlights of that meeting:

1) The Region 10 Ballot Access Committee has been dissolved now that the Libertarian Party is officially on the ballot in Michigan. \$653.84 in excess funds were donated to the operating fund of the Libertarian Party of Michigan.

2) The National Headquarters of the Libertarian Party has moved to: 1528 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, D.C. 20003, Phone: 202/543-1988.

3) Libertarian Week activities have netted \$484.75 for the LPM.

4) Gary Bradley, Platform Committee Chair, has asked that any changes to the LPM Platform to be proposed at the state convention be sent to him by May 1, 1988. Gary's address: 1001 East Cass, St. Johns, MI 48879.

5) Local groups are encouraged to plan an activity for Tax Protest Day. Jim McAbee (313/752-4844) has offered to act as a statewide resource person who will help local activists plan their event. He has copies of literature distributed in past years. Local groups can copy these and include their own contact information. Suggested slogan from the Lansing group: "Taxes - Just Say NO!"

6) Two people were elected to the LCC as County Representatives.

James Clifton 609 Lake St., Addison, MI 49220 (Lenawee County) 517/547-7953

James McAbee 235 Clinton, Romeo, MI 48065 (Macomb County) 313/752-4844

Bruce Smith P.O. Box 239, Douglas, MI 49406 (Allegan County) 616/857-1013 was reelected on the LCC.

7) The next LCC meeting will be on Saturday, April 2 in the Jackson area.

## CALL TO CONVENTION

by Emily Salvette

### LPM State Convention Chair

... not as dramatic as a Call to Arms, but less dangerous and the food will be better!

It is time again to call all Libertarian Party members and other friends of freedom to join together at the 1988 Libertarian Party of Michigan State Convention. May 20 through the 22 at the Airport Hilton Inn in Romulus is where the action will take place; right near the Detroit Metro Airport and convenient to major freeways from anywhere in Michigan.

This year's convention theme of "Freedomworks '88: The Machinery of Liberty" conveys two important messages that touch libertarians especially in this election year:

1) Like an industrial works in which the capital wealth of a nation is produced, our efforts for freedom can produce the great wealth liberty offers society. Such libertarian messages as "privatization", "non-interventionism", and "civil liberties", are tools we use in production of freedom.

2) In a more literal sense, Freedomworks reminds us of the main purpose of this election year convention: to nominate candidates for public office. At our convention, we will work hard at recruiting and nominating exceptional candidates to run under the Libertarian Party banner this November. Our freedom work will also include training workshops and issues oriented seminars for candidates plus help with any state mandated paperwork.

Please plan now to join us in Detroit on the third weekend in May. We plan an exciting array of activities including guest speakers from around the nation. The newly remodeled Airport Hilton will be an attractive setting for work and, of course, a bit of play.

You are an important part in the machinery of liberty. Don't miss the chance to be part of producing the wealth of liberty. See you at the Freedomworks.

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

There will be a workshop on Campaign Management and Organizational Skills sponsored by the National Libertarian Party on April 23 and 24 in Chicago. Steve Givot, former Illinois U.S. Senate candidate, will be the main speaker.

This event is open to anyone interested - several people from Michigan are already planning on going.

The focus is on increasing both the skills needed to grow a local LP organization as well as run a campaign for public office. A campaign manual written by Ron Paul for President manager Nadia Hayes will be available for \$25.

The meeting in Chicago will be for people in Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky and Wisconsin. Admission is free. If you are interested in attending, please contact the state office for details.

\* \* \* \* \*

At its April 2nd meeting the Libertarian Central Committee will consider the following ammendment to the By-Laws:

"First time members who join the Party less than sixty days preceding a state convention will be ineligible to vote at that convention."

If you are considering joining the Party and would like to vote at the upcoming May convention, please have your membership submitted no later than March 21, 1988.



## FREEDOM IN OUR TIME

Libertarian International's first book is a collection of some of the finest of modern libertarian essays, dealing with crucial issues in today's world. Designed to be easily read, this book will appeal not only to seasoned libertarians, but will make an excellent outreach tool. 160pp. **\$2.95** US plus .75c postage and handling. Add \$1.50 for overseas orders.

Includes chapters on: Free trade and the connection between protectionism and war; the causes of aggression; an original history of the evolution of law as a free market institution; a depiction of the importance of property rights in environmental issues; and an overview of the European free zone movement.

9308 Farmington Drive, Richmond VA 23229



# BACK IN THE SADDLE AGAIN

by Brian Wright

As Most Michigan Libertarians know, the LPM is once again eligible to run candidates in the general election. In addition to Presidential and Vice Presidential offices, the 1988 ballot will carry slots for 2 supreme court judges, 8 educational board members (2 each for State Board of Education, Wayne State Board of Governors, MSU Trustees and U of M Regents), 1 US senator, 18 US congressmen, and 110 state representatives.

All told, besides county and local races, this represents 139 opportunities for the Libertarian Party to stand up and be counted. With certain reservations, I advocate taking advantage of these opportunities at our convention in May.

What is the caveat? Only this: Don't run for office if you don't intend to be a knowledgeable and committed candidate or if your running will interfere with a more vital campaign you might otherwise assist. In other words, I recommend being a serious candidate. Unless, of course, you want to be a "paper candidate".

The rationale for becoming a serious candidate is fairly obvious. As for paper candidacies, the justification is "the appearance of legitimacy." The fact is that the Libertarian Party is legitimate, at least morally and intellectually. By presenting voters the fullest possible slate of Libertarian candidates, we visually encourage our neighbors to reach the same conclusion.

Being a paper candidate is relatively hassle free. The LPM maintains a large staff of experts who will guide neophytes along the trial of proper forms and procedures. Most candidates receive a handful of inquiries from citizens' groups, and I do recommend responding to these in writing as one concession to activity.

Whatever sort of candidate you choose to be, it is certainly a worthwhile endeavor both personally and politically. And, if you happen to actually like electoral politics, someday you may be a libertarian officeholder. The two state legislators the LP has had, Dick Randolph and Andre Marrou of Alaska, have done good things, and there's no reason you can't do the same in similar circumstances.

So think about it. If you say, "Yes, that might be something I would do," then consider the following:

Qualifications for the various public offices are quite simple. All positions require being a registered Michigan voter, i.e., US citizen, over 18, 30-day resident at least 30 days before election. US Senate requires 9 years citizenship and 30 years of age; US House requires 7 years citizenship and 25 years of age. State supreme court needs a license to practice law in Michigan and no more than 70 years on you. The only other special requirement I could find is that, if you want to be a county road commissioner, you have to live in the county for at least a year(!)

As for LP qualifications, you must be nominated and elected in accordance with the election statutes by various combinations of LPM members. All members must sign a pledge to the effect that they do not advocate the initiation of force to achieve social ends.

Unfortunately, some newer people may not have a full understanding of what the pledge means, such as those who think that some kinds of taxation are okay, or that we need immigration laws, or that it's all right for the national government to intervene in the internal affairs of other countries and stuff like that. And that's why the LPM has traditionally encouraged its potential candidates to fill out a questionnaire.

This is not a loyalty oath. Well, in a sense it is. But it certainly isn't compulsory for a prospective candidate. I recommend it because it gives LPers on the convention floor or in the caucuses (where nominations occur) information on how a candidate feels about the issues. (We are, after all, the party of principle.)

To facilitate our convention planning and the processing of paperwork, if you intend to run for something, please contact me in advance and I will provide you with the necessary information. You will find a copy of the candidate's questionnaire in this issue of ML. If you're interested in running, please fill it out and send it to me. That's Brian Wright, 6689 Orchard Lake Road, #249, West Bloomfield 48322, Phone: 313/682-2763. Thank you and happy trails.

## PLATFORM COMMITTEE SETS DEADLINE

To expedite the nomination process at the 1988 LPM convention, the Platform Committee is placing a May 1st deadline on all amendments and additions to the LPM Platform. All proposals must be received in writing (preferably typed) by that date. No submissions received thereafter will be scheduled for consideration at the Platform Committee Meeting at the Convention. Proposals should be sent to Gary Bradley at 1001 East Cass, St. Johns, MI 48879. Copies of the Platform are available from the same source or from Party Secretary Emily Salvette.

## POOLE TO SPEAK AT SUPPER CLUB

Robert Poole, Editor of *Reason* magazine and Chairman of the *Local Government Center* (a privatization think tank), is tentatively scheduled to address the May 16 MDL supper club. Location is not yet arranged. Set the date aside now and check the next edition of *ML* for further details.

## VOLUNTEER SEARCH

(Want to give time for freedom? Watch this column for volunteer opportunities)

\* Help prepare bulk mailings - Two people are needed in Detroit to help mail newsletters and other special mailings. Time required: 2 Hours every other month.

\* Statewide Speakers Bureau Coordinator - We have several excellent speakers available locally, but no one to book engagements (Rotary clubs, schools, etc.) Help develop a speaker's bureau for the LPM to bring libertarianism to outside organizations. Time required: Whatever you are willing to invest.

\* Help at the state convention, May 20 - 22. Warm bodies needed for registration, set up, chauffeuring speakers, decorations, etc. Time required: 3-4 Hours.

To Volunteer, call the LPM Office - 313/334-4449 anytime.

"Government planning is nothing less than the coercive power of the state telling people how to live. Whether it's couched in humanitarian terms or not, it's a vicious use of force and must be challenged if we expect to pull out of our nose dive toward tyranny."

-- Ron Paul



# THE BEGINNINGS OF A LIBERTARIAN LEGAL SYSTEM

by Virginia Cropsey

**San Francisco, CA.** Attorney Bernard Siegan, generally described as a libertarian, has been nominated by Ronald Reagan to the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco, but his nomination has been held up for a year by Joseph Biden's Senate Judiciary Committee. According to the February 1 issue of *Insight* magazine, Siegan has been branded "bizarre and radical" by Norman Lear's People for the American Way and by other groups that want to maintain liberal judicial orthodoxy.

Siegan, a University of San Diego law professor for the last 15 years, is best known for his defense of economic liberty. A former Chicago real estate lawyer and developer, he has written about the negative effects of zoning and the benefit of the absence of zoning laws to cities such as Houston: lower rents, cheaper homes, more housing opportunities for all.

Siegan argues that the framers of the U.S. Constitution left many provisions purposely vague so that they would be interpreted in a light most beneficial to liberty.

*Insight* magazine says that the weakened administration and a falling out between libertarian and majoritarian schools in the conservative movement have hurt Siegan's chances. This would have been more accurately characterized as the recognition that there are two separate movements. The libertarian legal discovery phase is on and the education phase is beginning. Libertarian activists can prepare the way for the popularization phase by explaining, at every opportunity, the differences among principled judicial activities (interpreting the Constitution in an individual rights context); majoritarianism ("might makes right" as Bork advocated); and political judicial activism (interpreting the Constitution in favor of statism or group rights).

## MMLA PLANS

### "ENLIGHTENING" MEETINGS

The Mid Michigan Libertarian Alliance will be showing the British television series, "*The New Enlightenment*", on the growth of free market economic and political ideas in western Europe and the United States. Plans are to show two half hour episodes at the January, February, and March meetings. Arrangements are in progress to repeat showings at the MSU Libertarian Student group. The tapes were provided by Gwen and Duane Stillwell, who are determining if copies can be made for other libertarian groups and public access without copyright violations.

The series consists of six 30 minute episodes documenting the demise of the idea that government can solve every problem and the rise of privatization. The series was prepared with input and financing from the *Reason Foundation*. Those wishing to view the series outside the regular MMLA meetings should contact Gwen and Duane.

### New LP National HQ

#### Libertarian Party

1528 Pennsylvania Ave.

Washington, DC 20003

202/543-1988

"Find out just what people will submit to, and you have found out the exact amount of injustice and wrong which will be imposed upon them; and these will continue until they are resisted with either words or blows, or with both. The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppress."

-- Frederick Douglass, 1857

YES, I want to join the Libertarian Party as a :

☐ \$20 Combined State and National Member

☐ \$10 Michigan Member Only

☐ \$10 Newsletter Subscriber Only

☐ Please send me more information on the Libertarian Party

Note: All memberships include the state newsletter, **Michigan Libertarian**. National membership includes a subscription to **Libertarian Party News**.

"I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals."

Signature:

Send to:

Libertarian Party of Michigan

322 Millington Blvd.

Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48013



# MICHIGAN SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES, TO BE RECOGNIZED AT LPM CONVENTION

*by Dick Whitelock*

A new highlight of the 1988 Libertarian Party State Convention in May will be the presentation of the "SCREWBALL OF THE YEAR" awards.

Trophies will be presented to the State Representative and State Senator who have concocted the most bizarre pieces of legislation during the 1987 legislative session.

"DISHONORABLE MENTION" awards will also be made to other elected public officials who have contributed significantly to the tyranny of big-government suppression. This category will include Judges, County Commissioners, Mayors, etc., etc.

Two of the current front-running candidates for the "SCREWBALL" award are: State Rep. Mary Brown (D) Kalamazoo, for her sponsorship of H.B. 4504, the "Parental Leave Act", which would force employers (and their customers) to shoulder some of the financial burden for individuals' choice to become parents, and Senator Jerome Hart, (D) Saginaw, for his proposed amendment to the "School Code of 1976" which would require that each student in the government schools be forced to perform 40 hours of community service work as a prerequisite for High School graduation.

Plans are for the "SCREWBALL" and "DISHONORABLE MENTION" awards to become a regular feature of the annual LPM state convention. Any additional nominations from LPer's throughout the state are encouraged. Fill out the nominating ballot below with your candidate "SCREWBALL" and send it to: LPM, 322 Millington Blvd., Bloomfield Hills, MI 48013. For consideration for the 1987 award, entries must be received no later than April 15, 1988.

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## SCREWBALL NOMINATING BALLOT

My nominee for the Screwball of the Year award for 1987 is:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Office: \_\_\_\_\_

Party: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Legislation: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief Statement in support of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

My nominee for Dishonorable Mention for 1987 is:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Office: \_\_\_\_\_

Party: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Decision, Regulation, etc: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief Statement in support of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Note: All nominees must be currently ladling from (and slopping at) the public trough. Private sector statists prohibited.



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