



# MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

July/Aug 1989

Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Michigan

Volume 16, Number 4

## I Love a Parade!

by Emily Salvette



Marcher Paul Salvette demonstrates the proper attitude towards the centerpiece of the LP parade contingent -- a tarred and feathered Tax Collector.

The Libertarian Party of Oakland County took first place honors in the Independence Day Parade held in Clarkston on July 4th. Oakland County Chair Doreen Wright along with Pete Hendrickson organized the parade appearance to bring the Libertarian anti-tax message to the event's 1000-plus spectators.

The unit of Libertarians were, for the most part, dressed in colonial costume and carried imitation flintlocks, a "Don't Tread On Me" flag and assorted signs. The central display was a tarred-and-feathered effigy of a tax man which elicited shouts and applause from the spectators. Reyn Hendrickson energetically worked the crowd to cheers with his sign, "Fire All Incumbents." Other signs such as "File 1040s in Boston Harbor," "Liberty Then, Liberty Now" and "Give Me Liberty or I'll Take It" were also appreciated by the audience.

Also participating in the event were the following Oakland County Libertarians: Dan Day, Karen Scarborough, Scott Scarborough, Emily Salvette and her 8 year old son Paul, and Tony Wright. Leading the group and sporting a "Born Free, Taxed to Death" sign was the Wrights' 5 year old nephew, David Narkus.

The Oakland County group was very pleased with the results of this effort and hopes to appear in the larger Clawson Parade next year. Being awarded first prize by a government agency (Independence Township Fire Department sponsored the parade) was a happy, if not ironic, surprise for the Libertarians. Exactly what they have won is still unknown.

Certainly, the most gratifying result was learning that

### State Treasurer Scalps Piston Tickets

by T. O'Brien

The City Council of Auburn Hills has voted 6-0 to charge Michigan State Treasurer Robert Bowman with scalping eight tickets to two Detroit Pistons NBA championship games.

The highly prized tickets were seized along with other property in a much publicized drug raid and forfeited to the state as part of the booty to help fund the "War on Drugs." Bowman conducted a telephone auction in what became a media circus just before the final games, getting a total of \$2,804 -- more than fourteen times the face value of the \$25 tickets.

"He's not entitled to make a profit from those tickets any more than you or I," said Auburn Hills Mayor

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# MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

Timothy J. O'Brien  
Editor

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## From The Editor...

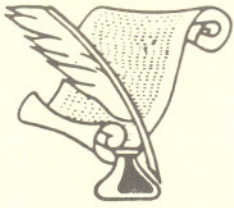
Tim O'Brien

Instead of my usual pontificating about the direction I believe our movement should take, I will be using this space to make two important announcements. But, before I do, I have to make one observation. The recent U.S. Supreme Court decision granting state governments the power to restrict women's opportunities to control their own bodies and making the conditions under which an abortion may be obtained a public rather than a private decision is, in my opinion, a travesty and a dark day in the struggle for individual rights (Ron Paul's opinion notwithstanding.) I sincerely hope that the LPM will show the same concern for each individual's personal beliefs in this intensely personal area that we did during the last election in supporting Proposal A (which eliminated state funding for abortions) by denouncing and actively working to reverse this despicable intrusion into people's private lives.

Now, for the announcements. First, beginning with this issue, *ML* will include a *Letters to the Editor* column. Those of you who have suggested a *Letters* column in the past know that I have resisted the idea for several reasons: the potential for soapbox denunciations of both the party and its activists; the inevitable charges of censorship when such counter-productive haranguing is deleted; the (to me) obvious fact that anything worthwhile could just as easily be said in an article or essay. Nevertheless, at the request of the LCC, we will begin including *Letters* in *ML*. So, if you have anything to say, now you'll have a convenient forum. Just remember the old observation, "Great minds discuss ideas, good minds discuss events, small minds discuss people."

Second, ending with this issue, I will be resigning as Editor of *Michigan Libertarian*. This move I announce with great sadness and regret. I assure all of you that my reasons are entirely personal and have nothing whatsoever to do with the operation of the LPM (including the new *Letters* column which was only requested and not forced on me by the LCC.) In fact, at the last LCC meeting funds to maintain the current quality standards of *ML* (out of an obviously limited budget) were authorized and a motion to set up "Prior Review" censorship of the newsletter was defeated by a more than 2 to 1 margin. I enthusiastically endorsed both Mr. Whitelock and Mr. Hampton for re-election as Chair and Treasurer respectively. Further, I believe Ms. Bellair to be an excellent addition as Secretary. While I did not support Ms. Cropsey's re-election as Vice Chair, neither did that occurrence have anything to do with my resignation as *ML* editor.

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## Letters to the Editor

Regarding Love & Marriage & The State by Dar Tisdale appearing in the May/June issue of *Michigan Libertarian*.

The Marriage License requirement has long been of interest to me, and through the years I have collected some historical documentation on several aspects of this issue.

In the article, Tisdale correctly identifies a license as a "legal sanction to do that which is otherwise prohibited." Marriage is a contractual agreement between two consenting individuals; it is not necessarily religious in nature. The state has no power to impair an individual's right to contract.

In the Federalist Papers #44, Madison states, "Bills of attainder, ex post facto laws, and laws impairing the obligation of contracts, are contrary to the first principles of the social compact and to every principle of sound legislation. The two former are expressly prohibited by the declarations prefixed to some of the State constitutions, and all of them are prohibited by the spirit and scope of these fundamental charters. Our own experience had taught us, nevertheless, that additional fences against these dangers ought not be omitted. Very properly, therefore, have the convention added this constitutional bulwark in favor of personal security and private rights."

And so, in the United States Constitution, Article 10, we find Madison's protection of the right to contract, just as put forth in his essay. This interpretation has been upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court. In *White vs Hart* (1871) 13 Wall 646; the Court held that contracts for the purchase price of slaves were to be enforced after the Emancipation, notwithstanding the provision in the State constitution that such debts should not be paid, for the constitutional provision of the State was a "law" which impaired the obligation of a contract which was legally valid.

It becomes clear that the State has no jurisdiction in the area of contracts between individuals. This brings me to the next question. What is the historical basis of the Marriage License? I went to Black's Law Dictionary and looked it up. The definition begins "A license or permission granted by public authority to persons who intend to intermarry." I looked up intermarry, it said "see Miscegenation." When I looked that up, Black's Law said "The interbreeding of what are presumed to be distinct human races,

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## LP County Meetings

### Oakland

The Libertarian Party of Oakland County will meet on Saturday, August 12 at 2:00 pm at the home of Andy and Jan Derader, 2964 Saturn Dr., Lake Orion. The house is north of Walden between Baldwin and Jocelyn. The phone is 391-1022. This is an important meeting as fall campaigns will be planned.

The LPOC is also planning a Garage Sale fundraiser for August 17-19 at the home of Tony and Doreen Wright. If you have items to donate or can help with set up (tables are also needed), please contact Doreen at 674-2523.

### Wayne

The Libertarian Party of Wayne County meets on the last Thursday of every month in room 111 at the Henry Ford Centennial Library in Dearborn.

For more information contact LPWC Chair Evy Warmbier at 562-6212.

### Washtenaw

The Libertarian Party of Washtenaw County meets every Thursday at Dominick's restaurant at 812 Monroe in Ann Arbor (across from the Law quad.) Dinner starts at 6:00 pm and the meeting promptly at 7:00pm.

For more information contact LPWsC Chair James Hudler at 475-9792.

## LPM Picnic!

The annual Libertarian Party of Michigan picnic will be held on July 30 at the home of Bob Stepanovich in Haslett beginning at 2:00 pm.

Bring along a swimsuit, your favorite dish to pass around and BYOB.

**Directions:** Take I-96 to the Williamston Road exit. Take Williamston Road north three miles past the town of Williamston to Haslett road. Go west 3 miles on Haslett to Shoeman road. Go north on Shoeman to the house. The address is 6116 Shoeman.

This is a good central location for our picnic, so let's have a big turnout.

## From The Chair...

Dick Whitelock

Elsewhere in this newsletter you'll read about the resignation of its editor, Tim O'Brien. I would like to thank Tim for his dedication and untold hours of hard work that have gone into the successful publication of the state newsletter for the past two years. Best of luck Tim in your future endeavors.

The search for a successor is already underway and I anticipate no delays or glitches in the publishing of future issues.

The following Letter to the Editor was published in the June 20th edition of the *Detroit News*: "Let's stop the hypocrisy! While our government is shouting cries of moral outrage and is condemning the Chinese leaders for the massacre at Tiananmen Square, it and the rest of the American people seem to have conveniently forgotten about the massacre at Kent State University.

The events are the same. Only the geographic location and numbers of dead are different. In both cases student demonstrators were brutalized and murdered by government troops.

Totalitarian government oppression of its people is no different whether its occurs in China or right here in the good old United States.

The people of this country should start looking at things in proper perspective."

This letter was signed by myself as State Chair of the LPM and, as a result, I've received several calls from irate citizens who fail to see the comparison between the Beijing and Kent State incidents. However, I stand firm on every word.

The innocent students at Kent State were called radicals, troublemakers, hooligans and thugs before U.S. government troops opened fire on them. Our government has referred to Chinese student protesters in Beijing as "hero's". Is there really a difference?

I view Kent State and Tiananmen Square as a dangerous parallel. And people should recognize the similarity of events for what they are: a refusal by totalitarian regimes to allow political protest against government power.

As a sidenote: it's interesting how the Chinese government conducts reprisals through their system of swift "justice." I'll bet they have no problems with prison overcrowding!

Another topic in today's headlines is George Bush's plea to make flag burning a federal offense. Since he wrapped himself in the flag on so many occasions during the presidential campaign, he is running true to form.

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Doreen Wright campaigning for Clarkston School Board.

## Doreen Wright Runs Active Campaign for School Board

*by Daniel L. Day*

Doreen Wright, Chairperson LP Oakland County, recently ran as a candidate for Clarkston School Board Trustee (a seven member board) in Independence Township. I was her campaign manager. (For those of you that do not know me, you may have seen me at the convention and mistaken me for Lee Atwater.) It was a non-partisan election for two open seats, contested by six candidates -- one incumbent -- in thirteen precincts, held on June 12. Also on the ballot were two proposals: 1) a request to override the Headlee Amendment and raise the millage from 36.6 to 38.8 mills; 2) a request for a \$68.8 million dollar bond issue to build and renovate educational facilities.

To deal with the Headlee override we decided to examine the board's proposed budget cuts -- a list of items in order of priority that would have to be cut if the override was defeated. Our goal was to eliminate as many cuts as possible using the principles of privatization, trimming waste, and voluntarism. After this analysis we ended up with a little over \$0.6 million in savings that we felt we could competently support in argument.

The bond issue was more difficult since most of the renovations were proposed to bring the facilities up to safety code standards (consider the chances of a candidate against safe schools), and the new buildings proposal was based on the hard numbers of a projected

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# Put a Libertarian into Lansing City Hall

Dale B. Dobberstein is off and running in the non-partisan race for 2nd ward city council seat in our state capital.

He overcame the first of three hurdles June 20th by submitting petitions containing the minimum 265 signatures needed to be placed on the August 8th primary ballot. Providing he receives enough votes (one of the top two candidates out of three contenders), he will proceed to the November 7th general election.

He is challenging the incumbent Alfreda Schmidt, a Republican, who has held the seat since 1981. She ran uncontested in 1985 receiving 4321 votes out of 5002 cast with 23,861 registered in the ward. Another contender is Agnes Pettway a black housewife with no previous political involvement.

"I figure it is technically feasible I can win this race," Dobberstein said. "The reason why I am a candidate is because this is the level of government that directly affects the people most. I see a trend against individual economic and civil liberties. This also provides a means to present Libertarian principles -- which obviously differentiates me from the other contenders."

His campaign concerns include crime, taxes and business regulation. He has contacted such groups as: Michigan News and Video Association Against Censorship; home and church schools; local NRA and NORML chapters; the South Lansing Business Association and neighborhood organizations.

"I've received positive responses from those I've contacted and will obtain their support," says the

perennial LP candidate.

Dobberstein's campaign received a boost from Jaz McKay, a local DJ on WMMQ, who declared himself a Libertarian on the air. A routine request, for the 4th year in a row, to obtain a Friday noon downtown concert permit was almost denied. The reason was because Schmidt and others consider McKay offensive and attempted to censor him.

Dobberstein spoke on behalf of McKay at council and committee meetings. He also conversed with McKay on the air live for 10 minutes explaining his campaign.

"My campaign slogan is BREATHE NEW LIFE INTO LANSING. The theme was hit upon while circulating petitions in response to those who said they were glad someone new is running."

"My campaign goal is to directly contact 5000 potential voters in targeted precincts with high voter registration but low voter turnout."

Dobberstein's campaign strategy includes: distributing and mailing 5000 pieces of literature, cultivating sympathetic group contacts and placing yard signs in high traffic zones.

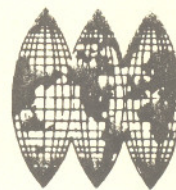
Dobberstein emphasizes, "I am confident I can win this race. I urge every Libertarian to support my campaign by sending a contribution and/or volunteering time."

Dobberstein can be contacted by writing: 916 W Cavanaugh #8, Lansing, MI 48910, or calling: (517) 394-4479.

## Macomb County LP News

Jack and Jill Watts addressed MEA lobbyists who were meeting with their state representative, Dave Jaye. Jaye said he would support neither sales tax increase. Jill told the lobbyists she would "prefer Dick Jacobs' voucher plan" to the CUT proposal Jaye is supporting. The Watts have petitioned for the Voter's Choice, the Part-Time Legislature, and the Blanchard and Serotkin recalls. Dave Weidner is starting a homeowner's association in his new subdivision. Homeowner's associations are a libertarian alternative to zoning -- providing voluntary, contractual methods for resolving competing property interests. Virginia Cropsey has collected half of the over 800 signatures she needs to run for Sterling Heights city council this fall. Voters seem glad to sign nominating petitions. Several have said, "We need more new people running." Incumbency may become a curse yet. Ron Burcham will run for Dennis Dutko's seat if Dutko

resigns. Like Jim Wright and Gary Hart, Dutko finds "giving up power is hard to do." If you'd like to pass out literature at summer events in Macomb, contact Virginia at 977-6628. A county picnic is being planned for later in the summer (Call 977-6628 for information on the picnic also).



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# LPM Throws Down the Gauntlet

A June 20 memo to the chairs of five other state LP's was sent by LPM Chair Dick Whitelock challenging the other states to a membership drive.

The memo said, in part:

The Libertarian Party of Michigan hereby issues the following challenge to the states of Florida, Illinois, New York, Pennsylvania and Texas to participate in a friendly membership contest.

It is suggested that each state organization wager a princely sum of barter which will be presented to the winner at the conclusion of the contest.

Michigan is prepared to wager a bushel of juicy, red apples against the same amount of Florida oranges, Texas grapefruit, New York grapes, Illinois cherries and a case of Hershey chocolate bars from Pennsylvania.

If it weren't in violation of Libertarian principles, Michigan would rather offer up James Blanchard, state governor of Michigan. But a few bushels of fruit and a box of candy are much more desirable than a democrat governor anyway.

According to the National LP, current membership status in the leading states are:

- #1 California, 1,707 members
- #2 Texas, 443 members
- #3 Pennsylvania, 352 members
- #4 New York, 323 members
- #5 Illinois, 277 members
- #6 Michigan, 260 members
- #7 Florida, 222 members

As reflected by the numbers, only 221 memberships separate #7 Florida from #2 Texas. While it is very possible to unseat California as #1, it's probably a bit unrealistic. Nevertheless, we in Michigan are prepared to make a valiant effort and we urge all of you to give it your best shot. The contest period will run from July 1, 1989 to February 28, 1990. The final tally of memberships will be decided by national headquarters. The state who increases its membership by the greatest percentage of new members during the contest period will be declared the winner.

This friendly rivalry is being proposed to attract more freedom lover's to the Libertarian movement. The REAL winners will be the

fight for liberty we're all engaged in and the hundreds or thousands of new members we are able to gain.

*[Editor's Note: I don't think that there is any single effort more important to the future of freedom than the nurturing and growth of the Libertarian party. It is the greatest missed opportunity I have ever witnessed that there was no LP when I first became politically active in the turbulent, anti-war, anti-draft, pro-individualism 60's. I firmly believe that it was only the lack of a libertarian alternative that turned that anti-government movement from it's freedom orientation to the blind alley of Marxism. We have a great heritage of liberty in this country that provides inspiration to us and lies dormant in the population at large. When the mood of the people once again swings in that direction the LP must be there to provide a philosophical home. I strongly urge everyone in the LPM to participate in this membership drive. Everyone in all six states (indeed, in the whole country) will come out winners.]*

## Paid Political ad

### Democracy Caucus

At the 1989 LPM convention the forces of monarchy, oligarchy and ignorance once again stopped efforts to get a LCC based on indirect majority rule (i.e. -- democracy -- 1 party member -- 1 vote on the LCC.)

Send your name and address to Tom Jones, 15336 Cruse, Detroit, MI 48227 if you want democracy in the LCC and LPM.

# "Perestroika on the Home Front"

9th Annual Libertarian Week Banquet Planned

by Jack Elder

The featured speaker at this year's banquet is fellow LPer, David L. Littmann, First Vice President and Senior Economist, Manufacturers National Bank of Detroit.

Mr. Littmann received his M.A. degree in economics from the University of Michigan in 1967. He also holds an M.S. degree from M.I.T., a B.A. degree from Antioch College, and completed a year of study at the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Mr. Littmann joined MNB of Detroit in 1970, is the author of the Bank's monthly business brochure entitled *Business Briefs*, and has developed a variety of business activity indexes for the regional economy along with a tourism index for the State of Michigan.

Mr. Littmann has authored several research articles on the causes of inflation, published in *Business Economics*, the professional journal of the National Assoc. of Business Economists. He writes a monthly business column appearing in *The Detrioter*, published by the Greater Detroit Chamber of Commerce. He is a frequent book reviewer and op-ed writer for the *Detroit News* and is a columnist and a regular commentator in other publications as well as local and national radio and TV media.

In 1986, Mr. Littmann was appointed to serve on the Economic Advisory Committee of the American Bankers Assoc. in Washington and to the external advisory committee of the Michigan Travel, Tourism and Recreation Resource Center in Lansing. He is an academic advisor to the Heartland Institute and is a senior policy analyst at the Mackinac Center for Public Policy.

Mr. Littmann is past president of the Detroit Chapter of the National Assoc. of Business Economists, a member of the Detroit Area Economic forum, and the Economic Club of Detroit. He served as a director of Nixdorff-Krein Industries located in St. Louis, Missouri, between 1982 and 1985 and was elected to the Bloomfield Hills School Board in 1982 where he



Mr. David L. Littmann

served as treasurer and vice-president until 1986.

Mr. Littmann gave the opening remarks at the Detroit Economic Club luncheon last September which featured Dr. Ron Paul, our 1988 Presidential Candidate.

This year's Banquet will be held at the Southfield Hotel & Convention Center on 9 mile road in Southfield. Tickets for the buffet style meal and speech are \$25 each or \$235 for a table of 10 and can be reserved by calling 1-800-343-1364.

Mr. Littmann's chosen topic is "Perestroika on the Home Front," which, in light of ongoing world events, promises to be interesting.

Mark your Calendars for Saturday, October 21 at the Southfield Convention Center.

## Campus Organizing to Begin

Imagine Libertarian student organizations on campuses around the state in time for next year's election! If you're a student who would like to start a group on your campus, or if you'd be willing to set up a literature table on a campus to find interested students, call Virginia Cropsey at (313)977-6628, or leave a message for her on 1-800-343-1364.

## From The Chair continued

The stars and stripes are supposed to represent all that is good in America: representative government, individual liberty, equal justice, and high ethical and moral standards.

When a government who represents the flag betrays all of those values by surrendering to the evils of individual power and greed and is more representative of wealthy special-interests than it is of the people, then it is they who have desecrated the flag and the values it stands for.

It is difficult to expect respect for the flag when the government it represents deserves little or no respect from the people.

## A Quiet Commitment

*[Editor's Note: The following story is reprinted from Illinois Libertarian. Mr. Stout has our admiration for his courage and our gratitude for his commitment to liberty. He will, of course, go on our list of Libertarian U.S. political prisoners and will be receiving complimentary copies of ML during his imprisonment. I urge all LPM members to write Mr. Stout to offer support and encouragement.]*

On January 19th of this year, Paul Stout, long-time libertarian activist, drove down to Terre Haute Federal Corrections Institution to start serving his three-year sentence for "Willful Failure to File" a tax return. This is the second time Mr. Stout has been convicted and jailed for this offense.

Paul Stout has a long history of quiet commitment to his libertarian beliefs. During World War II Paul refused to register for the draft and spent 18 months in a Michigan prison.

At the founding of the Illinois Libertarian Party Mr. Stout was the first person to run for office -- running for U.S. Congress in Du Page county.

Throughout the 70's and 80's Paul has been a steadfast tax resister. Despite spending time in prison in the early 80's for "Willful Failure to File," he has continued his unwavering commitment to freedom: five more years of tax resistance, and five more guilty counts for "Willful Failure."

This time he enters prison with heart trouble. Stout's attorney, Dennis Dougherty, has successfully had Paul's classification changed to #1 because of his health, so he could be eligible for parole in 8 months.

The fight has put a financial drain on Paul's family. Paul has an extensive library that he would like to sell to interested buyers. If you would like to help in this regard, contact his wife, Florence, at 150 N. Main St., Lombard, IL 60148.

If you would like to write Paul, his address is: Paul Stout, #84836-024, Terre Haute Federal Correctional Institution, P.O. Box 33, Terre Haute, IN 47808. I'm sure he would like to hear from all of us.

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### *I Love A Parade continued*

most people share the Libertarian view of taxes. As the husband of one participant noted, "the only group that got more applause than the Libertarians was the guy with the wheelbarrow and shovel following the horses." Bottom Line: People prefer no taxes and no shit.

## He Said What?

In September, 1986, Ronald and Nancy Reagan went on national television to ask the country to join them in urinating for the government, and giving up your freedom of privacy in the forlorn hope of a creating a drug free U.S. They closed the "show" by suggesting that President Abraham Lincoln would be proud of Americans for giving up their freedoms for this anti-drug cause.

Had Reagan or his speech writers actually bothered to check what Abraham Lincoln said about people in his day trying to prohibit choices and drugs they would have found this:

Prohibition will work great injury to the cause of temperance. It is a species of intemperance within itself, for it goes beyond the bounds of reason in that it attempts to control a man's appetite by legislation and makes a crime out of things that are not crimes. A Prohibition law strikes a blow at the very principles upon which our government was founded.

-- Abraham Lincoln  
December 18, 1840

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### *Scalper continued*

Robert Grusnick displaying typical statist contempt for the free market.

Bowman, suddenly finding himself on the receiving end of anti-capitalism, made no comment on hearing he could face the misdemeanor charge which carries a penalty of 90 days in jail or a \$500 fine. However, Treasury Department spokesman Robert Kolt issued a statement saying, "It's unbelievable that a community would take action to try to protect the legally seized property of a drug dealer." Kolt apparently considered it irrelevant that the individual from whom the tickets were stolen has not yet even been brought to trial, let alone convicted. "When that happens," he continued, "all honest taxpayers lose." *[Editor's Note: !?!?]*

Auburn Hills resident Clarence Bennett who pushed the issue at a city council meeting observed, "The idea that officers of the state can do things that citizens can't do is something that our founding fathers warned us against."

While libertarians obviously object to "scalping" laws, there is a wonderful irony in seeing them used against a fascist like Bowman -- it brings the same kind of warm glow one felt upon learning that Nixon had been caught by his own tape recorder.



# What Makes A Libertarian?

[Editor's Note: The article that follows is adapted from a presentation given by Susan Walker at a Metro Detroit Libertarians Supper Club. I have included the introduction of the speaker (given by yours truly) for background purposes. I have not included the question and answer segment due to space limitations. If you are interested in getting on the MDL mailing list call (313) 332-7834 or write to MDL at 322 Millington, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48013.]

INTRO: It's nice to see such a tremendous turnout here tonight for the program which I'm sure you are all familiar with and have been anxiously awaiting for some time now. Our guest speaker this evening is Susan Walker. Ms. Walker is a practising psychologist here in the metro Detroit area. She was born and raised in a libertarian family where, she tells me, they had Objectivist meetings when she was young. As I remarked to her, it's inspiring that we now have second generation libertarians. I guess that bodes well for us. Anyway, as her PhD dissertation Ms. Walker did a survey of individuals with differing political orientations in an attempt to determine what is the personality profile of a typical libertarian. She has a little bit longer title for that which I'm sure she will tell you when she comes up and speaks. But, she interviewed 20 Libertarians (I was one of those and I'm sure some of the other people in this room were also involved) as well as 20 Democrats and 20 people who considered themselves apolitical whom she labeled "Inactives." So, she wrote her PhD dissertation on this subject and she is here this evening to tell us what the results of that study were. Susan Walker...

Thank you. The title of my dissertation was *Separation/Individuation and Autonomy/Dependency Issues as Reflected in Libertarian Political Ideology*. And I'll explain what all that means shortly. But, first of all, I want to thank the local party for their support and enthusiasm throughout the project. And also I'd like to thank all of you who took part. I couldn't have completed the project without you. I really appreciated your time and your candid discussion of your lives.

What I'd like to do is briefly describe the research -- what I was looking for, how I went about it, what I did find and what I didn't find, and how you might be able to use this information not only personally but ultimately to broaden the base and membership in the Libertarian party.

Psychological theory suggests that there is a multiplicity of forces that affect the personal political decisions that we make. Rational, objective foundations, utilitarian gains or losses, perceived needs, social approval or disapproval, self approval or disapproval, conscious goals and unconscious goals are some of the factors that combine to create our personal political ideology.

In my research I focused on just one of these factors.

I looked at unconscious goals or those beliefs or feelings that we are unaware of, yet influence the political decisions that we make. I base my belief in unconscious motivations of this sort on my clinical training and on psychoanalytic theory and principles.

It is important to recognize that all psychological research has to have a theory as its backdrop. Although psychoanalytic theory is both comprehensive and

controversial, it is the one that I chose. It is in need of further research to substantiate its many basic assumptions -- one of which is the existence of the unconscious.

My understanding of libertarian ideology and Libertarian party principles is that the party is a political group made up of individuals who firmly believe in the independent, autonomous functioning of the individual. Adherents to this philosophy reject the role of the state as caretaker, decision maker, or responsible party. To the libertarian, it is the right of any individual to make any decision or exhibit any behavior as long as the rights of others are not infringed. So the ideology is based, at least in part, on the perceived needs of autonomy, freedom and personal self-control.

In contrast, the Democratic ideology is quite the opposite. The Democrat believes that a strong government must take responsibility for a major portion of our lives -- that individuals cannot live together autonomously. Democrats tend to endorse a platform which supports the strengthening of government in order to meet the needs of the people.

*Continued on page 10*

**Here is how 17 out of the 20 Libertarians that were interviewed described either one or both of their parents: "authoritarian, controlling, rigid, stubborn, inflexible, domineering, strict, physically or emotionally abusive, impatient, critical," and "detached." I think that this is astounding!**

## *What Makes A Libertarian? continued*

So this ideology is based in part on the perceived need for security and belonging. Where Libertarians emphasize independence, Democrats emphasize security.

Now, what is the wellspring of an ideology? All of you are unique individuals with widely varying backgrounds. What sort of psychological/developmental factors might contribute to your individual decisions to unite under one political ideology?

The first political sphere you all encountered was your family. As a child you were dependent. There is no way of getting around that. Those of you with children know that a child has dependency needs -- to be taken care of, to be nurtured, to be protected. However, a child also needs independence. For example, this is first seen during the time we call "the terrible twos." The child's need to say "no" is a way of asserting independence and separateness, to affirm control over his own life.

As we grow and develop and mature into adulthood, over and over we contend with the issue of simultaneously having these dependency needs that can only be satisfied through our interaction with others and our need for independence that can only be satisfied by asserting our own autonomy and individuality.

In the case of becoming a libertarian I hypothesized that, for many different reasons having to do with our relationships with our families when we were young, our dependency needs had to be consciously rejected -- that we had to say: "I will depend on no one. I will let no one take care of me. I have control over my own life." So that our dependency needs had to be repudiated and, instead, expressions of independence and self-reliance became particularly strong.

But, what happens to these dependency needs that we all have by virtue of being human? Do they just disappear? I don't believe so. Psychoanalytic theory hypothesizes that these repudiated, rejected needs take their place in a psychological structure that we call the unconscious. So, that is why I felt that certain psychological tests that were designed to reveal unconscious needs would show that libertarians have dependency needs of which they are not aware. I hoped to discover that if, in fact, this was the case, exactly why were these dependency needs rejected? What happened when we were young? What factors in our personal development might have contributed to their rejection?

In contrast, the Democratic ideology tells us that the government is responsible for taking care of certain needs of the people. I thought that the Democrats, then, would be aware of their own dependency needs

-- would maintain these needs consciously. So they would have less unconscious dependency needs revealed in the tests.

Now, let me tell you a little bit about my research design. First of all, I have to apologize to those of you with a hard science interest and a background in precision in scientific measurement. Psychology is a soft science, a social science. While we hold as our ideal scientific types of inquiry, we are restrained by the imprecision of our procedures in a field that is really only about 150 years old. In the past 75 years some major developments in the field of statistics have allowed us the ability to give numerical values to some psychological phenomena -- that is, to quantify human behavior.

The tests measure the operation of certain psychological processes inferred to be going on inside the subject. That means that, in the scientific sense, the tests will operationalize my hypotheses -- that is, they allow me to measure what I think is happening and then perform statistical analyses on the numbers that I get.

I don't want to bore you with details of how psychological tests are developed. Let me just say that, with varying degrees of thoroughness, they are administered to thousands of individuals and analyzed for certain tendencies in both personality and behavior.

When we test for unconscious motivations we run up against one of the most difficult aspects of psychological test development. We can never be completely certain that what we are measuring with this test really measures with adequate exactness what is going on inside the subject. Maybe when psychology has had a few hundred years to mull this over, methods can be developed to surmount this problem.

In any case, back to my design. I enlisted the help of three groups: Libertarians, Democrats, and people who were not associated with any political party that I called Inactives. There were 20 individuals in each of these three groups. Because differences in age, sex, marital status and socio-economic status might affect the data adversely, I matched all my subjects to each other from group to group. For example, if I had a Libertarian, single female age 25 in a particular socio-economic group, I matched her to a similar Democrat and Inactive.

Now, let me tell you about the tests. The first is called the *Inter-personal Dependency Inventory*, developed by Harrison Goth and colleagues at UCLA, and measures subjects' conscious self-perceptions of their autonomous, independent behavior in relation to others. It measures how we see ourselves. For example, there are statements like: "Disapproval by someone I care about is very painful to me," and, "Even when things go wrong, I can get along without asking for help from my friends." The subject then

*Continued on next page*

## *What Makes A Libertarian? continued*

selects a number from 1 to 4 indicating: "Very characteristic of me", through, "Quite characteristic", "Somewhat characteristic", to, "Not characteristic of me."

Second, a structured interview was administered which elicits information about current and past relationships and their autonomous/independent nature.

For example, questions were asked such as: "Describe your mother, Describe your father, Describe the relationships between you and your parents, Describe siblings, friends, courtship and marital relationships." Again, with the emphasis on the dependent or independent quality of those relationships.

Third, the famous "Inkblot" test, developed by Hermann Rorschach in the 30's, was used to check for the unconscious factors. The Rorschach can be scored in a number of ways and, I regret to say, that there is a scoring method available which later proved to be superior to the one which I chose for my research. But, one rule of research that is important to adhere to is to define your methods of observation before you observe. Had I simply chosen the more popular and better research method, my hypotheses might have received more support.

Anyway, we have a test of conscious report, an interview that quantifies inter-personal relationships, and a measure of unconscious motivations.

Now, let me remind you of what it was that I was looking for. On the conscious report (the *Inter-Personal Dependency Inventory*) I expected Libertarians to be significantly more assertive of their independence than Democrats or the Inactives. I thought that Libertarians would feel that they have more control over their lives and do not require input and guidance from others in order to make important decisions, whereas Democrats would seek input and guidance from others and find that input necessary in order to lead their lives. The interview would help gather all sorts of information having to do with inter-personal relationships while at the same time giving a score for comparison as to the degree of dependency expressed in those relationships. I felt that current Libertarian relationships would have a less dependent quality to them than the Democrat and the Inactive relationships. The Rorschach would give a score (I thought) indicating that Libertarians had greater unconscious dependency needs than the other two groups.

What I am focussing on and the theory underlying my hypothesis is that the relationship to parents in early life may be one contributor to the development of an ideology. Furthermore, I am saying that it is my belief that because of those early relationships, Libertarians had to push their dependency needs out of

consciousness in order to get along in life. Therefore, I hypothesized that, if this is a correct assumption, their dependency needs should be revealed on a test that is designed to detect needs that are not conscious.

Now that I've set the stage I can tell you what it is that I found out. First, as to the assertion of autonomy on the *Inter-Personal Dependency Inventory*, Libertarians were, in fact, significantly higher statistically in that category than the other groups.

So, lets start our sketch of the kind of person who is (or might be) interested in the party. The developers of this test tell us: "Individuals endorsing these items assert preferences for being alone and for independent behavior. They also express the conviction that their own self-esteem does not depend on the approval of others." In short, this sort of individual is indifferent to or, at least, independent of the evaluation of others. As you can see, this view of themselves -- how Libertarians perceive themselves -- is consistent with Libertarian ideology which strongly supports independent and autonomous functioning in relation to governmental agencies. Democrats and Inactives did not perceive themselves to be as autonomous or independent.

Now for the bad news. Fortunately, research degrees do not depend on having hypotheses confirmed. On the Rorschach test the three groups showed no significant differences in unconscious dependency needs. Although I will tell you that I believe that my hypothesis could be supported were I to have used the better scoring method. As a good researcher though, I must challenge you to recognize that my theory may be wrong -- that Libertarians have no variant level of unconscious dependency needs.

I said that I believe the scoring system misled me and now I'm going to present some data to support this view. First, I rescored the Rorschachs using the more popular Exner system. Interestingly, a number of trends emerged. The Inactive group tended to have less need for affiliation. If we think about this, it makes sense. The Inactives were not affiliated with any political group. They have less need to affiliate. They are less sensitive to their external environment, more "inner" oriented. The same scoring system showed Libertarians to be more responsive to their environment -- more aware and more concerned with what is going on around them. Indeed, the Libertarian scores show unconscious need for inter-personal contact, for affection and for dependency. Libertarians had a higher sensitivity to emotional experiences. Yet, they control the expression of emotion through the use of thought. The Democrats, when they were rescored, showed an external orientation, as well. They were also more aware and more concerned with what was going on around them. They evidenced the same kind of experiencing the world emotionally and are sensitive

*Continued on page 12*

## *What Makes A Libertarian? continued*

to emotional communications from others. However, they showed less ability to regulate their emotions. And, if we think of the stereotypical Democrat who is very effusive, this fits.

Libertarians are thinkers. Emotionally sensitive to the world yet, based on their conscious statements, they are unwilling to be controlled. Why is there this unwillingness, this staunch independence?

You will recall that I mentioned the interviews. Let me describe for you a remarkable difference that emerged in the three groups. Each subject was asked to describe their mother and father as well as the relationship between themselves and their parents. Here is how 17 out of the 20 Libertarians that were interviewed described either one or both of their parents: "authoritarian, controlling, rigid, stubborn, inflexible, domineering, strict, physically or emotionally abusive, impatient, critical," and "detached."

I think that this is astounding! Nearly every Libertarian had a relationship with a parent in which they felt unable to live up to the expectations of that parent and had to learn very quickly how to adapt in a very rigid and controlled environment. One theme that came through very strongly in these interviews was that being dependent -- being a child -- meant having no control over one's life with little room to experiment, explore or grow.

When I compared these remarkable aspects of the Libertarian interviews to the other groups, I found exactly what I might have expected. Only 5 out of the 20 Inactives had a relationship with a parent of this sort. Only 8 of the 20 Democrats were similar.

As I observed before (and as is clear to those of you who are parents) children are dependent. It appears at this point that Libertarians were children who were forced to find ways around dependence on a parent. To give in to the controlling rigidity of this relationship was a threat to the other side of the child -- the side that demands autonomy and the integrity of the self.

So, what is the sketch of the typical Libertarian? Libertarians are individuals who assert a preference for being alone and for independent behavior. They express the conviction that their own self-esteem does not depend on approval by others. They are independent of the evaluations of others in making decisions and choices in their lives. Libertarians are sensitive to the external world. They are sensitive emotionally. But they regulate the expression of emotion through the power of ideas. They grew up in households that attempted to control them and that threatened their independence. For them to depend on these parents meant to surrender. They reacted by asserting their autonomy and, thereby, rejected both that control and their own dependency. And rejected

it, I think, in all areas of life, especially politically as the ideology itself is a rejection of control by others. Nonetheless, the need for affiliation, for interdependence which we all have remains pronounced in Libertarians possibly because the rejection of control also meant a rejection of the fulfillment of those needs which can only be satisfied through relationships with other people.

The Libertarian party offers an opportunity to affiliate with other individuals who hold the autonomy of the self and independence in the highest esteem. One can simultaneously satisfy the need to affiliate while gratifying the need for independence. As you might have gathered, the Inactives and the Democrats were not very much like this.

Does this mean that only someone with this personality sketch, this sort of background, would come to find the Libertarian ideology? I think not.

For the Democrats and the Inactives, their home environments were ones in which there was much less control and rigidity. In fact, their homes may have been so permissive as to have lacked structure and support. This would explain why non-libertarians would be attracted to political platforms that emphasize security and structure. As adults they want boundaries, they want security, they want structure because as children they didn't have it. Just like the Libertarians who want autonomy and personal control because as children they did not have that.

To attract voters I feel that, based on what I've found, the Libertarian party must communicate how its platform reflects on these issues. Libertarians need to show those voters who would not find the party themselves through rational, objective thinking and/or the need to reject dependency and control how optimum security and structure are found in this set of political beliefs more so than in any other platform. Libertarian ideology needs to be communicated on two levels.

First, on a rational level which shows exactly how security and structure will be optimized under a political system of this sort. How will Libertarian principles make our natural environment more secure? Our community and our schools, our neighborhoods, our country and our world? When Libertarian principles are applied on local, state and national issues, exactly how will this create a safer and more secure world?

Second, Libertarian ideology needs to be communicated on an emotional level. People need to feel that they will be secure and that they will not be left all alone to cope with what might seem very frightening about freedom. Dismantling this and dismantling that government structure. What are you going to put in its place?

That's about all I have. I'll do my best to answer any questions.

**Doreen Wright continued**

population increase. There simply was not any alternative to choose from without offering the voters the concept of changing the entire government school system to a private system -- a proposition Doreen, as one member on a board of seven, would not have the authority to implement anyway. As a result we decided to criticize the fact that the board had rushed through the facilities review, and that other alternatives such as simply building add-ons to existing schools were not offered to the voters.

These, right or wrong, are the decisions we made. It should be noted that by the time of the League of Women Voters debate, May 23, three weeks later, we had come out strongly against the Headlee override, after learning that the voters were so tired of taxes that they did not care whether we had a plan or not.

Tactically we used four methods to reach the voters: 1) The shopworn lawnsign technique -- normally this involves hitting the voter over the head with a lawnsign while distributing campaign literature. We were more conservative, however, and placed seventy-five signs around the area concentrating on main roads, corners, and houses near the voting polls; 2) Handouts were distributed in every precinct; 3) In precincts with a traditionally high voter turnout we supplemented the handouts with door-to-door campaigning -- this is the most effective way to meet single females ... I mean the electorate... and learn about their concerns, earn their trust, and garner their votes, 4) We placed ads in the local newspapers -- we considered using "cheesecake" photos of Doreen holding the American flag but the pictures were of poor quality, a brilliant campaign idea that never developed.


Overall we accomplished our tactical campaign goals. Every precinct was hit with the handouts, the most important precincts were well covered door-to-door, the League of Women Voters debate was done competently, our ads were better than our competitor's, and we succeeded in planting two letters supporting Doreen's position in the letters to the editor in the local newsrags. On the other hand, the write-up in the *Oakland Press* voter's guide turned out poorly mainly due to an inexperienced reporter, and our written response to the *Clarkston News*, for their voters' guide, was competent but did not include enough details to help convey the fact that Doreen was in command of the issues -- a mistake made while trying to avoid answers bogged down with statistics.

Despite the fact that we outspent and outworked all of our competitors, and that Ms. Wright was the only candidate: 1) against the

Headlee override, 2) who had criticized the \$68.8 million dollar bond issue proposal, we still lost by over 700 votes - placing fifth with 12.8% of the vote (21% was first and second place).

The obvious question is "If we outspent and outworked our opponents and the voters agreed with us on the issues, why did we lose?" I intend to do a survey to find out the answer and will submit the results, for the enlightenment of others planning campaigns, to the next issue of the party newsletter.

What we have is a bunch of isolated bureaucrats who don't understand semiconductors or the economics of the semiconductor market deigning to create official government directives to control this market. This is far worse than the blind leading the blind. This is the blind forcing the sighted to follow whatever path the blind may choose, regardless of anything the sighted may have to say about it.  
-- Todd Greene in *Santa Clara Libertarian*

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# Snacilbuper and Starcomed

by Dick Whitelock

Since their interpretation of the proper role of government has been entirely backasswards from the beginning days of their political control, it's time that Libertarians started calling our opponents of the two older parties by their proper names ..... SNACILBUPER AND STARCOMED!

They've shredded the Constitution, the Bill of Rights and the Declaration of Independence. With their theme of bi-partisan political compromises and cooperation, they've abolished anything that faintly resembles a constitutional republic, individual liberties, freedom of choice, voluntary action or self-government.

They've replaced all of the mandates of the Constitution with force, intimidation, extortion, theft, subversive action meddling, invasions of privacy, spying, and many other forms of oppressive tyranny that can, in no way, be remotely considered as the fundamentals of a "free society."

snacilbupeR have portrayed themselves as the champions of free enterprise and a sound economic system. However, their record reflects exactly the opposite. Regulatory practices in the private-sector have established monopolies which benefit corporate giants and other big-business conglomerates and have decimated middle-American families.

starcomeD have promoted themselves as the friend of the little guy. Someone who could be trusted to look out for the working class and protect them from the evils of capitalism and the giants of big business. Their record, like that of the snacilbupeR, has contained dreadful consequences for all Americans. Higher taxes and a continual march toward the pitfalls of collective socialism have been their main objectives.

Working together in deceitful political harmony, the starcomeD and snacilbupeR have led the American people down a primrose path to economic and civil oblivion.

So let's start using the rightful descriptions of snacilbupeR and starcomeD at every opportunity. If we're successful in coining a couple of new "buzzwords" for the media to use, maybe the real intelligent voters will start considering the Libertarian alternative in future elections.

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## Re-live the LPM Convention

LPMer Sheryl Loux has both video and audio tapes of speakers at the May LPM convention in Southfield. If interested, contact Sheryl by writing her at 856 Farrell, Kalamazoo, MI 49007 or calling (616) 343-4737.

## Letters To The Editor *continued*

especially marriage between white and non-white persons."

A somewhat unusual definition of what a marriage license is for. This being the basis of the law, it is null and void, being an infringement of the 14th Amendment which states "All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of the law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

Sixteenth American Jurisprudence (Second Section, page 177) states "The general rule is that an unconstitutional statute, though having the form and name of law is in reality no law, but is wholly void and ineffective for any purpose; since unconstitutionality dates from the time of its enactment, and not merely from the date of the decision so branding it. An unconstitutional law, in legal contemplation, is as inoperative as if it had never been passed. Such a statute leaves the question that it purports to settle just as it would be had the statute not been enacted."

If that is the case, how did we all get hooked into assigning jurisdiction over our marriage contracts to the state? Our voluntarily opting into the state's contractual program makes us liable for all its rules, it gives "Friend of the Court" power over personal and monetary relationships between individuals.

The answer is obvious: don't purchase such a license. The only way the government can obligate you in this illegal, unconstitutional scam is if you volunteer. As they say, if you don't know what your rights are, you don't have any!

Lynn Bellair  
East Detroit

The LPM bylaws have the following fatal major defects -- no separation of powers between the executive officers and the legislative body (the LCC), no indirect majority rule in the LCC and no local independent judicial body to rule on the numerous alleged violations of the LPM's bylaws and LCC resolutions. The result is that the party is paralyzed (and has been since it began.) The basic goal of repealing statist laws is ignored due to petty ego games among the LPM's "leaders."

There seems to be a fundamental ignorance of the three forms of making policy (i.e. "party law") -- namely, by one person (monarchy), by a few (oligarchy) and by a majority (democracy). What the

*Continued on next page*

# Life in These United States

by T. O'Brien

## Phone Home

**Tennessee.** A Nashville City Councilman has introduced a bill calling for the city to build a landing pad for flying saucers.

The councilman argues that with all the *Welcome to Music City USA* signs around Nashville, creatures from outer space will arrive one day, find nowhere to land "and they'll go back and say we lied."

And, at least with respect to our politicians, they'll be right.

## Maybe They Could Bring Back Exorcisms

**Washington D.C.** In an 8-4 vote the City Council here has given preliminary approval to legislation that would hold handgun manufacturers financially liable for any injuries or deaths resulting from the use of their products. The new law -- the first of its kind anywhere in the U.S. -- will make the manufacturer absolutely liable regardless of how the product is used or misused, no matter who, if anyone, is at fault.

Where will the quest to blame inanimate objects for our social problems finally end? Perhaps, the anti-drunk driving forces have been less than successful in their efforts simply because they are taking the wrong approach. Instead of pressuring our legal system to hold responsible individuals who cause accidents, injury and death when driving while intoxicated, perhaps they should be targeting Ford, Chrysler and General Motors for manufacturing the vehicles which actually do the damage.

## WIZARD OF ID



## Letters To The Editor continued

LPM has is an oligarchy (something approaching the red Chinese oligarchy) making policy.

The LCC should exist only because all party members can not assemble in person and enact resolutions by majority rule. The bylaws remedy is a LCC proportional representation system wherein a party member in effect gives his/her vote to a LCC member (as in many corporations wherein stockholders give their proxies to members of the corporation's board of directors.) The other obvious bylaws remedies are removing the executive officers from the LCC and creating an independent LPM court.

-- Tom Jones  
Detroit

## From The Editor continued

There are four people I would like to especially thank for their help and support over the last two years and without whom *ML* would not have been the publication it is. First, Dave Hunt, who did a lot of the tedious, thankless production work that is essential to putting out a quality newsletter on schedule. Second, Diane O'Brien and *Print Ready Graphics*, (yes, she is my ex-wife) who did the layout and typesetting at a fraction of what such services normally cost and was responsible, more than anyone else, for the professional look of *ML*. Next, Dale Haviland and *Haviland Printing*, who always provided a top-notch printing job for a good deal less than market printing rates and did so within a time-frame that would have made other printers laugh. And, finally, Emily Salvette, who handled the administrative functions of the newsletter and who folded, labeled and organized *ML* for distribution (and is bright enough to know her way through the arcane procedures of the U.S.P.S.)

It has been both a privilege and an honor to serve the cause of freedom in our time in this vital capacity for the LPM over the last two years. And, of course, I will always remain a staunch libertarian. If the present circumstances (which are, unfortunately, entirely beyond my control) should change and I once again find myself in a position to resume editorship of *ML*, I

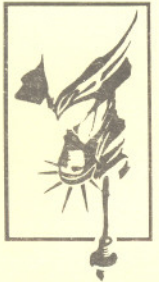
will undoubtedly ask for that opportunity. Until that day I thank everyone in the LPM for their efforts on behalf of liberty and for their friendship with me.

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