



MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

NEWSLETTER OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF MICHIGAN

MAY/JUNE 1991

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THE PARTY CONTINUES -- LPM CONVENES IN LANSING

Reported by Brian Wright

Michigan's finest assembled at the Harley Hotel in Lansing, April 12-14, for the Libertarian Party of Michigan's annual state convention. In addition to selecting officers and delegates to the national LP Presidential Nominating Convention in Chicago (August 28-September 1), the Party hosted several important guests.

On Friday night--billed as the "Sex, Drugs, and Rock 'n' Roll" evening--Bruce Cain of New Age Patriots started things off by discussing the benefits of relegalizing marijuana and getting the state out of our pharmaceutical choices in general.

Following Bruce, Norma Jean Almodovar, former LA cop and call girl who was imprisoned for three years by the state of California for the alleged crime of pandering, spoke on the ludicrous effects of laws abridging sexual freedom. In fact, her prison term stemmed from vicious entrapment by the LAPD who feared publication of an expose she was writing on the department. (Too bad she didn't have a videocamera!)

Norma Jean is a member of the LP of California, has run for lieutenant governor, and appears on national and local talk shows frequently. She has obtained a publisher for her book and seemed optimistic it would be out in time for the National Convention. After her speech, Detroit Free Press political writer Dawson Bell interviewed her with a journalistically uncommon earnestness.

Friday evening was rounded out by, you guessed it, some old-time rock and roll furnished by Spanking Bozo. What the party lacked in attendance--a full legally viable contingent of libertarians would not arrive until the next evening--the band and a handful of faithful rockers made up for with enthusiasm.

Business took over Saturday morning. Bylaws went relatively smoothly except for some, possibly gratuitous, yelling
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LIBERTARIANS COMPETE IN ANN ARBOR ELECTIONS

Reported by Emily Hopp Salvette

Ann Arbor Libertarians achieved good results in their mayoral and city council campaigns which culminated in the city election held (most appropriately) on April Fool's Day. Not only did we increase our vote totals, but also recruited several new activists, got experience using cable access as a campaign tool, and generated more names for our mailing list.

David Raaflaub, candidate for mayor, received 375 votes (1.8% of total cast) which almost doubled the number of votes for the last Libertarian mayoral candidate. David, who has been dubbed "the golden mouth" by his libertarian cohorts, charmed audiences and challengers alike with his quick wit and sense of humor. David added rationality and common sense to the bizarre rhetoric common to campaigns in "the people's republic of Ann Arbor", and he was the clear winner in every mayoral forum he attended.

David stressed the need for lower taxes and less government in Ann Arbor. He was the only mayoral candidate to consistently denounce the ballot proposal to increase taxes for a new senior citizen's center. That proposal was defeated 10,895 to 8,433 so David represents almost 11,000 citizens in this city who are concerned about their ever increasing tax burden. David plans to continue with his anti-tax effort by circulating petitions to have a 6 mil property tax reduction put on the next ballot.

In the city council races, Emily Hopp Salvette, David Damroze, and Lou Hayward all made respectable showings. Lou, who was running his first campaign for public office, garnered 124 votes (2.6 % of total votes cast in his Fourth Ward race. Emily Hopp Salvette in the Second Ward and David Damroze in the Third were both in four-way races; they faced not only Republicans and Democrats but also Greens (running as independents). Emily received 82 votes (2.2%), and David 80 votes (1.9%).

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF MICHIGAN

The Libertarian Party of Michigan is a statewide organization of individuals dedicated to the preservation of individual rights and the advancement of freedom through political action and education.

OFFICERS

Chair: Dale Dobberstein
 Vice Chair: James Hudler
 Secretary: Jon Addiss
 Treasurer: Jeffery Hampton

CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Voting

Power

7	Ben Bachrach	2	Charles Hahn
5	Keith Edwards	2	James McAbee
5	Tim Schrodel	2	Brian Wright
4	David Gillie	1	Gary Bradley
4	William Shotey	1	Thomas Jones
3	David Raaflaub		

JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

William Hall
 Timothy O'Brien
 Donald Warmbier

MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

Benjamin I. Bachrach, Editor
 Editorial Office:
 604 N. Vernon
 Dearborn, MI 48128-1553

The Michigan Libertarian is published as the official newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Michigan.

Photographs and articles submitted for publication are welcome. Text should be typewritten double-spaced and signed, or preferably submitted on an IBM compatible disk in a file format readable by WordPerfect.

Advertising is available at \$3 per column inch for camera-ready copy.

Copy deadline is the 30th of each month. Send articles to the Editorial Office listed above.

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Ben Bachrach, Chair
 William Shotey
 Brian Wright
 additional volunteers welcome

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

Dale B. Dobberstein, LPM Chair

The convention was a good indication that the party is not over. The Libertarian Party is on the verge of a breakthrough. The tide is turning away from big government.

Better than 60% of those eligible to vote are dissatisfied with the two major parties. There are anti-tax and anti-drug war protest groups. Small business and educational choice groups are also organized against intrusion into everyone's economic and civil liberties. The majority are seeking a party that best represents their interests because they have had enough. The party has an opportunity to make major inroads should we focus our efforts and funds toward outreach to the above groups.

I'd like to propose AIM 92 a strategy for growth.

A short term goal is to cultivate our contacts from 2,500 names to 10,000 by 1992. A long term goal is to build to 100,000 to make an impact and eventually 1,000,000 to win statewide elections. We have a pool of supporters with over 79,000 votes cast for Mary Ruwart in 1990. Let's get in touch with them.

Another goal is to generate revenues to meet our current minimum budget of \$6,000 - \$12,000 by 1992. Eventually increase our budget to \$25,000 - \$50,000.

I encourage regional activism such as Metro-Detroit, Washtenaw and Mid-Michigan groups. This is the most effective means to keep up with area concerns and contacts.

I look forward to being your chair for the next year. I can not do all the work myself, but with your cooperation together we can make an impact in 1992. I welcome any comments and suggestions, so please contact me.

Dale Dobberstein
 916 W. Cavanaugh, #8
 Lansing, MI 48910
 (517) 394-4479

EDITORIAL

What's an engineer like me doing editing a newsletter?

1. I saw a need, and decided to fill it.
2. I wanted to prove that anyone can be a newsletter editor.
3. Since we don't need to collect signatures to get on the ballot I've got nothing else to do.

The reason is not important. So too with you. For whatever reason, find a way to get active, and do it.

LPM CONVENTION

(continued from page one)

and screaming from your faithful correspondent. Responding to concerns over unintended supermajorities residing in small numbers of individuals, the committee arranged an at-large/district proportional representation system that, in the end (i.e. following the voting for Libertarian Central Committee (LCC) on Sunday), left the Party's immense power relatively well-dispersed among the standard-bearers.

Former LP vice-presidential candidate Jim Lewis, who is currently working as Andre Marrou's campaign manager, delivered the keynote speech.

Mary Ruwart, the LPM's top vote-getter in 1990 (retaining the LPM's ballot status with a comfortable margin) joined Teach Michigan's President Dr. Paul DeWeese in a panel discussion on new initiatives in education, specifically supporting the program of Teach Michigan that would provide tuition certificates to enable children to attend schools of choice. An initiative petition is in the works.

The afternoon also presented a panel discussion with members of the Green Party on environmental policy. It looked good from the outset, with the first Green speaker, Brian Chambers, announcing they don't like the state any better than we do. Mike Evans was the other representative of the Green Party. Prof. Charles VanEaton from Hillsdale College and Michael Mills of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce argued the libertarian case, essentially from practical contemporary economics. The points of departure appeared, however, to be cultural and structural in a political sense. The question period was lively.

The banquet was addressed by Andre Marrou. Andre was Ron Paul's running mate in 1988, and has served as a Libertarian legislator in Alaska. He is seeking the presidential nomination from the Libertarian Party. The other announced candidate is Dick Boddie, who was represented video-wise after the banquet.

Pool partying and hospitality suiting formed the activity framework for the remainder of the evening. Some wandered off to drink beer and discuss philosophy and other arcane matters of the movement in various quarters of the hotel. The bar was okay, but deserted except for the singer and a couple of her friends.

Finally, the main business of the convention: election of LCC, party officers, and delegates to the national convention. The following individuals were chosen:

Chair	Dale Dobberstein
Vice Chair	James Hudler
Secretary	Jon Addiss
Treasurer	Jeff Hampton

For LCC, the body selected the following:

Name	% Voting Power
Ben Bachrach	19.4
Keith Edwards	13.9
Tim Schrodel	13.9
Bill Shotey	11.1
David Gillie	11.1
Dave Raaflaub	8.3
Brian Wright	5.5
Jim McAbee	5.5
Charles Hahn	5.5
Tom Jones	2.8
Gary Bradley	2.8

And, finally, delegates to the National Convention:

Dale Dobberstein	Dave Raaflaub
Tom Jones	Jim McAbee
Anna McAbee	Mary Ruwart
Brian Wright	Tim O'Brien
Dick Whitelock	Jon Addiss
Gary Bradley	Bill Hall
James Hudler	Tim Schrodel
David Gillie	Keith Edwards
Emily Salvette	

Denise Kline was elected to the National Platform Committee.

The last item of convention business was unanimous approval of a resolution instigated by Charles Congdon and written by Brian Wright. It reads as follows:

Because: People are most prosperous and content when they are allowed to run their own lives, the elimination of state intervention in the economy is a worthwhile social objective, and

Whereas: Governor John Engler and the current Republican administration have taken positive steps toward reducing the illegitimate role of government in their economic lives and privatizing otherwise valid services,

Therefore: The Libertarian Party of Michigan hereby congratulates the Engler administration on the minimal, tentative steps it has taken thus far toward freeing up the system, and encourages it to continue along this rewarding path. The LPM further insists that freedom is indivisible and challenges the governor to help complete the Michigan Revolution by disengaging the coercive apparatus of the state from our personal lives.

Attendance at the convention reached 55 at the banquet, and everyone was impressed with how well the entire convention was managed. Good work, Dale.

TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION SPONSORS TERM LIMITATION

Reported by Brian Wright

Under a petition campaign planned by the Taxpayers Association of Michigan (TAM), voters would have a chance to limit the number of terms lawmakers serve in Congress and the state legislature. TAM leader Dick Jacobs announced that citizen groups will begin enlisting 5,000 volunteers to gather 500,000 signatures by late May or early June to put the proposal on the ballot.

The proposal would limit the state house of representatives to two three year terms and the state senate to two four-year terms. Michigan members of the US House of Representatives would be limited to any six years, or three terms, in a 12-year period. For senators, the limit would be 12 years, or two terms, in a 24-year period.

The limits would take effect for anyone elected after January 1, 1993. Brad Wittman, spokesman for the state elections division, said 256,457 valid signatures are required to place the issue on the 1992 ballot.

Libertarians have differing opinions on the validity of term limitation for constraining government power, but few dispute that the gangs in Lansing and Washington are nearly universal in their condemnation of it. On that basis, it can't be all bad.

Kickoff of the state issue petition campaign is scheduled for May 15. Eric O'Keefe of the Washington D.C. organization Citizens for Congressional Reform has estimated at least 100,000 petitions will be needed to be printed.

To discover how to help and for more information, contact:
Taxpayers Association of Michigan
P.O. Box 1797
Holland, Michigan 49422-1797

DICK WHITELOCK PRESENTS ANNUAL SCREW BALL AWARDS

At the LPM Convention, Dick Whitelock, former LPM Chair, reported that the 1990 Screw Ball of the Year awards went to Representative Dominic Jacobetti and Senator George Hart.

Mr. Jacobetti was perhaps the most strident supporter of the legislators' pay raise.

George Hart introduced possibly the most important piece of legislation. A law requiring "truth in lip syncing notices" wherever musical concert tickets are sold.

PARTY PERSPECTIVE

by Keith Edwards

As retiring state Party Chair, I'd like to review the past year and offer some thoughts about the future.

The 1990-91 year was a mixed bag. On the negative side, half a dozen people declined to take over the newsletter so it was not published. Nothing comes from nothing. This contributed to our decline in membership. The Feds spent the last year harassing and threatening nearly a dozen libertarians over the Royal Oak Post Office letter-bombing on tax protest day instead of looking for the real culprit. This caused much misery and dissension among those affected.

On the bright side, our Convention in Lansing April 12-14 was the most harmonious in nearly a decade. Everyone pulled together without power struggles, antagonism or paranoia and left feeling positive. It was a pleasure to preside with that spirit so apparent. The bulk of the seemingly endless bylaws revision has been accomplished with a minimum of dissent. Ben Bachrach has revived the newsletter.

Our main thrust now that internal reform is complete has to be outreach and there are two areas that need to be covered.

One is a college recruiting campaign. That is the peak intellectual period for most people and we should visit, recruit and organize as many colleges as possible. We could help students organize libertarian clubs, hold seminars and provide speakers, teach parliamentary procedure to prepare them for party activity and possible future office-holding.

We also need to start and maintain local libertarian organizations, beyond the Metro Libertarian type of function. The Washtenaw group has done some fine work with a minimum of rigid organization, but they meet weekly on a casual format and plan activities. County organizations do not have to be stiff and formal, but they should meet at least monthly, not just get a phone call when there is work to do.

So come on Oakland, Macomb, Wayne, Grand Rapids etc., get organized (sort of) and let us know what you're doing.

NEWS WANTED

News items and articles wanted for the Michigan Libertarian. Send to Ben Bachrach at Editorial Office. See Masthead for details.

CALENDAR

Everyday

Ask someone to join the Libertarian Party of Michigan.
Copy the last page of this newsletter or have them call our
inquiry number: 1-800-343-1364

Every Thursday Night

Washtenaw Libertarians Dinner Meeting
Contact: James Hudler
17165 Fahrner Rd, Chelsea, MI 48118
313-475-9792

May 20, 1991 - 6:30pm

Metro-Detroit Libertarians Supper Club
Zim's Restaurant - Lake Orion, MI
Guest Speaker, Jim Houston,
American Freedom Movement
Contact: Karen Scarboro 313-634-7560

May 30, 1991

Deadline for Michigan Libertarian Newsletter submissions
for June/July issue.

June 2, 1991 - 1:00pm

Libertarian Central Committee Meets at
Ben Bachrach's 604 N. Vernon, Dearborn, MI 48128
313-563-1558 for information

June 21-23, 1991

Women in Libertarianism Conference
University Park Holiday Inn, Ft. Collins, CO
303-484-8184

June 30, 1991

Deadline for Michigan Libertarian Newsletter submissions
for July/August issue.

July 17 - 20, 1991

Ann Arbor Art Fair
Libertarian Outreach Booth
Contact: James Hudler
17165 Fahrner Rd, Chelsea, MI 48118
313-475-9792

August 4, 1991

LPM Picnic - Jackson Michigan
Contact: James Hudler
17165 Fahrner Rd, Chelsea, MI 48118
313-475-9792

August 29 - September 1, 1991

1991 Presidential Nominating Convention
National Libertarian Party
Downtown Chicago Marriot Hotel
for info:
Liberty Triumphant
P.O. Box 0848
Chicago, IL 60690
708-475-0391
Watch for C-Span coverage.

OUTREACH ALTERNATIVES

As space permits organizations and individuals will be listed here if
requested by an LPM member. Listing does not indicate support by the
Libertarian Party of Michigan

Libertarian National Headquarters

15528 Pennsylvania Ave. SE
Washington, DC 20003
202-543-1988
1-800-682-1776 (New Member Information Only)

Heartland Institute

100 Renaissance Center, 6th Floor
Detroit, MI 48243
313-222-4568

TEACH Michigan Education Fund

P.O. Box 11008
Lansing, MI 48901
517-482-3230

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

note: letters are edited for size

A Call for an LPM Issue Petition

Michigan is one state in which the electors have the power
to propose and enact constitutional amendments by elector
signed petitions. As a result of doing various petitions
(even though they failed to pass) the Tisch Independent
Citizens Party will be a "major" political party in 1992. If
the LPM is going to have any "real" influence on repealing
statist laws and enacting minimal libertarian laws, it should
do an issue petition.

Among the subjects I would suggest are - voting on all
taxes (or prohibiting certain types of taxes), voting on the
compensation of elected officers, equal ballot access and/or
proportional representation in all legislative bodies.

The failure to do an issue petition is a major reason the
LPM barely survives from election to election.

Tom Jones
Detroit, MI

Libertarian Party Membership

_____ \$25 Combined Michigan and National Member

**DON'T DELAY
JOIN TODAY**

_____ \$15 Michigan Member Only

_____ \$15 **Michigan Libertarian** newsletter subscription only

\$ _____ Additional donation for operating fund (dues cover less than one-half of the operating budget)

_____ I want to join the Pledge Program. Please send me the registration material.

Note: All memberships include the LPM newsletter. National memberships includes a subscription to Libertarian Party News. Make checks payable: Libertarian Party of Michigan

GOVERNMENT MANDATED NOTICES: The United States Postal Service requires that we notify you that the cost of newsletter subscriptions (\$25 national, \$15 Michigan) are included in your membership dues. The Internal Revenue Service requires that we print "contributions are not tax-deductible".

Name: _____

Address: _____

County: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send to:
Libertarian Party of Michigan
11700 Merriman Road
Livonia, MI 48150

Telephone: Day _____ Evening _____

Applications for membership must indicate concurrence with the following statement by signing below.
"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 _____



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