



MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

NEWSLETTER OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF MICHIGAN

JUNE/JULY 1991

VOLUME BIB1, NUMBER 2

THE PARTY CONTINUES -- MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE FORMED

Under the leadership of LCC representative Bill Shotey, a group of individuals have begun to work on increasing LPM membership. A kick off meeting was held June 2 in Dearborn. Committee members will be contacting all former members in their areas to invite them to renew. After this important first phase, the group will begin outreach activities. Anyone interested is encouraged to contact Bill Shotey. His address is listed on page 5. To date the following have agreed to work on the membership committee:

- Charles Congdon - Midland
- Dale Dobberstein - Lansing
- Keith P. Edwards - St Clair Shores
- David Gillie - Mount Morris
- Charles Hahn - Pleasant Ridge
- Nick Hamilton - Traverse City
- Jeff Hampton - Northville
- Sheryl Loux - Kalamazoo
- James McAbee - Romeo
- Tim Schrodel - Ann Arbor
- Bill Shotey - Dearborn

OTHER COMMITTEES GETTING ACTIVE

LPM Treasurer, Jeff Hampton is looking for a coordinator of the Pledge Program. Anyone interested should contact Jeff - see page 5.

LPM Chair, Dale Dobberstein is looking for a Metro-Detroit resident to Chair the LPM Week Banquet currently planned for October, 1991. Jeff Hampton, and Ben Bachrach have agreed to serve on the committee.

LPM Vice-Chair, James Hudler, has agreed to chair the Candidates Committee. The committee will be working to help Michigan have a qualified list of Libertarian candidates for the general election in November, 1992. James would like to have at least one committee member from each of the major counties in Michigan. Those interested should contact James - see page 5.

DALE DOBBERSTEIN ON AUGUST 6th BALLOT FOR LANSING CITY COUNCIL

Dale Bryon Dobberstein is off and running in his second race for Lansing City Council. He submitted 1000 signatures to be placed on the August 6, 1991 primary ballot.

In 1989, Dobberstein missed going on to the general election by only 12 votes.

This year he challenges two incumbents who were appointed to fill vacancies. Dobberstein says the residents didn't have the opportunity to elect their representatives. Instead, they got more of the same. Dobberstein claims, "The people of Lansing need someone on the council who will just say NO to tax increases and excessive ordinances."

The council has passed a barrage of laws dictating to property owners and consenting individuals, states Dobberstein. He continues, that more than 75% of the budget goes into the pockets of bureaucrats. The taxpayers of Lansing are literally getting ripped off to support this bloated bureaucracy.

Dobberstein supports privatization of most city services. He says, "The community would benefit from improved quality and reduced costs. The people would be in control of performance rather than held hostage by a public monopoly."

Dobberstein disapproves of the mandatory public recycling program. He says, "It is imperative that we turn trash into treasure, but the way this was rammed down our throats it will create more problems than it will solve."

In 1990, Dobberstein headed a recall drive to remove the mayor and four council members because they approved a 0.5 mil property increase. He explains that it fizzled because voters approved of two proposals that would increase property taxes from one to three mils, plus Sid Worthington resigned.

(continued on page five)

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 Schrodell	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.

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 \$5 per column inch for camera-ready copy.

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Ben Bachrach, Chair
 Bill Shotey
 Brian Wright
 additional volunteers welcome

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE - PART 2

Dale B. Dobberstein, LPM Chair

The Republican Party offers a New World Order which should frighten everyone. The Democratic Party offers a "New Choice" which is the same message in a different package. The Libertarian Party offers a positive alternative which will benefit everyone.

Last year's problems were symptoms of growing pains. We are experiencing them because we challenge a well entrenched status quo. However, the convention demonstrated that the spirit of freedom is alive and well in Michigan.

Last issue I proposed AIM 92 - a practical strategy for growth based on realistic expectations. The following are suggestions on how we can revitalize the Party.

- We can write letters to the editor presenting Libertarian perspectives on current issues.
- We can speak at public hearings before city councils or county boards addressing local concerns.
- We can be candidates for state house, US congress, or local offices. We can run active or paper campaigns. This will provide exposure with surveys, forums and media.

What it boils down to is for real Libertarians to come forward and put their time and money where their mouth is. We can go beyond just the 1% to maintain ballot status. We can AIM for 3-5% of the vote to make an impact. This would require an active outreach to contact 500,000 potential voters.

One way to significantly boost this party is to end the debate on matching funds. We have been struggling for 20 years and we barely scrape up 1% of the vote. We challenge two monolithic parties who have no qualms about accepting matching funds. This would be a minor compromise considering our stance on the major issues such as the drug war, education and taxes. It does us no good if we are unable to get our message out because of blatant media discrimination.

I question the objective of so called "purists". Is it to move the party forward or is it to keep the party stagnate which would make the two major parties quite happy? Would they raise the funds lost by not accepting matching funds? If anyone would drop out to join either of the two major parties then they would just blow away their "principles".

1992 is a turning point for the state, nation and the world. If this party does not gain momentum then everyone's life, liberty and happiness will be greatly jeopardized. We are the only party that presents peace and prosperity for all.

MARY GINGELL ANNOUNCES CAMPAIGN FOR NATIONAL LP CHAIR

Los Altos, CA -- Libertarian Party Vice Chair Mary Gingell announced she will seek the office of National Chair at the LP National Convention in Chicago Labor Day weekend.

"If our country is going to advance to liberty, Libertarians must organize for liberty, educate for liberty, and campaign for liberty," Gingell says. "We must have specific plans to strengthen the party's organization, our education of our members and the public, and our campaigns."

A graduate of University of Virginia, Gingell worked for Arthur Andersen, in Houston, Texas, from 1977-79. During this time she became a Certified Public Accountant. She then attended Harvard Business School, earning a Masters in Business Administration.

She worked for the Southern Pacific Transportation Company from 1981-86, where she was Manager, Commute Services, overseeing local passenger operations with an annual budget of \$ 20 million. Gingell, her husband, Bill Evers, and their two children, Daniel (4 1/2) and Pamela (3) currently live in Los Altos, California.

ANN ARBOR ART FAIR:

Reported by James L. Hudler

The Washtenaw Libertarian Party and the Ann Arbor Libertarian League will once again sponsor a literature and information booth at the Ann Arbor Fair, July 24 - 27, 1991. This Art Fair is the largest such event in the Midwest and draws over one million people.

The libertarians in the Ann Arbor area have been staffing booths at the Art Fair for over 15 years.

Last year, the Libertarian Art Fair booth distributed over 500 pieces of literature and gathered over 100 names for the LPM and A²L² mailing lists. Tim Schrodel, our new teenage activist and LCC representative from Ann Arbor, found out about the Libertarian Party and the philosophy at last year's Art Fair.

Volunteers are needed to staff the Art Fair booth and/or a number of small donations in order to pay for the booth space and literature. If you want to help staff the booth please telephone James Hudler 313-475-9792 or Tim Schrodel 313-663-6346. If you would like to donate money to the Art Fair booth project: please make checks payable to the Washtenaw County Libertarian Party and mail to: Washtenaw County Libertarian Party, P.O. Box 447, Chelsea, MI 48118.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

note: letters are edited for size

Clarification Requested

In the next issue of the Michigan Libertarian could you explain how the "voting power" is determined for the Libertarian Central Committee.

Mark Antieu
Royal Oak, MI

As more fully detailed in the Party By-Laws, the LCC voting power is determined by a proportional representation scheme designed to give all members a voice in the legislative branch of the Party.

Michigan is divided into two districts with roughly equal numbers of LPM members in each district. At the convention each district elects up to four members to the LCC by the convention delegates rank ordering their choices. After the district elections, up to four representatives are elected at large. The voting power of a representative is equal to the number of votes received.

The procedure was proposed by Tom Jones, and is being refined over time. The system is novel to most Americans, and is hard to understand at first. By adopting this method for ourselves we are learning how the system works, and will be in a better position to recommend it to the public at large. Many LPM members believe that the "winner takes all" approached currently used by most political units in the United States needs to be reformed. If Michigan followed the multi-member district proportional representation method, Libertarians would have at least a small voice in the Michigan legislature today.

DAVE BING NAMED CO-CHAIRMAN OF TEACH MICHIGAN EDUCATION FUND.

Mr. Dave Bing, former Detroit Piston All-Star and now prominent Detroit businessman accepted an invitation to become one of two active state co-chairmen of the TEACH Michigan Education Fund.

In accepting the position Mr. Bing said, "I have come to the inescapable conclusion that the only way of attaining a quality educational environment - to produce men and women with marketable skills - is to open up the school system to allow a diverse market of providers to flourish."

CORRECTION

(Editor's Note: The dates for the Art Fair published in the May/June Michigan Libertarian were wrong. The editor apologizes for this mistake).

TERM LIMITATION - A LIBERTARIAN IDEA?

Opinion by Brian Wright, Former Editor, Michigan Libertarian

I confess to a natural 'intuitive' inclination toward the libertarian value of term limitation for government officials. Of course, as a rational anarchist, I favor the ultimate minimum term of years: zero. But we have to creep up on these things.

However, the question mark in the title is intentional. The idea of term limitation as it has recently manifested itself in national politics seems peripheral to the substantial issues with which libertarians are concerned. The central problem, most recognize, is the penetration of government power into the economic and personal realm, the growth of the state. And the author is as explorative as anyone else regarding the alleged contribution of term limitation in resolving the essential statist problem.

The objection to limiting the terms of elected legislators lies in ethics: Why limit people's choices? The best answer to that ethical question is found in the observation that morality and coercion are mutually exclusive (Rand: "Morality ends where a gun begins"). The present context of political choice is a coercive one, and the rules that extend unlimited franchise provide only that the greatest number of stupid and shortsighted people have a say in the flavor of our subjugation.

And there is irony in this. For term limitation--the Michigan initiative would limit Michigan House members to three terms, Michigan Senate members to two terms, US Representatives to three terms in a twelve-year period, US Senators to two terms in a 24-year period, and would limit state executive terms to twice--seems to work contrary to the real voting tendencies of populist elements who support it. These tendencies, though, for perpetually returning incumbents to office, show only the short-term perspective invariably at play in mixed-economy politics.

When and to the extent government involves itself in the economy, people are driven to vote defensively. While many would prefer to cast their vote for better individuals, they also recognize the reality of current power and are reluctant to change its locus while 'evils are sufferable' and the alternative candidates presented to them have little chance of assuming that power or handling it better.

But the people are also pissed. They know the overall system is rotten because it has not resulted in what to their common sense is fair and prosperous. This is a natural and commendable view. The people do not like the privileged political class that increasingly dictates their choices and self-righteously purloins their wealth. They have a deep

emotional sense that the mixed economy is essentially corrupt and rotten, and they want to see fundamental change. According to most polls, more than 60% of the people favor some kind of time-restriction on legislative opportunity.

When the American War for Independence was launched, few would have questioned the formal doctrine of the Divine Right of Kings. Nevertheless, through agitation against specific unpopular excesses of a sitting tyrant by Sam Adams and literary encouragement and enlightenment by Thomas Paine during the war years, the people came to realize the full flower of self-government. In other words, they came to see a more general principle of individual rights by virtue of resisting particular infringements of the principle. They lost the king.

The identification of the state as the proper modern object of dethronement is more difficult than discarding the albatross of formal royalty. The ruses arrayed against the people are far more sophisticated, the supporting philosophies far more entrenched. But elucidation seldom occurs without struggle, and the term limitation rule-change offers freepeople an opportunity to reach out and make their universal point: the object of legislators shall not be growth of political power. End of question mark.

Term limitation is a national movement. Currently, California, Oklahoma, and Colorado have laws that limit legislative terms. Colorado limits US legislative terms. In Michigan, the Michigan Taxpayers' Association, founded by former Libertarian gubernatorial and senatorial candidate Dick Jacobs, is sponsoring an initiative petition that is patterned after the successful drive in Colorado.

Headquarters for the Michigan effort, which began May 16, 1991, is in Royal Oak (3309 Rochester Road, 48067, (1/800) 272-1011 or 313/585-6776). According to Jacobs, the plan is to gather 500,000 signatures by September 21. The requirement is 257,000 valid signatures to place the issue on the 1992 general election ballot. Initially, the drive will be conducted by volunteers. If you want to have some fun, get some petitions and get involved. It'll be a cakewalk compared to ballot access.

Particularly good events in the Southeast Michigan area are June 10, school election day in many districts, and July 3-4, for the Freedom Festival on the Detroit-Windsor interface.

DOBBERSTEIN COUNCIL CANDIDATE*(continued from page one)*

Dobberstein declares, "It is time to stop the rush to end freedom in Lansing." He says people shouldn't be driven out of the city. Instead, they should be flocking in to experience an innovative community within which to live, work, and play. "Lansing ought to become a true MECCA of freedom and prosperity, a real centerpiece of the state, nation, and the world."

LPM PICNIC - Sunday Aug. 4th, 1991

Reported by James L. Hudler

The Libertarian Party of Michigan will hold its annual picnic on Sunday, August 4, 1991 at 1:00pm. The place this year will be at the Hudson Mills MetroPark in Dexter Michigan.

In order to raise funds for the LPM, the party will have an auction of donated items at the picnic. Please bring items to auction to the picnic. If you have questions or want to help with the planning of the LPM picnic please call James Hudler at 313-475-9792.

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
Dominick's Restaurant at 6:30pm.
contact James Hudler
313-475-9792

June 17, 1991

Metro-Detroit Libertarians Supper Club
6:00pm - Red Lobster
24705 West 12 Mile Road
Southfield, Michigan
Speaker: Father John Sirica
"Relegalization of Drugs"

June 15, 1991

Teach Michigan - Southeast Michigan Meeting
7:30pm - 9:30pm
Bloomfield Township Public Library
1099 Lone Pine Road
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

June 21-23, 1991

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

June 30, 1991

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

July 24 - 27, 1991

Ann Arbor Art Fair
Libertarian Outreach Booth
Contact: James Hudler

July 30, 1991

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

August 4, 1991

LPM Picnic - 1:00pm
Hudson Mills MetroPark
8800 North Territorial Rd.
Dexter, MI 48130
313-426-8211
Contact Jim Hudler for details

August 29 - September 1, 1991

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

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Ann Arbor Art Fair**LPM Picnic****Campaign Committee****Vice-Chair, Libertarian Party of Michigan**

James Hudler
17165 Fahrner Rd
Chelsea, MI 48118
313-475-9792

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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