



# MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

NEWSLETTER OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF MICHIGAN

APRIL-MAY-JUNE, 1994

## LPM NOMINATES 39 CANDIDATES

The Libertarian Party of Michigan and its affiliates certified the nomination of 39 candidates for public office at its 1994 Convention on April 24. This is an increase of 50% over the 26 candidates certified in the last election in 1992.

Leading the ticket is US Senatorial candidate Jon Coon, who has been campaigning for over a year. As the person listed highest on the party ticket, Coon is the "principal candidate" of the party and it will be his vote total which will determine the ballot status of the party for the following two years.

The party has candidates for all eight statewide education offices, four Congressional seats, five State Senate spots, 17 State House seats and four County Commission positions. The candidates are:

US Senate Jon Coon  
 State Board of Education Erwin J. Haas  
 David H. Raaflaub  
 U. of M Board of Regents Gary R. Bradley  
 Emily H. Salvette  
 MSU Board of Trustees Benjamin I. Bachrach  
 Mary J. Ruwart  
 Wayne State Board of Governors Thomas W. Jones  
 Brian Wright  
 US House of Representatives  
 Dist. 3 Barrie L. Konicou  
 Dist. 7 Kenneth L. Proctor  
 Dist. 8 Gerald R. Turcotte Jr.  
 Dist. 13 Craig L. Seymour  
 State Senate  
 Dist. 13 Henry Freriks

Dist. 14 Richard. C. Gach  
 Dist. 15 David S. Thompson  
 Dist. 16 Leslie C. Balian  
 Dist. 19 Nicholas G. Bennett

State House of Representatives  
 Dist. 3 Joann M. Karpinski  
 Dist. 7 Scott A. Boman  
 Dist. 15 Ted Tifrea  
 Dist. 17 Alexander J. Stevenson  
 Dist. 19 John J. Tater  
 Dist. 26 Keith P. Edwards  
 Dist. 27 Mathew R. Ignash  
 Dist. 29 Paul M. Soyk  
 Dist. 31 John W. Fagan  
 Dist. 32 Robert Van Oast  
 Dist. 33 James S. Boyle  
 Dist. 34 Mary Wayfield  
 Dist. 37 Yepam Dervahanian  
 Dist. 45 Kay Barr Suri  
 Dist. 52 James L. Hudler  
 Dist. 64 Robert T Slaughter  
 Dist. 79 Scott Beavers

County Commissioners  
 Hillsdale Dist. 5 Barbara A. Vozenilek  
 Jackson Dist. 4 Jeffrey L. Grund  
 Oakland Dist. 5 Barbara B. Goushaw  
 Oakland Dist. 22 Putnam Weekley

## CONVENTION SELECTS OFFICERS

At its April Convention, The LPM stuck to experience in electing its officers and committee members.  
 Re-elected for his fourth term as Chair was Keith Edwards, but it took three ballots before he squeaked through ahead of former two-term officer Karen Scarborough. David Raaflaub withdrew from the race after the first ballot. Thirty-three votes were required to elect. The three votes were:

Continued on page 3

## DIRECTORY

## DICK JACOBS HONORED AT BANQUET

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair	Keith Edwards	810-777-7468
Vice Chair	Emily Salvette	313-747-7542
Secretary	Karen Scarborough	810-673-2693
Treasurer	David Nagy	
At-large	Jon Coon	
	James Hudler	
	Barbara Vozenilek	

JUDICIAL COMMITTEE: Glenn Barr  
 Tim O'Brien  
 Brian Wright

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Campaign Coordinator	Scott Boman	313-831-9774
Regions Coordinator	Barbara Vozenilek	517-688-4306
Campus Org.	James Hudler	313-475-9792
Speakers	Tim O'Brien	810-548-6857
Eastern UP		
Central UP	Jack McHugh	906-428-4710
Western UP		
Northern LP		
Western LP	Glenn Barr	616-784-2613
Lansing	Jon Addiss	517-394-0122
Jackson-Lenawee-Hillsdale	Nick Bennett	517-529-4486
Berrien Co.	Scott Beavers	616-944-1852
Branch Co.	Paul Pann	517-279-9860
Genesee Co.	Trish Marie	810-742-7268
Isabella Co.	John Tuttle	517-773-9660
Kalamazoo	Doug Houts	616-382-2843
Lapeer Co.	John Hertrich	810-774-2640
Macomb Co.	Stacy Van Oast	810-784-8783
Midland Co.		
Monroe Co.	Don Atkinson	313-241-7038
Oakland Co.	Leslie Balian	810-969-0666
Ottawa Co.	Jeff Terhaar	616-847-0581
Shiawassee	Shirley Coon	517-661-2219
St. Clair	Ed DeVoogt	810-985-4943
Traverse Bay	Richard Ask	616-941-1306
Van Buren	Walt DeVisser	616-427-7543
Washtenaw	James Hudler	313-475-9792
Wayne Co.	Joann Karpinski	313-925-6917

The Libertarian Party of Michigan presented its Freedom Fighter Award in honor of the late Dick Jacobs at its Convention Banquet April 23. Chair Keith Edwards presented the plaque to Carol Jacobs for Dick's long service to the Party as its most visible candidate and his battle for liberty which was as courageous as his long struggle against cancer. Dick died in June, 1993. Edwards praised Dick's positive attitude, innovation, hard work and persistence as a model for all future Libertarian candidates and activists. The Award read, "Dick Jacobs, Lifetime Freedom Fighter Award. In honor of his articulate, principled leadership in spreading the ideas of Liberty. Libertarian Party of Michigan, April 23, 1994".

After Carol's gracious acceptance, Kary Love, who succeeded Dick as head of the Michigan Taxpayers Association, recounted Dick's achievements in fighting taxes and his leadership in the successful movement for term limits.

Attorney Ralph Musilli, who defended Scott Scarborough, spoke next. He stressed the virtue of personal responsibility as a component of liberty and chided government for treating people as members of groups rather than as individuals. His three point program for improvement was (1) Get Control of the Throttle by concentrating on the Executive Branch rather than the Legislative, (2) never allow unbalanced budgets and (3) include sunset laws in all legislation. When voting for judges, his advice is to vote out the incumbents. He criticized the Presidential practice of appointing young, inexperienced federal judges in order to perpetuate party power.

The Banquet was followed by an auction of libertarian memorabilia, including the ever-present "Rabbit", conducted by the irrepressible Barb Goushaw. That's as far as I dare go with adjectives after last year!

Continued on Page 3

BANQUET Continued

CONVENTION SELECTS OFFICERS Continued

The Sunday Brunch featured Aaron Zelman, founder of Jews for the Preservation of Firearms Ownership. He pointed out how gun control is a precondition of genocide, citing as historical examples The Ottoman Empire disarming the Armenians, the Soviet Union, Nazi Germany, Red China, Guatemala, Uganda and Cambodia. The latter countries' gunlaws inherited gunlaws from the British and French colonies which preceded them. Zelman was especially harsh on the Democrats for their long pursuit of gun laws and their World War II policy of interning Japanese -Americans.

(Editor's note: Although the Democrats did intern the Japanese-Americans, one of the major agitators for such action was Republican Earl Warren, the Attorney General of California, later Governor. His later conversion to civil liberties for blacks only confirms his typically Republican hypocrisy.)

Friday night's entertainment featured some "sinful" behavior such as gambling and exotic dancing, complete with BATF, FBI and postal inspector "agents" pling their (ugh) trade. Tim Clampit was especially scary as the PO person. Thanks to the Washtenaw group for a fun time.

This convention was one of the smoothest in memory with no glitches. The Airport Ramada was efficient and helpful. Thanks go to Dennis and Miki Ertzbischoff, Karen Scarborough, Pat Baker, Dave Nagy, Ed and Joann Karpinski, Tim O'Brien, Jon Coon, Barb Goushaw, Ben Bachrach, Scott Boman, Barb Vozenilek, Gary Bradley and the Washtenaw group. Above all, muchas gracias to NANCY GERAGOSIAN who did a super job organizing the whole thing.

Edwards	27	32	34
Scarborough	23	31	30
Raaflaub	15	2	0
NOTA	-	i	0
Void	0	0	1

The vote for Vice Chair resulted in another close race With Emily Salvette edging incumbent Jon Coon 35-29. Emily is a former Secretary of the LPM and, like Edwards, ran on a platform of local affiliate development.

Karen Scarborough, always a fighter, came back to win the race for Secretary over incumbent Pat Baker 45-15. Pat continues as membership director.

David Nagy was elected to his third term as Treasurer by acclamation. Dave has given the Party its most complete Treasury reports since Ben Bachrach held the post in the 1980's.

Returning to the Executive Committee as the three At-large Members are Jon Coon 51 votes, Barbara Vozenilek 46, and James Hudler 45 votes. Barbara Goushaw got 33 votes in her first try for office.

The Judicial Committee votes also went to experience, with former three-term Chair Brian Wright with 39 votes joining incumbents Tim O'Brien 50 and Glenn Barr 41 votes. Dave Raaflaub just missed with 37.

The Convention also made two By-law changes. One provides "a special convention to convene within 90 days of such time as an LPM statewide candidate receives sufficient votes to gain major party status." With the Jon Coon campaign in high gear, this is a real possibility.

The other change allows the Executive Committee to replace a Committee member who misses three consecutive meetings.

Mary Ruwart remarked later, "I've never seen an election in which candidates said so many nice things about each other."

Such is the spirit of the LPM.

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LPM SETS PICNIC DATE

The annual LPM Picnic will be held on July 17, at Henderson Park, in Henderson, Mich. The Shiawassee County Libertarians are sponsoring the event. Henderson is located just north of Owosso. Coming from Owosso, Take M-52 north from M-21 six miles to Henderson road and turn west. The park is one mile west. A landmark there is the Irish Pub.

If you need directions or information, call Shirley Coon at 517-661-2219.

The picnic will start at 1:00 PM. If you like to go canoeing, come early. There is a ball field for us gifted athletes and horseshoe pitching.


Hot dogs, hamburgers, beer and pop will be provided for a modest charge. You may want to bring a dish to pass, chips, munchies, etc.

There will be a white elephant sale as well. Your pale pachyderms are welcome. Will the Rabbit reappear? Come and see.

This issue continues the bi-monthly format of the Michigan Libertarian. It is issued as the April-May-June issue only for the purpose of converting to an odd-even month format rather than even-odd. The next issue will be July-August.

No accident so grave but that the clever man can turn it to some good; no luck so great but that the fool can twist it to his hurt. Maxims of LaRochefoucauld

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COUNTY COORDINATORS TO MEET

There will be a meeting of LPM county coordinators/chairs on Saturday, June 18 from Noon to 5:00 PM at The Holiday Inn West in Lansing.

The meeting will be an informal one. The object is to discuss methods and problems in organizing local groups. There will be some well-established groups represented as well as some just getting started. All should benefit by sharing experiences, apprehensions, etc. How to get started, what help is available from the state organization, requirements and problems to be anticipated are among the topics.

We would like to have as many local groups represented as possible so that a broad range of experience can be tapped.

The Holiday Inn West is located off I-96 from exit 93B on Saginaw Road.

If you have any questions, call Emily Salvette at 313-747-7542.

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Recently published letters to the editor by Michigan libertarians. I monitor The Detroit News daily and the Freep on weekends (they force it on me), so if you get one printed elsewhere, send me a copy. We seem to be slacking off on the letter-writing lately. If YOU don't do it, who will?

### Davidians got justice

The acquittal of the 11 members of the Branch Davidian sect is the best verdict that has come through our justice system in a long time.

The right to self-defense is a natural right that you receive the day you are born — a God-given right that no government or single individual has the right to deprive you of. Our forefathers realized this. Libertarian philosophers such as John Locke and Algernon Sidney taught us to regard the right to self-defense, the right to arms and the right to resist tyranny as being essential and closely intertwined.

This scenario is exactly what the Branch Davidians have proven with their adamant

stand for true justice. The jury needs to be congratulated for this verdict. I know not what course others may take, but as for me, the right to defend one's self, my family, and home, overrules any incompetent laws that government may egregiously saddle upon me. Now more than ever, we must keep our powder dry.

**RON JACKMAN, 3/20/94**  
Mason LAWING STATE JOURNAL

### The greatest tragedy

It is a great tragedy when brave Americans who volunteer to defend our country lose their lives ("A tragic mistake: 26 killed," April 15). It is a greater tragedy when they are killed by friendly fire.

It is the greatest tragedy of all that they lose their lives not in defense of our country, but to protect multinational oil interests and foreign civilians from their own government.

Former President George Bush, who began this military adventurism, has been voted out of office. But it's not too late to impeach President Bill Clinton for this reckless and unconstitutional waste of our dedicated troops.

Tim O'Brien 4/26/94  
Troy Det. Free Press

### Defending free enterprise

John Engler's proposal to replace Softball City with an auto race-track is way off base. ("Fairgrounds may get car racetrack," April 20.) First, Softball City is a model of what a softball complex should be. It is a marvelous layout. I have coached there and spent literally more than 1,000 hours there as a spectator. Further, Softball City has allowed players and coaches of all races to enjoy the facilities without one serious incident in 18 years.

Second, it is ironic that Gov. Engler, who poses as a defender of free enterprise, proposes to replace a successful, privately owned softball complex with a government-owned (socialistic) auto racetrack. It looks like my friends at Softball City will have to vote Libertarian this year to defend free enterprise.

**Keith P. Edwards,**

3/27/94 CHAIRPERSON,  
LIBERTARIAN PARTY  
DETROIT OF MICHIGAN,  
NEWS ST. CLAIR SHORES

Regarding the Feb. 27 editorial "Cable Rates: Out of Focus":

Only 3 percent of cable TV companies face competition? What incredible nonsense! Cable TV has to compete with: broadcast TV; video rentals; movie theaters; radio; newspapers and magazines; and spending a quiet evening reading a book.

But even if it weren't nonsense, to simply cite that statistic without any explanation of how this situation came to be is tantamount to lying by omission!

Why is a cable TV a monopoly virtually everywhere? It's no mystery. Like every other monopoly throughout history, cable TV companies are monopolies because if you try to compete with them, you'll be arrested. They are monopolies because the government has outlawed competition!

2-3-94 **Brett P. Bellmore**  
DETROIT NEWS CAPAC

### Don't put arena debt on taxpayers

Mike DeVriendt is only half correct when he states in his April 17 letter that a back-up plan is necessary for the financing of the proposed downtown arena. His proposal to further complicate state and local governments' obligations by creating a new community bond scheme, however, is precisely what we don't need.

Bonding for entertainment facilities is akin to making bond servants of the taxpayers, who deserve much better treatment from their elected representatives. If Mr. DeVriendt and Rep. Bandstra truly wanted to help the taxpayers, investors and community at large, they would vote against all subsidies for ventures of this type.

If indeed there is widespread community support (and I believe there is) then there should be more than enough investors willing to pool and risk — yes, risk — their money to make a successful and profitable convention center/arena. Grand Action, et al, may not be willing to pursue this option of giving the little guy a cut of the action though, as long as there are those in the government who keep offering up "public" funding — read: working people's tax money.

Stop creating food for the cynics. Businesses, including large enterprises like arenas and convention centers, make sense and make money of their merits. West Michigan Baseball, for example, will be successful with the Whitecaps by providing what the customer wants — without tax subsidies. If, on the other hand, the government needs to put up the taxpayers for collateral, then maybe the arena plan really isn't very good.

4/28/94 **MICHAEL A. GILLMAN**  
GRAND RAPIDS PRESS Grand Rapids

**DEAR  
ABBY**

ABIGAIL  
VAN BUREN

I read the letter you published from "Inmate 711895" and had to respond.

"Inmate" stated that he smoked marijuana for 20 years, and during that time, he also used cocaine.

If his consumption of those substances was so harmful, how was it that he was married, had a good job, a home in the suburbs and a clean record? In other words, if used in moderation, drugs do not prevent a person from leading a normal, productive life.

His letter was much more of an indictment against drug prohibition. His letter could have been written 65 years ago by someone convicted of selling beer or whisky. It took a commission headed by a fellow named Wickersham to bring an end to the folly of alcohol prohibition.

Surgeon General Elders has called for a similar commission to study whether the benefit of some forms of drug legalization might outweigh the tremendous cost of prohibition.

Abby, if cocaine were a drug sold by licensed dealers, Inmate 711895 would still be home supporting his family.

— Robert E. Pottratz,  
Minnesota attorney

Just as bootleggers were forced out of business in 1933 when Prohibition was repealed, making the sale of liquor legal (thus eliminating racketeering), the legalization of drugs would put drug dealers out of business. It would also guarantee government-approved quality, and the tax on drugs would provide an ongoing source of revenue for drug-education programs. An added plus: There would be far less crowding in our prisons due to drug-related crimes. It's something to consider.

Detroit News 5-3-94

In his Dec. 1, 1993, commentary ("Brady Bill falls short of fitting the Bill"), Santiago Esparza contradicts himself, and demonstrates his ignorance of guns and gun laws.

Early in his commentary, Esparza describes the futility of using laws such as the Brady bill to disarm criminals.

Yet, Esparza also writes, "A good place to start would be the banning of all automatic weapons and military assault weapons." First, he conceded that lawbreakers could care less about the latest gun laws, and then he suggests adding a law to the list.

Even more intriguing is the fact that his dream came true more than a couple of decades ago. Fully automatic (rapid fire) and select fire weapons have been illegal, for common citizens, since the 60s. See how much this "good place to start" has reduced crime?

One may purchase weapons that look like automatic machine guns at gun shows, but are only semi-automatic. This means they only fire once each time one pulls the trigger, as do revolvers and deer rifles. In fact, a semi-automatic AK-47 is less destructive to its target than a deer rifle. A deer rifle is made to kill (presumably a deer), an assault rifle is made to injure the enemy (in war) so that more people are taken out of action by a single bullet.

Esparza asks, "But what do you need an AK-47 for?" Granted, there is nothing unique about a semi-automatic AK-47, except the way it looks. Why must the government dictate the style and appearance of a gun? It's a compromise between gun grabbers and Second Amendment supporters that moves us closer to the day when no one has guns except a government that disdains individual rights (check out the 1993 crime bill) and criminals.

Esparza wonders, "Why must we walk the streets afraid of getting popped for no reason?" Because we can't afford to be surrounded by bodyguards, as can Mr. Brady and President Clinton. Soon, they won't even let us be our bodyguards. When will people wake up and realize that this isn't about controlling guns? It's about elitists controlling the poor and the middle class.

The South End  
1-24-94

Scott A. Boman

## Libertarian candidate

After reading the May 11 "Election '94" article, one might think Jon Coon, Libertarian, was not running for the U.S. Senate — that is, if one even knew of Mr. Coon.

The list of Michigan senatorial candidates is not limited to the "eight person field" described. Jon Coon was nominated as a candidate by the Libertarian Party at its recent convention. But Mr. Coon has been campaigning since last fall! I have heard him speak on WXYT Radio and listened to his presentation at a United We Stand America meeting in Trenton.

In my opinion, Mr. Coon is a serious candidate whose views are worthy of a hearing. I suspect Detroit News readers would agree if given the opportunity.

5/17/94 Bill Morse  
DETROIT NEWS GROSSE ILE

## NRA or Nazi member?

Jack Lessenberry shot himself in the foot when he titled his column "Happiness is a lost gun." He gives the reader a choice between having a child grow up to be a Nazi leader or the head of the National Rifle Association (NRA). His conclusion: "Humanity would be much better off if your child were to become ... the Nazi."

I was not shocked to find Lessenberry branding the NRA as "lunatics," while writing Nazis off as a "sick joke." After all, the wording of the Gun Control Act of 1968 was largely gleaned from the Nazi Weapons Law of 1938 (Reference: Guns & Ammo, May 1993, page 30). Thus, his gun-grabbing views would lead him to despise the NRA more than those founders of modern gun control.

Why would Nazis want gun control? The same reasons any big government types would want it. Let that be food for thought as Lessenberry licks his proverbial wounds.—Scott Boman, Detroit Metro Times 3/30-4/5/94

## CALENDAR

First Tuesday of month: Wayne Co. LP meets at Red Lobster, 6850 N. Telegraph in Dearborn. Dinner at 6:00, Program at 8:00. Call Joann Karpinski at 313-925-6917.

Third Wednesdays: Oakland Co. LP meets at Mr. B's, 423 Main St., Rochester.

Second Thursdays: LP of Mid-Michigan meets at Sneaker's in Lansing at 6:00. Call Jon Addiss at 517-394-0122.

Second Thursdays: Macomb Co. LP meets at Deacon Brodies Restaurant, 75 Macomb, Mt. Clemens. Call Stacy Van Oast at 810-784-8783.

Every Thursday: Washtenaw Libertarians meet at Dominick's, 812 Monroe St., Ann Arbor. Some lectures meet at the U-M Union. Call James Hudler at 313-475-9792.

June 16 What Libertarians should know about the American Revolution, Emily Salvette, 7:00 at Dominick's

June 30 What Libertarians should know about infectious diseases, James Hudler at 7:00 at Dominick's.

July 7 A Libertarian Critique of the Clean Air Act, Quaise Baig, pollution control engineer, at 7:00 at Dominick's.

July 20-23 Ann Arbor Art Fair. LP booth near the intersection of Liberty and Division Sts. Volunteers needed. Call Hudler.

July 28 Program presented by the Nature Conservancy at 7:00 at Dominick's.

August 19-21 Ypsilanti Heritage Festival. LP booth needs volunteers. Call Frederick Weihe at 313-481-1289.

July 17 LPM Picnic. See Page 4.

## MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

The Michigan Libertarian is published bi-monthly as the official newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Michigan. Scheduled publication is January, March, May, July, September and November.

Articles and letters to the editor should be submitted by the 30th of the previous month. Text should be typewritten and double-spaced. Unsigned material is not used. Submissions may be edited.

Advertising is available at \$5.00 per column inch or fraction thereof for camera ready copy

Editor: Keith Edwards  
28960 Jane  
St. Clair Shores, MI 48081

## POLICY ON MEETINGS

All meetings of the Executive Committee and the Libertarian Advisory Council will start at the scheduled time.

The Council is the legislative body of the LPM between annual conventions. Quorum is 30% of the membership including proxies. The By-laws specify that a member giving his proxy to another member can do so only by giving that person his membership card for the duration of the time the proxy is in force. If there is no quorum at the scheduled meeting time, a meeting of the Executive Committee will begin instead. All LPM members may vote at Council meetings, but only Executive Committee members may vote at Committee meetings.

At the Annual Convention, all members who register and attend may vote, but a first time member must have been a member at least 30 days prior to the Convention in order to vote. There are no proxies at the Convention.

# Libertarian Party Membership

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Note: All memberships include the LPM newsletter. National memberships includes a subscription to Libertarian Party News.

Make checks payable: Libertarian Party of Michigan

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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."

This does not preclude self-defense or resistance to tyranny.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_



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