



MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

NEWSLETTER OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF MICHIGAN

MARCH-APRIL, 1996

THE CONVENTION AND YOU

The 1996 Convention of the Libertarian Party of Michigan on April 19-21 in Roseville will be an important event in several respects, and YOU can be a significant part of it.

CANDIDATES. The LPM will complete nomination for public office at the Convention. County caucuses will have nominated many of the candidates for State Representative, county and local offices, but some remain unfilled and the caucuses will stay open through the Convention. Cross-county nominations for Congress and statewide offices will be made at the Convention. If you have not been nominated and would like to run, come to the Georgian Inn, request that you be nominated and fill out the necessary forms. We had 50 candidates in 1994 and would like to challenge our record of 100 in 1982. Or, you could volunteer to be a campaign manager. There will be training sessions for candidates and campaign managers conducted by Barbara Goushaw and Jon Coon.

ELECTORS. We must nominate 18 Electors for President and Vice President. (Remember the Electoral College?)

DELEGATES. We will nominate 35 delegates to the National LP Convention in Washington, DC to be held July 3-7, at which we will choose our Presidential and Vice Presidential Candidates and debate our national platform. We are the fourth largest state LP party in the USA and can be very influential, but we need to fill all 35 spots. If you are going to the National Convention come to Roseville and seek one of them.

ELECTIONS. On Sunday, April 21, we will nominate and elect the leadership of the LPM for the next year. We will select the nine-person Executive Committee (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and five At-large Directors) and three members of the Judicial Committee.

BY-LAWS and PLATFORM. On Saturday, we will discuss any proposed changes to our By-laws and decide whether to have a state platform and what form it would take. This could be a lively session as libertarians are always excited about issues and the by-law session is usually animated.

All members who attend the Convention in April are delegates if registered and have been in the LPM for 30 days or more.

As a member of the LPM, you have much more influence and effect than the members of those two older, decrepit parties. There are several projects that need attention as well as the election year so you will have many opportunities to participate in the fastest growing political party in the country. Membership has grown in the LP to 14,256 nationally and to 528 in the LPM. Michigan members of the national LP amount to 686, and we are trying to recruit those who have joined National into the LPM.

Freedom is not costless. Eternal vigilance is not sufficient. Bitching about Clinton and Congress is futile. Ideas have consequences, but they must be put into action by planning, effort, money and the courage of our convictions. Independence from the British came at great cost and pain. It took 80 more years to end slavery. Are you ready to help finish the job?

DIRECTORY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair	Emily Salvette	313-747-8129
Vice Chair	Mark Owen	517-725-7101
Secretary	Dan Marsh	616-456-9472
Treasurer	Dave Nagy	
At-large	Ben Bachrach	

Scott Beavers	
Jon Coon	
Keith Edwards	
James Hudler	

JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

Glenn Barr	
Bill Hall	
Tim O'Brien	

Editor	Keith Edwards	810-777-7468
Inquiries	Marnie Edwards	
Membership	Ben Bachrach	
Speakers	Keith Edwards	810-777-7468
Campaign Coordinator & Campus Organizing	James Hudler	313-475-9792

Affiliates Coordinator

Mark Owen	517-725-7101
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LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES

Allegan Co.	Rick Dutkiewicz	616-673-5503
Berrien Co.	Scott Beavers	616-944-1852
Branch CO.	Paul Pann	517-279-9860
Ionia Co.	Dick Whitelock	616-527-9263
Isabella Co.	John Tuttle	517-866-2365
Kalamazoo	Doug Houts	616-342-2330
Lapeer-Genesee	John Hertrich	810-724-2038
Lansing area	Mike Brinkman	517-333-8868
Livingston	Doug MacDonald	810-231-3137
Macomb Co.	Stacy Van Oast	810-784-8783
Midland-Bay-Saginaw	Scott Ecker	517-585-3634
Monroe Co.	Don Atkinson	313-241-7038
Oakland Co.	Dave Armstrong	810-391-4329
Ottawa Co.	Jeff Terhaar	616-847-0581
St. Clair	Ed DeVoogt	810-985-4943
South-Central (Jackson-Hillsdale-Lenawee)	Nick Bennett	517-529-4960
Traverse Bay	Richard Ask	616-941-1306
Van Buren Co.	Walt DeVisser	616-427-7543
Washtenaw Co.	James Hudler	313-475-9792
Wayne Co.	Joann Karpinski	313-925-6917
Western MILP	Todd Greene	616-456-9472
Upper Penins.	Jack McHugh	906-428-4710
Univ. of MI	Martin Howrylak	810-643-6653
Metro Det Lib	Tim O'Brien	313-562-5778

LOCAL MEETINGS

The following local libertarian groups meet regularly. Most are dinner meetings. Your contact is listed in the Directory.

Washtenaw Co. meets at Dominick's, 812 Monroe, Ann Arbor, every Thursday, dinner at 6:30, meeting at 7:30. Some meetings with major speakers at U-M Union.

LP of Mid-Michigan (Lansing area) meets at Sneeker's Restaurant, 600 Homer, Lansing, on the second Thursday of the month.

Western MI LP (Grand Rapids area) meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM in the basement of Pizza Hut at 44th & Kalamazoo Streets, Kentwood.

Kalamazoo-Calhoun LP meets on the second Tuesday of the month at the Red Lobster in Portage.

Lapeer Co. LP meets on the second Wednesday of the month at the Marguerite de Angeli Library in Lapeer at 7:30 PM. Please do not park in the library parking lot.

Livingston Co. LP meets on the second Monday of the month at Mexican Jones Restaurant, 675 Grand River, Brighton, at 6:30.

Macomb Co. meets on the second Wednesday of the month at the Fire Escape Restaurant, 61 N. Walnut, Mt. Clemens. Dinner at 6:00.

Oakland Co. meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month at the Oakland Co. Commission Auditorium in Pontiac.

Ottawa Co. meets the second Friday of the month at 7:30 at the China Garden Restaurant, 133 Washington, Grand Haven.

Wayne Co. LP meets on the first Tuesday of the month at La Trattoria Restaurant, 13736 Michigan Ave., near Schaefer in Dearborn.

Metro Detroit Libertarians is a supper club with a featured speaker and not a part of the LPM. It meets on the fourth Monday. Call Tim O'Brien for the location which varies.

"THE EVIL THAT MEN DO"
(IS REWARDED BY GOVERNMENT)

By Keith Edwards

The United States Marshals Service has given Arthur Roderick and Larry Cooper its highest award for valor as a result of their actions at Ruby Ridge, Idaho, in 1992. They, along with Bill Degan, began the fire-fight that led to the siege of Randy Weaver and family following their retreat to avoid charges arising from a failed attempt by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms to entrap and extort cooperation by Weaver and the subsequent frame-up and slandering of Weaver by the BATF.

Director Eduardo Gonzalez, in presenting the awards, cited Roderick and Cooper for their "exceptional courage, their sound judgement and high degree of professional competence."

What did these two sterling examples do to earn such high praise? They, with Degan, ambushed 14 year old Sammy Weaver and 25 year old Kevin Harris, neither of whom had committed a crime nor had any warning ("sound judgement.")

Roderick started by shooting the family dog ("professional competence.") Cooper then shot Sammy in the back, killing the boy as he ran for home ("exceptional courage.") Harris fired a quick shot in return, killing Marshal Degan who had already fired SEVEN shots, before running back to the cabin.

Senator Arlen Specter, who conducted the Senate Judiciary subcommittee hearing into Ruby Ridge, was surprised that the awards were made when the marshals were under censure by the subcommittee.

Perhaps Director Gonzalez will be given an award by his boss, Janet Reno, for the "Promotion of Organizational Imagery" ("coverup.") Why not? The BATF went on to Waco on the assumption that they had gotten away with it. So did the FBI which fired Gene Glenn, the on-scene commander at Ruby

Ridge who had tried to find a peaceful outcome (the punishment of the innocent) and later promoted Larry Potts who gave the go ahead for violent solutions in both Ruby Ridge and Waco.

In these two episodes, these federal agencies have engaged in entrapment, extortion, frame-up, murder, attempted murder, slander, use of a poison gas outlawed by the Geneva Convention, arson (OK, maybe it was 'assisted arson'), filing false reports, and perjury before two Congressional committees. The McCollum committee in the House whitewashed the Waco tragedy to boot.

Much credit must be given to the Senate Judiciary subcommittee for its objective, full investigation of the Ruby Ridge event. Senator Arlen Specter, Chairman, deserves great praise for his diligent, incisive cross-examination of a bunch of slimy liars and for his calling for the abolition of the BATF. Senator Patrick Leahy, normally no friend of libertarianism, also deserves credit for tough questioning as do Senators Herbert Kohl and Fred Thompson. Charles Grassely and Larry Craig also contributed, while Dianne Feinstein wavered and Spencer Abraham lobbed marshmallows at the Federales.

(Note: for more details on these valor awards and Ruby Ridge, please read "They Call This 'Valor'", by James Bovard in The Wall Street Journal, March 13, 1996. And thanks to Mr. Bovard and the WSJ for not letting the issue die.)



Check out the *LPM*
on the *World Wide Web*

<http://www.coast.net/~lpm/>

NEWS BRIEFS

The Detroit News carried an article by George Cantor on jury nullification on March 17, following the acquittal of Dr. Jack Kevorkian on assisted suicide charges. ("Taking the law into its hands; Do jury rebellions promote justice or threaten disorder?") The article was fairly well balanced, citing both good cases such as the 1735 Zenger trial which established freedom of the press in America, and bad cases such as the 1955 acquittal of the men charged with the lynching of Emmett Till. The experts cited in the article were most concerned about using jury nullification for racist reasons, but seemed to like it where victimless crimes were the issue. Wow! Are we making progress!

On the other hand, Commissar of Labor Robert "Third" Reich wants big business to do more retraining of workers who were not educated by the government schools in the first place. Of course, he opposes any privatization of the schools, via tax credits for parents, while proposing them for business. Huh?

The History Channel recently ran a bio of George Washington, extolling his honesty, objective judgement and his surrounding himself with wise counsel. A week or so later they ran a bio on Lyndon Johnson and HIS characteristics: dishonesty, bullying, deceit, unfaithfulness and cronyism. George was victorious in the Revolution, set high standards in fiscal responsibility and non-intervention in foreign affairs and term limits. Lyndon lost the Viet Nam War and the "War on Poverty", debased the coinage and rigged elections. Who says morality is relative?

Keith Edwards appeared recently on two radio talk shows, on WCHB and WXYT. The latter was the David Newman Show on the recent seat belt legislation. That Q and A was supposed to go 15-20 minutes, but went closer to 40! Our views are being sought more and more. No surprise with Slick Willie and Bob Dull around.

MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

The Michigan Libertarian is published bi-monthly as the official newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Michigan, 11700 Merriam Rd., Livonia, MI 48150. Scheduled publication is January, March, May, July, September and November.

All material contained herein represents the opinion of the author and is not necessarily the position of the Libertarian Party of Michigan.

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

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

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Submissions to the affiliate news section should be sent directly to Brett Cashman.

Thanks to Tim O'Brien for designing the Convention information on pages 6-7 and to Mike Devour for keylining it.

A judge in Philadelphia has reversed the convictions of 60 defendants in drug cases in the City of Brotherly Love because the police were found to have falsified the evidence. This is apparently the second batch of such cases. This is another situation in which bad incentives lead to bad results, this time tragic.

KAUFMAN ANNOUNCES FOR SUPREME COURT

Nationally prominent individual rights attorney Jerry J. Kaufman has announced his candidacy for the Michigan Supreme Court nomination of the Libertarian Party of Michigan. Kaufman, a legal educator and author, has attacked restrictive ballot access laws in Michigan to enable third party ballot access. A former candidate for Supreme Court as an independent, he states Court reform is a high priority. "Our Michigan Supreme Court is ranked almost dead last in terms of its output and productivity and it sets the tone for the entire state court system which needs major overhaul," Kaufman said. Kaufman has a background in tax, labor, health, securities and consumer law, and the rights of taxpayers and employees.

Kaufman is the producer of the Tommy McIntyre radio show on WPON 1460 AM and has appeared on his behalf before gun rights organizations.

"I am running a grass roots campaign to bring common sense to the Supreme Court," Kaufman said.

Kaufman was formerly associated with the Tisch Independent Party.

 PLATFORM DELEGATES SELECTED

The Libertarian Party of Michigan will be well represented on the Platform Committee at the National Convention in July.

As one of the largest delegations, the LPM is entitled to two representatives on the committee rather than one. Tim O'Brien was named to one position by the National Committee. The other, selected at the Feb. 11 meeting by the Executive Committee, was Ray Warner. Max Dollarhite is the alternate. Early selection was necessitated by the early date for the National Convention. Delegates to the Convention will be elected at the State Convention in April in the usual manner.

LPM SUES STATE OF MICHIGAN

On March 5, 1996, the Libertarian Party of Michigan filed a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of a new law that prohibits Libertarian Party members from serving as election inspectors. The suit was filed in Washtenaw County Circuit Court by attorney David Raaflaub requests the Secretary of State and Governor to show cause why Public Act 261 of 1995 does not violate the Michigan constitution's purity of elections and civil rights clauses. The action was approved by the Libertarian Executive Committee in a phone/e-mail ballot held between February 20-26, 1996, with one dissenting vote.

PA 261, signed into law on January 4 by John Engler, limits the appointment of election inspectors to Democrats and Republicans as members of MAJOR parties. Those claiming to be members of one of those two parties, but who are known advocates of another are excluded. A known advocate is defined to mean a delegate or officer of another party (all LPM members are delegates to our convention), or even someone who has made documented public statements supporting another party or its candidates. This could mean anyone who has written a letter to the editor, or backed Jon Coon. Thus the choice is to not support the party of your choice or be excluded from what is really a public office. It penalizes freedom of speech and in effect establishes two "official" political parties.

The law may have been intended to stop any one party from dominating the election process by requiring an equal split between parties, but at the very least discriminates against independents and third parties unintentionally. At worst, it is another example of the gross attempt to squelch opposition to the oligopoly. Since most politicians are lawyers, ignorance is no excuse. They should know better. It's a shame that we have to divert time and money from campaigning to educating the governor and legislature about constitutionality, much less morality.

MARK YOUR
CALENDARS!

MAKE YOUR
RESERVATIONS!

Libertarian Party of Michigan CONVENTION

Candidate Confrontation

Now that Michigan has become the number four state LP, the candidates vying for the LP nomination at the national convention in Washington DC this summer are all courting LPM delegates. Our membership will have the opportunity to meet and hear and size-up the potential nominees.

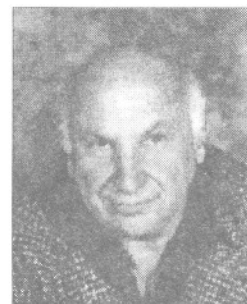
Would Harry Browne's proposal to replace the current income tax system with a brand new federal sales tax be real progress...or a Pandora's Box? Is Irwin Schiff a dedicated proponent of libertarianism...or merely a single-issue, anti-tax zealot? Is Rick Thompkins capable of raising the money to run a genuine campaign...or simply one more obscure libertarian ideologue doomed to go down to ignominious defeat?

These questions and many more are bound to be asked as the three make their pitch for our nomination at the LPM convention Sunday Brunch.

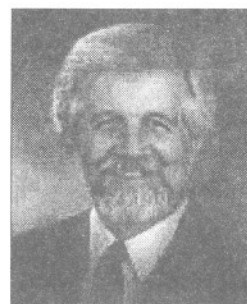
Be there to hear the answers. Be there to ask your own questions. But our ballot status could very well ride on your decision, so be there!



Harry Browne



Irwin Schiff



Rick Thompkins

Meet the Veep



Jo Jorgensen

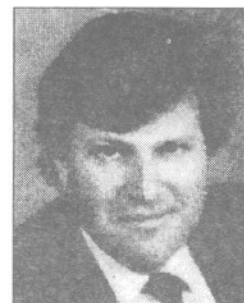
For the second time someone is actively campaigning for the LP nomination for Vice-president. Jo Jorgensen is following in the steps of Andre Marrou who, after having sought and received our VP nomination under Ron Paul in '88, went on to become our presidential candidate in '92. Might Jorgensen's campaign lead to a presidential nod at the turn of the millennium?

You won't want to miss Jo. She is an eloquent and entertaining speaker. At our last convention she compared Libertarians getting in bed with Republicans to phone sex: "it costs you big, it's not as satisfying as the real thing, and in the end you know they're never really coming over!" If history is any indication, you could be meeting a future LP candidate for president.

Technologies of Freedom

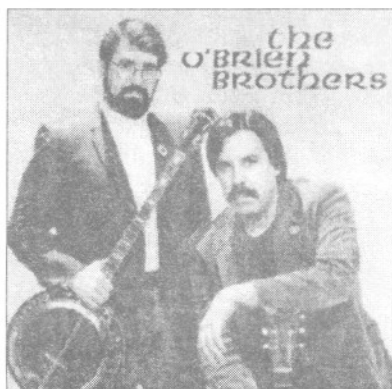
University of California-Davis Professor of Economics and Reason Magazine contributing editor Thomas Hazlett is the featured banquet speaker. For many years libertarians have appreciated Mr. Hazlett's witty and insightful observations about current political trends and events.

Mr. Hazlett will be speaking on the subject of free speech in the cyber-age. In view of the recent passage of the Telecommunications bill (the more Byzantine provisions of which are currently under court challenge) and Mr. Hazlett's former position as chief economist for the FCC, his opinions on the subject are both timely and credible.



Thomas Hazlett

Singing a different tune



Mike and Tim O'Brien

A Friday night party is being sponsored by the Wayne county LP featuring a concert by the O'Brien Brothers. Tim and Mike, well known around metro Detroit's Irish community for their inspiring interpretation of Irish "rebel" folk music, also set the tone for the '94 Brass Roots rally in Lansing where they played libertarian songs to standing ovations by a crowd of more than 10,000.

With music, conversation, and cash bar, this promises to be a fun highlight of the convention. Come on out and sing along with: "Bill & Hillary—find yourselves another country to be part of..."

Not to be missed...

The Liberty Fair: Our annual convention "Midway," open between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Saturday, will include exhibitors from various libertarian oriented businesses and organizations along with seminars on education, health care, financial privacy, and the right to keep and bear arms.

Candidate Training: Jon Coon and his dynamic campaign manager, Barbara Goushaw, will hold their highly praised candidate's workshop at 10 a.m. on Saturday.

Bylaws and Platform Meeting: Always a lively discussion, this year's business session (3-5 p.m. Saturday) will include a proposal to enact a Michigan Platform. Don't forget to bring along your two cent's worth.

Candidate Paperwork: If you are planning to run for office, you'll need to attend to be nominated and to get help with the various and sundry paperwork requirements.

National Delegates: Now that the LPM is the number four state party, we are entitled to 35 delegates to the national convention in Washington DC this summer. We need members to accept these national slots at our convention (proxies are not permitted).

APRIL 19-21, 1996, At the Georgian Inn

31327 Gratiot, north of 13-Mile Rd. in Roseville

Send in the Registration form in this issue or contact Stacy VanOast at 810-784-8783

THE 1996 CONVENTION

REGISTRATION FORM

Prices:	by 4/12:	at door:
<input type="checkbox"/> Friday Night (separate from other packages)	\$10	\$12
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Package (everything listed below)	\$90	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Basic Package (all meetings, seminars & speakers)	\$50	\$55
<input type="checkbox"/> Liberty Fair	\$5	\$5
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Banquet	\$30	\$35
<input type="checkbox"/> Prime Rib		
<input type="checkbox"/> Chicken Kiev		
<input type="checkbox"/> Lake Superior Whitefish		
<input type="checkbox"/> speech only	\$10	\$15
<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday Brunch	\$15	\$20
<input type="checkbox"/> speech only	\$5	\$10

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: () _____

MEMBERSHIP FORM

- \$35 Tri - level (national, state and county)
County: _____
- \$15 LPM only

New members must affirm the following statement with their signature:

"I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving social or political goals"
(This does not preclude self-defense or resistance to tyranny.)

Signature: _____

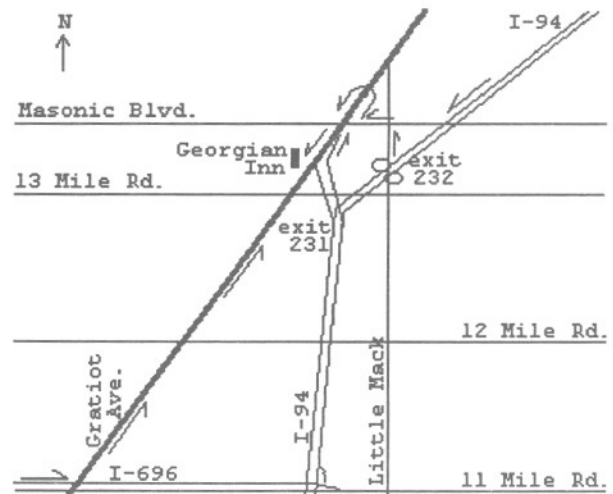
Make checks payable and send to:

The Libertarian Party of Michigan
11700 Merriman Rd.
Livonia, MI 48150

Mandated Notices: The USPS requires that we notify you that the cost of newsletter subscriptions are included in your memberships dues. The IRS requires that we print "contributions are not tax-deductible"

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Hotel - The Georgian Inn is located at 31327 Gratiot Ave. in Roseville just south of Masonic Blvd. From Detroit and points north, south & west, take I-696 to Gratiot Ave. north. Travel north past 13 Mile Rd. The hotel will be on the left (you will need to turn around through the median once past Masonic Blvd.). From points east, take I-94 west to Little Mack, exit #232. Turn left onto Little Mack, right on Masonic Ave., then right onto Gratiot Ave. Turn around through the median and the hotel will be on the right, just past Masonic Blvd.. Call (810) 294-0400 for reservations and further directions, tell them you're with the LPM Convention to get a 10% discount off the regular room rates..



Membership Requirements - You must be a member of the Libertarian Party of Michigan in order to vote at the convention. *New members must be paid members for thirty days prior to the convention to vote.* Use the form in this brochure to join or renew your membership. Members must attend the convention in person to vote, there will be no charge to participate in any of the business meetings dealing with bylaws or elections.

Candidates - Those seeking nominations for public office need to contact the LPM Campaign Chair, James Hudler, (313) 475-9793, before the convention. There is important information you must bring with you.

For up to the minute information, look up the LPM's World Wide Web site at <http://www.coast.net/~lpm/>, e-mail Mark Heil at 72113.1626@compuserve.com, or call Stacy Van Oast at (810) 784-8783.

STATE

LPM Minutes, 17 March 1996

The meeting was called to order shortly after 1:00 in Ann Arbor. Present were Salvette, Owen, Marsh, Nagy, Bachrach, Beavers, Coon, Edwards, and Hudler. Also present were Brinkman, Clark, DeVarti, Thompson, and S.Van Oast. The minutes of the January meeting were accepted without dissent.

The Treasurer's report was accepted and submitted for audit without dissent. Nagy pointed out that primarily due to ever-increasing membership, we are well above projected income for the year, with two months until the close of the year.

Of particular interest from Salvette's Chair report is the Volunteer Network, tentatively to be headed by Bill Carver, which will match people interested in volunteering for the party with people who have projects that need attending to.

Owen and Bachrach mailed 314 pieces of literature to Constitution Party members, now that their organization has fallen apart.

Because there was no quorum at the February LAC meeting, Ionia County's affiliate cannot be formally recognized until the convention.

No official notification from the Ottawa County affiliate that they are assuming responsibility for Muskegon County has been received; so we cannot yet send them the dues from Muskegon members.

Salvette suggested that the Platform Committee hold an open meeting at the state convention, on Saturday morning, to give members the opportunity to review the platform before the floor debate. Van Oast will arrange space for that meeting. Bachrach suggested that the committee include in the platform a mechanism for retiring it.

Owen was appointed chair of the Presidential Campaign Committee.

Van Oast reported no problems with convention planning. The Convention Committee is beginning the publicity and promotion for the event.

The Bylaws Committee reported that they will suggest two changes to the convention. 1) clarify our presidential nomination procedures for years (such as 1996) when the national convention follows the state convention. 2) the appeals procedure for affiliate recognition should be modified so that we "don't air our dirty laundry in front of the LPUS."

We will have at least 503 members as of April 15, so the Party has met and exceeded its membership goal for 1995-6. Ben Bachrach is resigning as Membership Director as of April 21, although he will continue to be the Database Manager.

Owen and Brinkman reported that the Mid-Michigan affiliate had got pledges of \$750 to open a campaign headquarters in East Lansing. Bachrach/Hudler moved to appropriate funds up to \$1000 to Mid-Michigan's Campaign Headquarters project. Coon/Hudler moved to amend the amendment so that the funds can be used for solicitation purposes only. The amendment passed 5-3. The motion, as amended, passed 7-1.

Nagy, who had brought up the prospect of incorporation of the Party at the 1995 convention, will bring it up again at this year's convention.

Owen/Coon moved to adopt the Standing Rules proposal as the recommendation of the LEC to the convention. Motion passed.

An idea was proposed to offer a banner emblazoned with "Libertarian Party of Michigan" to the affiliate who shows the greatest membership growth during the 1996-7 year. An Incentives Committee will determine the nature and conditions of such an award and report about it at the convention. Passed without dissent.

Adjourned

(Notes condensed by B. Cashman)



Affiliate Report

MARCH-APRIL, 1996

NEWS FROM THE WEST

SAM ADAMS DINNER

The Libertarian Party of West Michigan will be holding its 1996 Convention on Tuesday, April 9th, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Papa Romano's restaurant (3580 Plainfield NE, east from Plainfield exit off of I-96) in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

At the LPWM '96 Convention, an ambitious new membership growth project will be announced. Currently, the LPWM has a little over 20 members. The goal for the new 1-year term will be to bring in 80 new members, bringing the total LPWM membership to over 100 members! This membership recruitment drive is being spearheaded by the newly appointed LPWM Membership Committee Chair Phil Walsh.

Also from the LPWM: Glenn Barr, after having served three 1-year terms as LPWM Chair, officially resigned at the end of the February 6th business meeting. He emphasized that he fully intended to remain active in the LPWM, but thought it was time to "mix things up."

LPWM volunteers will be manning the fundraising phones for PBS on Saturday, March 23rd. Members hope to receive some positive exposure for the Libertarian Party. They will also be participating in "Tax Education Day," handing out Libertarian Party brochures at the downtown Grand Rapids post office on Monday evening, April 15th. The primary goal is simply to promote greater awareness of the Libertarian Party. A secondary goal is to acquire a few new inquiries.

The LPWM is holding a "Patrick Henry Dinner" on May 10th at the Days Inn in downtown Grand Rapids (right off of U.S. 131 just south of I-196). Republican State Representative Jack Horton will be speaking. Tickets are \$17.76 for a buffet dinner. (Note: Tickets are being sold at only about \$1 above cost, the little extra to be used for pre-event advertising.) For more information, contact Sharon Greene at (616) 452-4214.

The Libertarian Party of Washtenaw County held their second annual "Sam Adams Dinner" on Saturday March 16, 1996 at the historic James Breaky Manor in Ypsilanti. The dinner was organized by Alan Robertson, Diana Peacor, and James Hudler.

The featured speaker was Macomb County Prosecutor Carl Marlinga who spoke on the subject "The Constitution is it still Relevant?". Mr. Marlinga stressed that the original intent of the Constitution had been intended to limit federal power over the States but has since been expanded to include Federal control over every aspect of our lives. He also warned that the public school systems are no longer teaching children the true system of American government, but teach that the Federal Government is our main ruling body and the States and local governments are mere subsidiaries.

All of this was, of course, music to the ears of the 70 plus Libertarians in attendance. Mr. Marlinga's obvious sincerity on this issue is a heartening example that not all high ranking Democrats misunderstand the relation of government to freedom.

Several members of the gathering came dressed in colonial costume that fit nicely with the decor of the James Breaky Manor, one of Ypsilanti's oldest buildings.

James Nichols speaks at Washtenaw Libertarians meeting

Decker MI. farmer and brother of Terry Nichols, a suspect in the Oklahoma bombing incident, spoke at a Thursday meeting of the Libertarian Party of Washtenaw Co. Approximately fifty people, many of them reporters, attended the meeting to hear James Nichols describe his ordeal at the hands of over zealous federal agents. The crowd was mostly sympathetic to an innocent man who had faced the full wrath of the federal government.

LPMM "Rocks the Vote"

EAST LANSING, MI - Music Television's "Choose or Lose" bus was on Michigan State's campus Thursday, March 14, and so were representatives of the Libertarian Party of Mid-Michigan (LPMM).

Libertarian Party members were on hand to inform students of America's third largest and fastest growing political party. LPMM members used "Operation Politically Homeless," a libertarian recruiting tool from the Advocates for Self-Government, and distributed Libertarian Party and Harry Browne for President Literature.

"If the voters feel they can only choose Bill Clinton or Bob Dole, then they will really lose." declared LPMM Chairman Mike Brinkman. "We knew that MTV wouldn't have the facts about the Libertarian Party, so we had to supply them ourselves. Michigan voters were excited to see that they would have a real choice in 1996, and that choice is the Libertarian Party."

Surprisingly, the Libertarian Party was the only political party to have representation at the event. "That goes to show that the two establishment parties really aren't interested in the youth vote." said Brinkman. Representatives were on hand for individual candidates, but not political parties.

Of the nearly 200 people who took the World's Smallest Political Quiz, 48 respondents' scores qualified them as Libertarians. The World's Smallest Political Quiz measures a person's position on the political spectrum based on 10 questions about social and economic freedom. 65 people qualified as Centrists, 39 as Liberals, 27 as Conservatives, and 15 scored as Authoritarian.

During the three hour event, 35 Michigan State students expressed interest in starting a Libertarian group at Michigan State University. "Several of the quiz takers, even those who didn't score Libertarian were eager to get more information on the party," said Brinkman.

Many of the students who took the quiz were surprised with the results. "We were getting people who were wearing Debbie Stabenow and Dick Chrysler for Congress pins taking the quiz and scoring Libertarian." remarked Brinkman. "After one student, who was wearing a Bob Dole for President sticker scored Libertarian, we gave him some info on Harry Browne, the Libertarian Party's candidate for President. He came back a few minutes later, peeled off and crumpled up his Bob Dole sticker and proclaimed 'Forget Dole, I'm voting for Harry Browne!'"

As of March 14, the Libertarian Party has ballot access in 30 States, and expects to have ballot access in all 50 for the 1996 Presidential Election. If the Libertarian Party makes ballot access in all 50 States in 1996, it will be the first time in U.S. history that any third party has been on the ballot in all 50 States for two consecutive presidential elections. "In 1992, Libertarian Party presidential candidate Andre Marrou was on the ballot in all 50 states before Ross Perot, but the media still ignored him. We are here to make certain that doesn't happen again in 1996 with Harry Browne." proclaimed Brinkman.

NEW LP AFFILIATE

Libertarians in northern Michigan will meet to form a new LPM affiliate. A mass meeting will be held on Saturday, March 30 at 7 pm at the Park Place Hotel in Traverse City. LPM State Chair, Emily Salvette, will give a presentation on the Libertarian Party and answer audience questions. The meeting will then plan the future of the organization. With start-up of the northern Michigan group, the LPM will have fourteen active affiliates in the state.

Everyone is welcome to attend this free event. For more information contact Richard Ask (616) 941-1306.

Libertarian Party Membership Application

MARCH-APRIL, 1996

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