



# MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

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## NEWS LETTER OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF MICHIGAN

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### *Michigan Constitution Article I, Sec. 5*

*Every person may freely speak, write, express and publish his views on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of such right: and no law shall be enacted to restrain or abridge the liberty of speech or of the press.*

JULY-AUGUST, 1996

### BROWNE & JORGENSON NOMINATED

#### DASBACH RE-ELECTED CHAIR

Best-selling author Harry Browne won an overwhelming victory in the balloting for the Presidential nomination of the Libertarian Party at its national convention in Washington, D.C. on July 6. Browne, 63, took 416 votes of 605 cast to 74 for Rick Tompkins, 32 for Irwin Schiff, 20 for Doug Ohmann, three write-ins and 60 for None of The Above.

Browne's victory was never really in doubt. Five candidates participated in a debate on July 5, moderated by Texas Chair Jay Manifold and Browne was clearly the favorite, with his comprehensive plan to reduce government bringing bursts of applause and a standing ovation. Irwin Schiff, probably quite aware he was not going to win the debate, seemed more relaxed than usual, punctuating his debate remarks with humor, especially on the subject of the federal judiciary. "The Supreme Court is supposed to interpret the Constitution. Why? Is it written in Chinese?"

The non-victors moved quickly to endorse Browne as solidarity was the spirit of the day.

Michigan's delegation of 35 voted 27 for Browne, 1 for Tompkins and 7 for None of the Above.

Jo Jorgenson was nominated for Vice-President without opposition although NOTA re-

### CONVENTION MARKS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

The National Convention of the Libertarian Party on July 4-7 in Washington, D.C. marked the 25th anniversary of the Party with celebration, education, nostalgia and optimism for the 900 some attendees.

The unofficial opening ceremony occurred on the north steps of the Jefferson Memorial, where Jefferson's statue looks across the Tidal Basin at the White House. July 3 was the date and Thomas Jefferson himself was there to read his Declaration of Independence to the gathering. (Well, it looked like Tom, anyway. A drum and 'fife band was on hand to play patriotic music from the past and host Don Ernsberger recited lyrics from contemporary songs of freedom.

The formal opening on the Fourth featured a real barn-burner of a keynote address by Jacob "Bumper" Hornberger which left the Libertarian crowd absolutely breathless. That evening, many attended the annual concert by the National Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Erich Kunzel and the fireworks which followed.

There were three breakfasts. On Friday, National Director Perry Willis stressed the need to build membership ("God is on the side of the big Battalions"). The democrats and republicans have 400-500,000 members and we need to reach those figures to compete. There are an estimated 50 million Americans who are basically libertarian. We need to stress our strengths. We need to do talk show advertising and get

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## DIRECTORY

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair	Emily Salvette	313-747-8129
Vice Chair	Mark Owen	616-729-1550
Secretary	Dan Marsh	616-456-9472
Treasurer	Dave Nagy	
At-large	Jon Coon	
	Keith Edwards	
	James Hudler	
	Jim McAbee	
	Stacy Van Oast	

## JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

	Glenn Barr	
	Bill Hall	
	Tim O'Brien	
Editor	Keith Edwards	810-777-7468
Inquiries	Marnie Edwards	810-777-7468
Membership	Mark Heil	810-468-0509
Speakers	Keith Edwards	810-777-7468
Campaign Coordinator & Campus Organizing	James Hudler	313-475-9792
Affiliates Coordinators	Stacy Van Oast	810-784-8783
	Jim McAbee	810-752-4844
Volunteer Coordinator	Bill Carver	810-293-1402
Michigan 16-5 Committee Presidential Campgn	Ben Bachrach	313-563-1558

## LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES:

Allegan Co.	Rick Dutkiewicz	616-673-5503
Berrien Co.	Scott Beavers	616-944-1852
Ionia Co.	Dick Whitelock	616-527-9263
Isabella Co.	John Tuttle	517-866-2365
Kalamazoo-Calhoun	Dennis Flatt	616-385-3547
Lapeer-Genesee	John Hertrich	810-724-2038
Lansing area	Mike Brinkman	517-351-0514
Livingston Co.	Doug MacDonald	810-231-3137
Macomb Co.	Stacy Van Oast	810-784-8783
Midland-Bay-Saginaw	Russ Burke	517-686-8017
Northwest MI	Richard Ask	616-941-1306
Oakland Co.	Don Taube	810-745-9118
Ottawa Co.	Jeff Terhaar	616-847-0581
South Central (Jackson-Hillsdale-Lenawee)	Nick Bennett	517-529-4486
Washtenaw Co.	Geoff Foster	313-481-3044
Wayne Co.	Joann Karpinski	313-925-6917
Western Mich.	Todd Greene	616-456-9472
Upper Peninsula	Robert Black	906-875-4585
Univ. of Mich.	Martin Howrylak	810-643-6653
Western Mich U	Brian Carnell	616-345-8671
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.

Ionia meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 7 PM at Ionia CO. Courthouse, 2nd floor Circuit Courtroom in Ionia.

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

Lapeer-Genesee meets on the second Wednesday at 7:30 in the Commissioners room (basement) of Lapeer Co. Bldg, 255 Clay St., Lapeer.

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

Macomb meets on the second Wednesday at 6 PM at Fire Escape Restaurant, 61 N. Walnut in Mt. Clemens.

Mid-Mich LP (Lansing area) meets on the second Thursday at 7 PM at Sneekers Restaurant, 600 Homer, Lansing.

Oakland Co. meets on the fourth Wednesday at 7 PM at Norman's Restaurant, Eaton St. south of Maple in Birmingham.

Ottawa meets on the second Friday at 7:30 PM at the China Garden Restaurant, 133 Washington, in Grand Haven

Washtenaw meets every Thursday at 6:30 PM at Dominick's Restaurant, 812 Monroe St., Ann Arbor.

Wayne Co. meets on the first Tuesday at 6:30 PM at La Trattoria Restaurant, 13736 Michigan, west of Schaefer, Dearborn.

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

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

## FROM THE CHAIR

By Emily Hopp Salvette

In accepting the Libertarian Party's nomination for Vice-President on July 6, Jo Jorgenson encouraged "Steve Forbes Republicans" to vote Libertarian this year. We should follow Jo's lead. While you're out campaigning, keep this in mind: you don't have to BE a Libertarian to VOTE Libertarian.

As a party, we have one job from now thru November: to get votes for our candidates. To win, we need votes from outside the Libertarian ranks. Given the current degeneration of political ideology in the two major parties, there should be plenty of votes up for grabs. There are liberals disgusted with Clinton's approval of the Counter-terrorism bill and the Computer Decency Act. There are conservatives who can't believe the Republicans caved in on the minimum wage and Medicare reform. We need these voters and our candidates will win their votes if we approach them the right way.

The right way requires us to maintain our focus. At every fair booth, on every door-to-door canvass, at every public speaking engagement, we should sell the candidate, not the Party. All our candidates are honest, intelligent, hard-working people who have practical solutions to issues concerning voters. Any one of our candidates best represents the voter who feels government intrudes too much into his private life or her pocketbook. The voter may not believe drugs should be legalized or the Second Amendment means what it says, but that does not change the fact that an elected Libertarian can best address their concerns about big government. Remind them that plenty of pro-choice Republicans will vote for Dole (of course, who knows where Dole stands on this today). Our focus must be on getting Libertarian votes, not Libertarian members. Don't be distracted selling every plank of the LP platform. Instead, sell Harry Browne, the only Presidential candidate who can deliver "huge tax cuts now, huge spending cuts now, a balanced budget now."

Not that we don't want new members, we certainly do. Membership will again be our focus starting November 6. And, new members will be a natural result of successful campaigning. But most voters do not care about politics and couldn't care less about political ideology. Pushing doctrine on these people will just alienate them. Instead, just ask for their vote because the Libertarian candidate is a decent guy or gal who will best represent them when elected to office. As Jon Coon pointed out to a national C-SPAN audience at the Washington, D.C. Convention, "Th(e Libertarian) Party has the strength, ability, principles and philosophy to unify people." It's our job to ensure that as many voters as possible, from whatever political persuasion, unify behind our candidates on November 5.

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 NATIONAL CONVENTION PARTICIPANTS

Thanks delegates and alternates to the National LP Nominating Convention in Washington, D.C. You were an active, conscientious and very telegenic delegation. The LPM is proud of you!

Delegates: Richard Ask, Ben Bachrach, Scott Beavers, Scott Boman, Mike Brinkman, Brett Cashman, Richard Clark, Jon Coon, Max Dollarhite, Keith Edwards, Geoff Foster, Barb Goushaw, Todd Greene, Bill Hall, Nick Hamilton, Mark Heil, Martin Howrylak, James Hudler, Ed & Joann Karpinski, Eric Larson, Doug MacDonald, Dan Marsh, Jim & Anna McAbee, Mike Miller, James Montgomery, Dave Nagy, Tim & Nancy O'Brien, Christine Ross, Emily Salvette, Paul Soyk, Alex Stevenson and Ray Warner.

Alternates: Drew Bachrach, Anina Bachrach, Renae Coon, Judy Dollarhite, Rosemary Racchi, Richard Samul, Ben & Violet Steele, At Titran and Michael Wirick.

Most enthusiastic Delegate: Al Titran who even enjoyed the endless platform debate.

Volunteer who most enjoys His/her job was Richard Clark, Delegation Whip. Frankly, I'm not sure what that says about Richard.

Emily Hopp Salvette

## COMING ATTRACTIONS

August 11. LPM State Picnic at Hell Creek Ranch, Hell, MI at 1:00 PM. Bring lawn chairs, lunch and beverages. Alcohol is permitted. Cookout grill, horseback riding, canoeing, camping. Exit US-23 at N. Territorial Rd., exit 49. West 8.5 miles and turn north at the blinker onto Dexter-Pinckney Rd. 4 miles. Turn west on Darwin Rd. at the sign "to Hell" and go 1.5 miles (Darwin turns into Patterson Lake Rd., keep going straight) to Cedar Lake Rd. Turn right and you will see the ranch. Follow the Harry Browne signs to our camp site. A Libertarian Advisory Council meeting is planned. If no quorum, an Executive Committee meeting will be held.

August 12. Brass Cajones Awards Dinner at Red Fawn Hall, Allen Park at 6 PM. Call 1-800-555 GUNS for more info.

August 16-18. Ypsilanti Heritage Festival. LP booth sponsored by LP of Washtenaw Co. Call Richard Clark at 313-482-9563 to volunteer.

September 7. Fund raising dinner with Harry Browne at the Olive Branch Lodge, 1170 Mason St. in Dearborn. Tickets are \$20.00 from Bill Shotey at 313-278-3673. Seating is limited, reserve early.

September 8. Third annual Brass Boots Rally on the steps of the Capitol Bldg., Lansing at 1:00 PM. Harry Browne will speak. Call 1-800-555-GUNS for more information.

September 26. University of Michigan College Libertarians host economist David Littman at the Michigan Union, 7:30 PM. Call James Hudler at 313-475-9796 for info.

October 19. Liberty Week Banquet with guest speaker Harry Browne at the Loon River Cafe at 34911 Van Dyke, Sterling Heights. Call Diane Barnes at 810-774-1193 for details. Sponsored by Libertarians of Macomb County.

October 21. ECONOMIC CLUB OF DETROIT has invited Harry Browne to speak! A big break! Contact Bill Shotey at 313-278-3673 for info.

## MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

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

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## DID YOU KNOW?

The Libertarian Party of Michigan will remain on the ballot if Harry Browne gets 16,343 votes for President November 5.

The LPM will achieve major party status if Harry Browne receives 152,588 votes on November 5.

If Harry Browne were not to get the 16,343 votes, the LPM would need to get 30,891 valid signatures on petitions to regain ballot status. Let's go for the 152,588.

## BROWNE NOMINATED (Continued)

ceived scattered votes. This is the third time the Libertarian Party has nominated a woman for the Vice-Presidency, following Toni Nathan in 1972 and Nancy Lord in 1992. Jorgenson, 39, appears to be as animated a candidate as those two predecessors, with a special attraction for young voters,

Steve Dasbach was reelected National Chair, 297-177 over Gene Cicewski. The delegates were clearly impressed with the progress of the Dasbach administration over the past three years in terms of membership growth, media attention and a vast improvement in national office efficiency. There was fear that Cicewski would clean house and sack National Director Perry Willis and Communications Director Bill Winter. Gene's denial at the Sunday morning debate came much too late to save him.

Karen Allard was re-elected Vice Chair and Hugh Butler was reelected Treasurer, both without opposition although there was substantial criticism of Butler's grossly inadequate Treasurer's Report. Gary Johnson was elected Secretary without opposition, succeeding John Famularo who did not seek reelection.

Michigan's Bill Hall led the voting for the five At-large Natcomm members with 346. Also elected were Ron Crickenberger 333, Steve Winter 316, Steve Givot 245 and Sharon Ayres 238. Gary Fincher missed with 96. Hall, nominated by Pennsylvania's Don Ernsberger, received a unanimous vote from the Michigan delegation.

The new Region 3 is composed of Michigan, Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky. Our new Regional Representative is Ken Bisson, M.D., of Indiana. Donald Gallick of Ohio is the alternate.

The National Platform was discussed on July 4-5 with fewer changes than usual. The Children's Rights plank was dropped, but may be reinstated next time with more realistic wording.

## CONVENTION (Continued)

talk show hosts to plug out ticket. He announced that there were 8,900 calls to the national 800 number the first day as a result of the gavel-to gavel coverage on TV by C-Span.

Michigan's Jon Coon spoke at the Saturday morning event, discussing methods of winning elections. He emphasized focusing on real, honest Americans who don't want favors, but just want to earn their own way. He exposed the divide and conquer tactics of the two older parties, stressing that ordinary democrats and republicans are not our enemies, they are our MARKET! By demonstrating that we are opposed to their oppressors, the big power broker-special interests, we can win the votes of those victims. Coon said candidates need to EARN media recognition by (1) faxing press releases all the time, (2) call talk shows for interviews all the time and (3) be nice but be persistent.

Nadine Strossen, President of the American Civil Liberties Union gave a fiery speech blasting the two older parties and the federal judiciary and brought down the house by saying "I want to get the Government out of our lives on all issues from abortion to zoning!"

Friday night we were invited to "David Nolan's Livingroom", a nostalgic look at the founding of the LP by Nolan in 1971. Nolan, Ernsberger, Dave Walter, Jim Turney, Tonie Nathan and Bob Poole reminisced on the early and formative years of the libertarian movement. It's amazing how many of us got into the movement because of Barry Goldwater and Ayn Rand. It was a lump-in-the-throat evening.

The Saturday night Banquet featured a Tribute to Barry Goldwater by Lee Edwards, many awards to libertarian activists (one of which went to Jon Coon for the best US Senate campaign of 1994) and good music and food. Another teary-eyed, lumpy-throat event. We also raised \$150,000 that night!



## LPM CANDIDATES FOR 1996

President Harry Browne  
 Vice President Jo Jorgenson  
 U.S. Senator Kenneth L. Proctor

## Representatives in Congress

District 1 Michael Oleniczak  
 2 Bruce A. Smith  
 3 Erwin J. Haas  
 4 Ben Steele III  
 5 Mark Owen  
 6 Scott Beavers  
 7 Robert F. Broda  
 8 Douglas K. MacDonald  
 9 Malcolm C. Johnson  
 10 Stuart E. Scott  
 11 Richard Gach  
 12 Albert J. Titran  
 13 James F. Montgomery  
 14 Scott A. Boman  
 15 Raymond H. Warner  
 16 Bruce Cain

## State Representatives:

District 15 Paul Kane  
 19 John Tatar  
 23 Brad Tidik  
 24 Jon E. Coon  
 25 Loel Gnadt  
 26 Keith P. Edwards  
 27 Thomas R. Sydlow  
 29 Mathew Ignash  
 32 Robert Van Oast  
 47 Richard Frost  
 50 Joe Smolinski  
 54 Michael Wirik  
 66 Edward D. wallace  
 70 Mike Brinkman  
 78 Thomas A. Baker  
 85 Max E. Dollarhite  
 108 Leslie J. Ellison  
 109 Jerry Pierre-Trettel  
 110 Robert Black

## State Board of Education

Diane Barnes  
 Barbara B. Goushaw

## Regent of University of Michigan

William W. Hall  
 Calvin J. Matle

## Trustee of Michigan State University

Michael H. Miller  
 Brian A. Kluesner

## Governor of Wayne State University

Thomas W. Jones  
 Stacy Van Oast

## Justice of the Supreme Court

Jerry J Kaufman  
 David Raaflaub

## Berrien Co. Commissioner

District 2 James Kuhn

## Ionia Co. Commissioner

District 4 Richard L. Whitelock  
 5 William Bartelt  
 6 William Warner

## Kent Co. Commissioner

District 10 Glenn A. Barr  
 11 Gregory Pattok  
 15 Todd Greene  
 17 Dan Marsh  
 18 Steve Butler

## Kent Co. Sheriff

Steve Warren

## Kalkaska Co. Prosecutor Jerold T. Coon

## Lapeer Co. Arcadia Twp. Trustee

Mike Woodall

## Lenawee CO. Sheriff

Bart Tinder

## Clinton Twp. Trustee

Brian Wisneski

## Livingston Co. Clerk

Richard a. Samul

## Hamburg Twp. Trustee

Matthew Dickinson

## Macomb Co. Clerk

Dennis M. Jacques

## Macomb Co. Commissioner:

District 4 Ronald L. Burcham  
 6 Laurel Pietrangelo  
 7 Paul M. Soyk  
 11 Russell Kohler  
 13 James McAbee  
 18 Mark F. Heil  
 21 Bill Carver

## Ottawa CO. Commissioner:

District 7 Jeffrey Terhaar  
 13 Russ Smith

## Washtenaw Co.:

Superior Twp. Commissioner Brett Cashman  
 Sylvan Twp. Trustee James L. Hudler  
 Ypsilanti Twp. Trustee Geoffrey Foster  
 Wayne Co. Commissioner Kerry Smith

### STOP THE BROWNE OUT!

### KEN BISSON REPORTS

As mentioned in the last issue of the Michigan Libertarian, the Libertarian Party of Michigan has formed a statewide committee, Michigan Sixteen Five to lead the effort to insure that Harry Browne receives at least 16,343 votes in the November election to retain ballot status in Michigan. Actually, we hope and expect to do much better than that! Sharon Ayres, the National Campaign Director of the Harry Browne for President Committee has appointed Michigan Sixteen Five as the leaders of their campaign in Michigan.

Michigan Sixteen Five is circulating petitions addressed to the Commission on Presidential Debates urging them to include Harry Browne and Jo Jorgenson in the 1996 debates. This will show the Commission that we should be in the debates, but will help us identify potential supporters.

It is less expensive for each person to make copies of the petition included in this newsletter than to pay telephone and shipping costs in mailing out copies. Michigan Sixteen Five will publish a weekly progress report. A free subscription to the report will be given to anyone who turns in petitions with 100 or more names. Those who can read Excel Files can download the petition from the LPM Web-Site.

Ben Bachrach, Chair, Michigan Sixteen Five

On July 7, at the National Convention, Region 3 delegations selected their representative and alternate to the LNC for the next to years, Ken Bisson of Indiana and Don Gallick of Ohio, respectively.

A brief Libertarian National Committee meeting convened at the close of the Convention. These were the highlights:

The next meeting will be November 16-17 at the National Office.

An agreement to define LNC support of ballot access in 1996 & 1998 in New York State

Convention report and reaffirming previous LNC selection of convention oversight committee for the 1998 Atlanta Convention.

Scheduling repayment of \$30,000 debt for over-budget ballot access expense.

Adjust budget to reflect new line of \$75,000 income from presidential campaign and corresponding increase in staff expenditure of same.

Election of Bill Hall and Ron Crickenberger to the Executive Committee.

Passage of platform motion opposing curfews.

Ken Bisson. M.D. at kbisson@directnet.net



Libertarian Party of Michigan Campaign Fund

Voting Harry Browne for President keeps the Libertarian Party on the Michigan Ballot

Show you want:  
 Huge Tax Cuts Now!  
 Huge Spending Cuts Now!  
 A Balanced Budget Now!

Michigan Law requires us to report the name, mailing address, occupation, and employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$100 in a calendar year. Political contributions are not federal tax-deductible.

### I want to help the Harry Browne campaign in Michigan!

I'd like to contribute: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  Check enclosed. Or: bill my  MasterCard  Visa  
 (Make checks payable to: Libertarian Party of Michigan Campaign Fund. No corporate checks, please.)

Acct# \_\_\_\_\_ Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

I want to volunteer to help with: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: LPM Campaign Fund, 604 N Vernon, Dearborn MI 48128-1553

## LETTERS

Dear Editor:

Although I had voted Libertarian for twelve years, I had never joined the Party nor attended a Libertarian function until I was invited to speak to the Macomb County Libertarians in June of 1995. My topic, education.

Since then, I was elected Vice-Chair of the Macomb County group and I am running for State Board of Education! I am proud to be an active member of the Libertarian Party. I no longer sit around listening to talk radio and complaining about the way things ought to be. I am doing something positive to change them.

The Libertarian Party has given me the opportunity to express myself openly. My voice matters within the Party itself. Those of you who attended the LP State Convention may remember I was the one who was so determined to change the Party's platform on education. AND I DID!

I am excited about the many things our group is doing. I love being involved in planning events like the State Convention and Liberty Week/Liberty Fest, but most of all I enjoy the association with other free and independent thinkers who are making a difference in American politics.

During Libertarian Week (October 13-19) or your next opportunity, bring a friend to a Libertarian meeting, write a letter to the editor, call talk radio, and discuss Libertarian principles. If you're a member, get involved with your local affiliate. There are many places your talents can be utilized.

Looking back over my year as an active member, I can say it is one of the more significant decisions I have made in my life. I recognize it is MY responsibility to uphold the libertarian precepts of our forefathers.

Diane Barnes, Vice-Chair, Libertarians of Macomb County

To the Editor:

I recently read the following paragraphs in a most unlikely place. The writer was responding to an unprincipled attack upon some of his theories by a competitor.

"In part, despite his Ph.D. and in part, due to his university schooling, Hatfield is a victim of a philosophically bankrupt culture. The universities are the major villains in our decaying anti-rational culture. It is our schools that are primarily responsible for teaching young minds Immanuel Kant's evil philosophical views, including the notion that absolutes don't exist, therefore fundamental principles don't exist. These beliefs, as Ayn Rand identified, explain why intellectual confusion is the hallmark of the 20th Century.

"It is people's inability to think in terms of fundamentals, essentials and principles that leads to confusion; and is what prompted someone to designate ours The Age of Complexity. Inundated by a ceaseless profusion of data, facts, notions and information, the philosophically bereft, unable to identify what is fundamentally important, cannot properly structure his thinking and is overwhelmed by an unnecessary 'complexity' . . ."

No. this is not Peikoff or Schwartz or Machan or Binswanger or Ridpath or Kelley. This is Mike Mentzer, who won the 1978 Mr. Universe title with the first perfect score in history, and who is currently an associate editor of a magazine called MUSCULAR DEVELOPMENT \* FITNESS \* HEALTH. The article was on page 12 of the August, 1996, issue.

This is newsworthy: rational ideas are starting to penetrate the popular culture. You might want to include this in your newsletter.

Bill Schmidt

Happy to do so, Bill And thanks. Pretty soon this sort of thinking will appear in comic books and then EVERYONE will understand.



## CREATIVITY: THE RESPONSE TO EVIL

By Keith Edwards

As reported elsewhere in this issue, the National Convention of the Libertarian Party was an exciting, inspiring event. There was that exchange of ideas, emotions and experiences that just doesn't occur often enough.

For me, the impact came during the "David Nolan's Living Room celebration Friday night when I learned that the direct cause of Nolan's founding the Libertarian Party was President Nixon's economic decrees of August 15, 1971, which inflicted wage and price controls, the final parting of the dollar and gold and other idiocy. Nolan founded the LP that night.

August 15 was one of the darkest days in US economic history, akin to Directive 10-289, the "Moratorium on Brains" in Ayn Rand's novel, Atlas Shrugged. Like the villains in that story, Nixon performed a purely pragmatic, cynical act, evading the reality that his actions were immensely destructive and immoral. It took a decade to recover. In those days, there was a rumor that Nixon had read "Atlas" and we joked that he must have loved, and been truly inspired by the character Wesley Mouch. (If you haven't read it, you've missed a lot!) Harry Veryser and I held a news conference the next day and my remarks were almost completely distorted by a neanderthal Free Press reporter. (The Free Press eventually figured him out and moved him to the sports department where ideas don't matter.)

While it seemed to be a disastrous week, it was not, for it resulted in both the creation of the only party of freedom at the same time it killed the Republicans' pretensions in that regard. They have been brain-dead ever since.

Would the Libertarian Party have been created anyway? Probably, government has been giving us reasons to do so for some 70 years, but when? Many of us had joined the Republican Party during the Goldwater campaign in 1964 and were in despair by 1971. I had quit the GOP that spring after enduring an entire evening debating my collea-

gues over the issue of abolishing pornography while the country struggled with inflation, high taxes, Viet Nam and an increasing number of FBI raids on dissenters. Mr. Nixon provided the spark which ended months of futility.

These events were all tragedies caused by government, but they, and Ruby Ridge, Waco, the drug raids, dog-shootings, kitten stomping, asset forfeitures, the attempted hi-jacking of the healthcare industry and the coverups have all been wake-up calls to freedom lovers, turning us into freedom fighters.

Government not only doesn't work, it is even its own worst enemy. The law of unintended consequences exists because of government. Pragmatism just isn't practical.

We can resist the temptation to thank Dick Nixon for his evil act. But we can thank David Nolan for being creative in response to evil.

And that's what all libertarians should do. Be creative in response to evil.

Whatever the provocation, never get discouraged, never give up. Take the intellectual ammunition the government gives you and use it in defense of liberty. The more rotten governments gets, the more we can win rational people to our cause. There are an estimated 50 million libertarian-leaning people out there, 20% of the population. That is enough to win, fifty times the number it took to win Independence. And with the electronic revolution, we have much better weapons than the patriots of 1775 did.

At the National Convention, Jon Coon said, "Be nice, but be persistent."

At the same Convention, Dave Nolan said, "Be inflexible in principle, flexible in tactics and strategy."

Never give up. Be persistent and make the other side quit.

And be creative in response. Always. Whatever.



# Affiliate Report

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## OAKLAND COUNTY IS BACK ON TRACK

by Stacy Van Oast

Dave Armstrong ended his exciting year as Oakland County LP Chairman with a bang. After more than tripling the Oakland County LP membership during his year-long term, he attracted an enthusiastic crowd of over 30 people to attend the Oakland County reorganization meeting on June 13. And boy! Were these people enthusiastic! Four people ran for the vacated Chair position and the following 7 people were elected:

Chairman: Don Taube  
Vice-Chair: Angelo Curcio  
Treasurer: Diane Szabla (incumbent)  
Secretary: Joan Barney  
At-Large-Board-Members: Dave Thompson,  
Dave Jackson, and Fred Collins  
Newsletter Editor: Matt Huff

Congratulations to all! Certainly your energy and ideas will be a great asset to the Libertarian Party, as well as to freedom-loving individuals everywhere.

The Libertarian Party of Oakland County will hold regular monthly meetings on the fourth Wednesday of each month at Norman's Restaurant, 245 S. Eaton Street (At Maple, East of Woodward) in Birmingham at 7:00.

Also, the Oakland County group would like to thank everyone that attended their reorganizational meeting - from outside of Oakland County as well as from within! There were several people from Macomb County in attendance, as well as a few from Wayne County. Thank you all for your encouragement and support.

**ALERT!** H.R. 2470 The Brady Act Repeal Bill also known as "The Second Amendment Reaffirmation Act of 1995" sponsored by Rep. Steve Stockman (R-TX) and four colleagues, is in need of support. Write your Congressperson and ask that they support this important legislation.

## NEWS FROM MACOMB CO.

by Stacey Van Oast

The Libertarians of Macomb County recently sponsored a Paper Drive, which was more successful in saving the environment than in raising money for the LMC! (Special thanks to Ed & JoAnn Karpinski from Wayne Co. for their 4 tons of paper!) Also,

The LMC (under Al And Rosemary Titran's fine leadership and coordination), adopted The Road to Freedom Hill. We had our first clean-up on June 22 and the county had our sign up soon after. It was actually a pretty good time, and it felt great to really be helping our community (it felt much better than having our taxes raised so that they could pay people to clean our roads!). I'm not a smoker, but if I was I would NEVER throw another cigarette butt out the window!! (Do all of you smokers out there hear that??) Anyway, we have scheduled our next clean-up for August 10 on Metro Parkway between Schoenherr and Dodge Park, with a picnic to follow (bring your own) at Freedom Hill County Park.

## YPSILANTI HERITAGE FESTIVAL

The Libertarian Party of Washtenaw Co. is sponsoring a booth at the Ypsilanti Heritage Festival on Frog Island in Ypsilanti on August 16, 17, 18.

The annual festival draws tens of thousands of people to Ypsilanti's historic Depot Town. The LPWC has operated a booth every year of the festival and hopes to maintain a high profile with plenty of Harry Brown literature, including a video presentation of candidate Browne edited from C-Span's convention coverage.

Volunteers are needed to help man the booth. Call Richard Clark at 313-482-9563, or stop by and say hello (they'll be somewhere between the Hillary Rodham Clinton Fan Club and the I.W.W. booths.

## NEWSPAPER EDITORIALS URGE: "INCLUDE HARRY IN THE DEBATES!"

from The NLP

WASHINGTON, DC -- The demands are getting louder: Include Harry Browne in the presidential debates.

Over the past several weeks, three newspapers and two influential political columnists have urged that Libertarian Party candidate Harry Browne be invited to go head-to-head against Bill Clinton and Bob Dole in the televised presidential debates in September and October.

"As a party, the Libertarians have clearly earned inclusion in those debates. The fledgling Reform Party has not," editorialized the Denver Post on July 11th. "It would be fair to set 1996 debates between Clinton, Dole, and Browne as representatives of the only parties to meet the present yardsticks for national recognition."

The Times Herald-Record in Middletown, New York agreed: "Browne, an investment advisor and political novice, [is] the presidential candidate of the Libertarian Party. He would like to elevate his party to a status that gives it an invitation to the presidential debates, as Perot managed in 1992. That would be interesting. [His] presence at the debate table would make for a livelier, perhaps more meaningful, discussion." (July 9th)

Washington Post political columnist Colman McCarthy, syndicated in 26 newspapers, urged Browne's inclusion -- even if Republicans and Democrats balk. "Harry Browne, well-spoken and not sponging off the taxpayers, deserves a place at whichever forum hosts Clinton-Dole debates," he wrote on July 13th. "To keep out the Libertarian would be yielding to the might of the two main parties..."

The Sunday Review in Hayward, California noted approvingly that Browne would bring "new ideas" to the debate. "Members of the Libertarian Party want to be invited to this year's presidential debates, and we think they belong there," the newspaper wrote on July 14th. "We invite those who present presidential candidates to the American public to open the door wider. It is time for new ideas in the United States..."

And columnist Joseph Perkins at the San Diego Union-Tribune suggested that if Browne was invited to the debates, he would "win converts to the Libertarian Party" -- and could catapult the Libertarians into major party status.

"By the next presidential election, in 2000, the Democrats and Republicans might very well find the Libertarians a third party to be reckoned with," he wrote on July 19th.

Browne, expected to be on the ballot in all 50 states by November, is leading the charge of up to 1,000 Libertarian Party candidates running for office in 1996.

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For more information on Harry Browne for President contact:

[Campaign@HarryBrowne96.org](mailto:Campaign@HarryBrowne96.org)

<http://www.HarryBrowne96.org/>

fax: 202-333-0072

2600 Virginia Ave. NW, Suite 100,  
Washington DC 20037

phone: 202-333-0008

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JULY-AUGUST, 1996

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

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