



MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

NEWS LETTER OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF MICHIGAN

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, 1997

NEW OP-ED COLUMN BECOMES AVAILABLE

Tim O'Brien, newly elected Chairman of the Libertarian Party of Michigan and noted libertarian author and lecturer, is going to begin offering a regular opinion column free to Michigan newspapers. . The monthly column will present the libertarian position on issues of the day, both state and national.

"The liberal and conservative views are certainly well represented," O'Brien observed. "But in Michigan, in America, indeed throughout the world, it is the libertarian philosophy that is clearly ascendant. "And in our popular press," he concluded, "this is a view without a voice."

The new Libertarian Party Chair edited the party newsletter in '87 and '88, is the primary author of both the LPM by-laws and platform, and twice served on the national Libertarian Party platform committee. He has been published in magazines such as Liberty and Reason, as well as major daily newspapers such as the Detroit News and the Detroit Free Press. For more than three years Mr. O'Brien provided by-weekly political commentaries on Detroit NPR affiliate WDET presenting the libertarian view on subjects ranging from the environment and affirmative action to gun control and free trade.

Each column will run approximately 500 words and will be sent free of charge to any publication. Exclusivity could be arranged in major markets.

CALLING ALL LPM AFFILIATES!

By Stacy Van Oast

Do you think your affiliate is the best in Michigan? Do you want your affiliate to be the best? Well, here's your opportunity! The Libertarian Party of Michigan is sponsoring a contest to determine the outstanding affiliate of the year and we need you to participate.

There are sixteen affiliates in Michigan, and there are millions of ways of achieving our goals of increasing membership and electing candidates. In March of 1998, a panel of judges will determine which affiliate has best accomplished the goals as well as taken the necessary steps toward reaching them and a banner with the winning affiliate's name on it will be awarded at the State Convention in 1998.

Newsletters, outreach booths, fund raising events, number of candidates, number of elected officials, membership growth, and community involvement are examples of the activities the judges will evaluate. So, start a scrapbook (retroactive to April 1, 1997) and enter the Outstanding Affiliate Contest now! For information and entry forms, contact Stacy Van Oast at (810)-784-8783 or at stacyvo@eesc.com.

We should gain more in the end by letting the world see what we are, than by trying to seem what we are not.

Maxims of La Rochefoucauld

DIRECTORY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair	Tim O'Brien	313-562-5778
Vice Chair	Stacy Van Oast	810-784-8783
Secretary	Ben Bachrach	313-563-1558
Treasurer	Dave Nagy	
At-large	Keith Edwards	
	Mark Heil	
	Doug MacDonald	
	Jim McAbee	
	Ben Steele	

JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

	Brett Cashman	
	Jon Coon	
	Bill Hall	
Database	Ben Bachrach	313-563-1558
Editor	Keith Edwards	810-777-7468
Inquiries	Marnie Edwards	
Membership	Mark Heil	810-468-0509
Speakers	Keith Edwards	810-777-7468
Affiliates Coordinators		
	Stacy Van Oast	810-784-8783
	Jim McAbee	810-752-4844
Campaign Fund	Paul Soyk	810-977-3523
Campaigns	James Hudler	313-475-9792
College Orgs.	James Hudler	

LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES

Allegan Co.	Krystal Dutkiewicz	616-673-5503
Berrien Co.	Scott Beavers	616-944-1852
Calhoun Co.	Mark Owen	616-729-5550
Ionia Co.	Dick Whitelock	616-527-9263
Isabella Co.	John Tuttle	517-866-2365
Kalamazoo Co.	Marilyn Trump	616-383-9176
Lapeer-Genesee	John Hertrich	810-795-3820
Lansing area	Mike Miller	517-351-0514
Livingston Co.	Rian Klefstad	810-229-0737
Macomb Co.	Paul Soyk	810-977-3523
Midland-Bay	J.R. Lightstein	517-642-5966
Midwest Mich.	John Willis	616-775-1552
Northwest MI	Michael Oleniczak	616-929-4817
Oakland Co.	John Robertson	248-745-6225
Ottawa- Muskegon	Jeff Terhaar	616-847-0581
Shiawassee Co.	Ben Steele	517-288-5616
South Central	Tom Slaughter	517-784-6310
Upper Peninsula	Bob Black	906-875-3913
Van Buren Co.	Bill Bradley	616-637-4525
Washtenaw Co.	James Hudler	313-475-9792
Wayne Co.	Joann Karpinski	313-925-6917
Western Mich.	Glenn Barr	616-452-7003

COLLEGE LIBERTARIANS

The following college libertarian groups meet regularly. Please call the contact person listed below if you are interested in joining or attending.

Andrews Univ.	Glenn Whitt	616-471-4186
Hillsdale	Josh Mercer	517-437-5663
Michigan State	Ben Crawford	517-332-6813
U of D-Mercy	Andrea Baum	313-993-1956
U of Michigan	Martin Howrylak	248-643-6653
Western Mich.	Brian Carnell	616-345-8671

Michigan State University Libertarians meet on the second and fourth Mondays of the month at the MSU Union Iowa Room at 7:30 PM.

If you want to start a group at your school, call James Hudler at 313-475-9792. We do want to get more groups started.

Invest With Liberty!



Liberty Coin Service

Foremost in the Sale and Purchase of Gold, Silver, Platinum, and Rare Coins Since 1971!

Call or write for a complimentary issue of *Liberty's Outlook*, our information-packed monthly newsletter. Find out why our low prices, wide selection, fast shipping, and friendly professional service have earned Liberty Coin Service dozens of endorsements in national investment newsletters. See for yourself why LCS has grown to become the largest coin dealership in Michigan!

Your confidential inquiries are welcome.

In Michigan 800-933-4720

Mon-Fri 10-5:30

(Nationwide 800-527-2375)

Sat 10-2

in the Michigan National Bank Building, Frandor Shopping Center, 300 Frandor Avenue., Lansing, MI 48912

FROM THE CHAIR

By Tim O'Brien

Environmentalists have a thing or two to teach Libertarians.

First, if you really want to make a difference (beyond convincing one another just how exquisitely right we are), you must act locally. Start the ball rolling in your own neighborhood and you'll be amazed how quickly even the most modest efforts can pick up speed.

In my little town of Allen Park, a Detroit suburb of 7 square miles with 12,000 households of which 8,000 have registered voters for instance, I have gone 4-for-4 in political efforts since I moved here two and a half years ago.

1. I created and lit-dropped a simple flier (with help from only my wife Nancy and three or four other residents who volunteered along the way) opposing a one mil for 20 years tax increase to pay for a \$12 million swimming pool and recreation center. One nice lady who was sitting on her front porch as I came up, glanced at the flier and immediately suggested that I meet one of our councilmen who owns the neighborhood pizza delivery store. Taking her suggestion, I went and introduced myself. It turned out he was well known as the one local official who consistently opposes tax increases. I struck up a relationship with him which has since grown into a solid alliance. (He isn't a Libertarian. Yet. But I keep working on him and the light is beginning to flicker on. His brother, who owns the travel agency next to the pizzeria however, was immediately taken with the libertarian philosophy and recently joined the Party.) The proposal went down by more than 2-1.

2. I created and lit-dropped another flier, this time with about twice as much help, including a few nearby non-resident Libertarians, opposing the re-election of the mayor and four of the six city council members for imposing a 1% surtax (which they euphemistically called an "Administration Fee") on our property tax bills. One coun-

cil member did not seek re-election. The other was my ally from the previous effort and the only elected official who had actually voted against this Headlee-skirting scam. Already having the database, my ally gladly provided labels for absentee voter households, so we mailed the flier to them as well as a registered voter household walking list, so we were better able to focus our efforts on the balance. The result was that the mayor and three of the four targeted council members went down to "stunning" (according to local insiders) defeat. Even my councilman/ally couldn't believe the voters had actually tossed out a mayor whom he regarded as unbeatedly popular.

3. I petitioned along with one of the new city council members, a beneficiary of the brooming and now a second ally, for term limits for our local officials. We got it on the ballot and it passed by nearly 2-1.

4. This spring I organized another lit drop opposing a proposal to raise our property taxes by 2 mills for the next five years to fund expanded road repair and replacement. This time I had help from two council members and almost two dozen residents and Libertarians. WE again mailed the absentees and lit-dropped the rest of the registered voter households. This time I put my name on the piece, pointing out that I was doing so in response to complaints that my previous efforts (which I recapped) were done "anonymously." The result of this election was a 71.33% NO vote.

In barely two years everyone in any way connected with Allen Park politics knows who I am. Further, since I responded to my critics who had chastised me for acting anonymously in the past by taking full responsibility (actually, in view of the popularity of the positions, "credit" would be a more apt description) for all four efforts, every registered voter in the city also now knows my name. In fact, ever since the April 8 special election, both of my councilmen/allies have been urging me to run for council -- or even mayor -- in the next election.

(Continued on Page 4)

FROM THE CHAIR (Continued from Page 3)

I have only hit the highlights here. The point is: focus your efforts within a political subdivision that you can realistically affect. And I mean -- assuming you have no more help or money than you actually know you can count on -- probably your own spouse and checkbook. Tilting at windmills will only exhaust your resources and and dispirit any help you are able to draw. Winning, on the other hand, is energizing to a degree you would never have dreamed. There is truth in that old tautology, "Nothing succeeds like success." I have found that raising money and recruiting volunteers is kind of like trying to get money from a bank -- you won't get anything until you can prove that you don't need it.

The other thing we can learn from the greenies is . . . Uh . . . Well, okay, there's only one thing we can learn from them. They are certainly right about how to be effective. Their credo should be taken to heart especially by we Libertarians, whose political thinking is so surpassingly global we appear to the rest of the world to have elevated sanctimony to an art form.

 NEWS BRIEFS

Thieves stole an FBI Swat Team truck in Memphis, Tennessee in June, making off with M-16 rifles, a shotgun, a semi-automatic MP-5 rifle, tear gas equipment, ammo, helmets and bulletproof vests. The truck belonged to FBI agents from (surprise!) Little Rock, Ark., who were in Memphis for a regional training session on terrorism. No word on whether the training was for defense against terrorism or for the usual initiation of it by the Federal Bureau of Incendiaries.

* * *

The Wall Street Journal reported that after the Federal Reserve left interest rates in place that Salomon Brothers, knowing that Greenspan was a disciple of Ayn Rand, titled its report, "Alan Shrugged."

MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

The Michigan Libertarian is published bi-monthly as the official newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Michigan, 11700 Meriman Rd., Livonia, MI 48150. Telephone 1-800-343-1364 for information. 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 15th of the month of 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.

Submissions to the affiliate news section should be sent directly to the affiliates news editor. All other material should be sent to the editor.

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

Affiliates Editor: Brett Cashman
1931 Andover
Ypsilanti, MI 48198
313-481-1354
bjcash@aol.com

Circulation-Marnie Edwards and Dave Nagy
Labels: Ben Bachrach



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

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

THE DEFENSE OF RIGHTS

In the May-June issue, I discussed the main arguments on the nature of rights, pointing out that the conservative argument that rights come from God merely mystifies the concept. The pragmatists deny the existence of rights with the contradiction that there "shouldn't be any shoulds." I also took exception to the Locke-Rothbard ideas as not being fundamentally based on ethics, and to the self-ownership theory as a violation of the concept of ownership which implies two separate entities, the owner and the owned. I rely on Ayn Rand's idea that a right is a moral concept defining and sanctioning a person's freedom of action in a social context, proceeding from the human attributes of reason and free will, our means of survival.

How do we defend rights? Well first of all, recognizing that other humans have reason and free will, we attempt to persuade them that our view is correct. We reason with them, laying out our arguments in a clear, concise manner appropriate to their level of understanding and motivation. We do not yell, intimidate, denounce, grab lapels, fake reality or drop context. We do not imprison, torture, kill, lie, bribe or scare people to win an argument. We leave those methods to governments who are so experienced at doing so.

The idea of educating people to accept our philosophy of reason, freedom and peace is vital regardless of just what path we take to achieve the severe limitation of power wielded by government. If we expect to win at the polls we have to educate the voters. If we expect another political party to grab our platform and run on it, we need to demonstrate that their self-interest is served by libertarianism (admittedly a very tough sell!)

If we expect to win by reforming government issue by issue, via privatizing, deregulation, abolition or devolution, we need to win converts to our side. If, some day, things decline to the point where massive,

passive resistance becomes necessary, we will have to have persuaded many others to join us. Reason, logic, articulation, knowledge, good will and patience are our methods.

Government has other methods, as noted above. That is why they have had to kill 37 million people in wars in the 20th Century and another 170 million civilians, many of whom were their own citizens.

Even the US government, one of the less dictatorial, has a long history of evil acts designed to suppress liberty, from the innocuous to the deadly.

The deadly are obvious; 11 wars, over 150 interventions into other nations, the "Trail of Tears" forced march of the Cherokees to steal their land, seizure of Japanese-American property, atomic test deceptions, Kent State, Ruby Ridge, Waco, etc.

The innocuous range from property violations such as rent controls, taxes, subsidies, asset seizures, wetlands and endangered species laws and nationalizing your mailbox to personal liberty violations such as Prohibition I and II, monopoly lotteries, censorship, frame-ups, first class mail monopoly, gun laws and the aggravating unresponsiveness of government officials who refuse to recognize our claims.

All of these acts are initiation of force by the very entity that is supposed to defend our rights. The very entity that has violated nine of the ten amendments making up our Bill of Rights is the greatest violator of our rights.

Jeffersonians and Randians claim that it is possible for government to objectively define and protect rights. Maybe so. But it will have to be changed drastically by us. The US government is not a protector of rights, but an unremitting violator of rights. This is the final test of the idea of government. The 21st Century will see either the redemption of government or the discarding of it. It's up to us.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Recently, the LPM sent a fund-raising letter to the entire membership (now approaching 1,200, incidentally) asking for contributions to help cover an anticipated \$2,700 shortfall in operating costs.

We were overwhelmed by both the number of responses and the generosity of the contributions. We have, thus far, received donations totalling more than \$5,000 from 112 LPM members. This is more than DOUBLE the rate of return and more than FIVE TIMES the response rate at which the fund-raising folks at national headquarters consider a mailing to have been "successful."

With people like you for members it's no wonder Michigan has become one of the handful of powerhouse LP affiliates in the country and the one most frequently held up as an example and an inspiration to the rest.

All we can say is -- well, actually, we already said it in the headline.

Tim O'Brien

OAKLAND PASSES THE TORCH

The Libertarian Party of Oakland County elected new officers at their July 23 meeting. Retiring Chair Don Taube did an excellent job of passing the torch to an almost completely new board. Don and the retiring Secretary, Joan Barney, deserve much of the credit for reactivating the organization which had been on the brink of complete demise until they took it over. Thanks to their hard work and commitment to succeed that the membership in Oakland County continued to grow and they maintained status as the largest affiliate in the state. Their monthly meetings average over 30 people. Don and Joan will continue to support the Libertarian Party.

The new officers are John Robertson, Chair; John Ward, Vice Chair; Lorna Tate, Secret-

ary/Newsletter Editor; Dianne Szabla, Treasurer; and At-large members Dave Jackson, Kevin Scane and Yepram Dervahanian.

Stacy Van Oast

GLOBAL PRIVATIZATION

Investors Business Daily continues to be a libertarian bright spot among daily newspapers in the USA. In July, one issue carried side by side articles on global privatization and "An End to Social Security." On July 30, it criticized Rep. Henry Hyde for watering down his bill reforming asset forfeiture.

For libertarian candidate and speakers who are used to having audiences frown at the mention of privatization, that article provides some good ammunition.

Australia and China are moving to private toll roads. The United Kingdom has contracted out three prisons to be built and run by private firms. They have sold most of the major airports and plan to sell the London Underground. Germany, Italy and Portugal are also planning to sell off airports. Canada became the 16th country to sell its air traffic control system. In Latin America, many nations have hired private companies to manage their seaports.

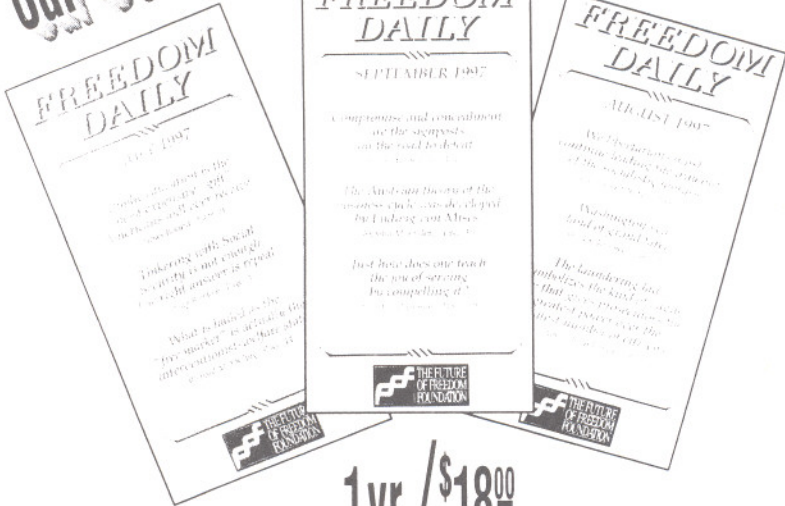
The World Bank reviewed the results of 18 countries which privatized 61 firms and found that profitability rose by an average of 45% after they were sold, efficiency rose 11%, investment in new plants and equipment grew 44%, output was up 275, and employment increased 6%. So much for the scare tactics of opponents who always say that privatizing would cost jobs.

Even electric utilities are being sold and/or pushed into competition. So much for the old idea of "natural monopolies."

Achart accompanied the article listing 34 countries that are making major sales of state-owned companies.

Our 8th Year!

TRY FREEDOM DAILY, the most uncompromising, hardest-hitting, libertarian journal in the world.



1yr./\$18⁰⁰

“The Future of Freedom Foundation is doing good work and is having an impact.”

— Milton Friedman

Walter E. Williams
chairman of
economics department
George Mason University

“The Future of Freedom Foundation is carrying on the fine tradition of freedom in a manner that would make its predecessors proud.”



Ed Crane
president, Cato Institute

“The Future of Freedom Foundation continues to be an important, principled organization in the ongoing effort to achieve a free society.”

Andrea Millen Rich
publisher of Laissez Faire Books
“The Future of Freedom Foundation always reminds us of the moral arguments for freedom, not just the practical ones.”

Doug Casey
investment advisor and author of
Crisis Investing for the Rest of the '90s.
“The Future of Freedom Foundation is doing the best work—not just good, but the best—in getting the value of freedom before the public. They’re thoroughly sound and completely uncompromising.”

Send to: **The Future of Freedom Foundation**, 11350 Random Hills Road, Suite 800, Fairfax, VA 22030
Tel. (703) 934-6101 Fax (703) 352-8678
E-mail 75200.1523@compuserve.com

Sign me up for 1 year (12 issues) of *Freedom Daily*.

- My check for \$18 is enclosed.
- Charge \$18 to my VISA/MC _____ Exp. date: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____



We Don't Compromise.

Liberty Calendar

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

AUGUST

1997

SEPTEMBER

1997

<p>3 LPM Picnic Rolling Hills Pk. 7660 Stony Creek Rd. Ypsilanti, Noon</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 Meeting Western MI. Pizza Hut 1640 44th St. Kentwood, 7:30 PM Wayne Co. La Tratorria 13736 Mich. Ave Dearborn, 6:30 PM</p>		<p>6 Lapeer/Genessee Co Whitey's Rest. 1 mile N of I-69 Davidson, 7:30</p>	<p>7 Meeting Washtenaw Co. Dominick's 812 Monroe St. Ann Arbor, 7:30</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9 Meeting Mid-west LP Rally/Picnic Rose Lake Pk. Tustin, Noon</p>	
<p>10</p>	<p>11 Meetings Livingston Co. Mexican Jones Rest 675 Grand River Brighton, 6:30 PM South Central LP Tom's Grill/Pub 3075 Ann Arbor Jackson, 7:00 PM</p>		<p>12 Meeting Ottawa Co. China Garden Rest. 133 Washington Grand Haven, 7:30</p>	<p>13 Meetings Macomb Co. Fire House Rest. Groesbeck/Utica Warren, 6 PM</p>	<p>14 Meetings Mid-Michigan , Sneekers Rest. 600 Homer, Lansing, 6:30 PM Washtenaw Co. Dominick's</p>		<p>15</p>	<p>16 Ypsilanti Heritage Festival</p>
<p>17 Ypsi. Heritage Fest. cont.</p>	<p>18</p>		<p>19</p>	<p>20 Meeting Ionia Co. Party Corcoran's Downtown Ionia, 7:30 PM</p>	<p>21 Meetings Washtenaw Co., Dominick's 812 Monroe, Ann Arbor, 7PM Van Buren Co. call Bill Bradley for info:616-637-4525</p>		<p>22</p>	<p>23 Meeting Northwest LP. Cottage Cafe 420 Munson Ave. Traverse City, 7PM</p>
<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>		<p>26</p>	<p>27 Meeting Oakland Co. Gino's Rest. 1999 Cass Lake Rd. Keego Harbor, 7PM</p>	<p>28 Meeting Washtenaw Co. Dominick's 812 Monroe St. Ann Arbor, 7:30</p>	<p>29</p>		<p>30</p>
<p>31</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2 Meetings Western MI. Pizza Hut 1640 44th St. Kentwood, 7:30 PM Wayne Co. La Tratorria 13736 Mich. Ave Dearborn, 6:30</p>		<p>3</p>	<p>4 Meeting Washtenaw Co. Dominick's 812 Monroe St. Ann Arbor, 7:30</p>	<p>5 Festifall UM Fair for campus orgs. College Libs.</p>		<p>6</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>8 Meetings Livingston Co. Mexican Jones Rest 675 Grand River Brighton, 6:30 PM South Central LP Tom's Grill/Pub 3075 Ann Arbor Jackson, 7:00 PM</p>		<p>9 Meeting Ottawa Co. China Garden Rest. 133 Washington Grand Haven, 7:30</p>	<p>10 Meetings Lapeer/Genessee Co Whitey's Rest. 1 mile N of I-69 Davidson, 7:30 Macomb Co. Fire House Rest. Groesbeck/Utica Warren, 6 PM</p>	<p>11 Meeting Mid-Michigan , Sneekers 600 Homer, Lansing, 6:30 PM Washtenaw Co., Dominick's 812 Monroe, Ann Arbor, 7PM</p>		<p>12</p>	<p>13 Meeting Mid-west LP Kountry Kitchen, Cadillac</p>
<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>		<p>16</p>	<p>17 Meeting Ionia Co. Party Corcoran's Downtown Ionia, 7:30 PM</p>	<p>18 Meeting Washtenaw Co. Dominick's 812 Monroe St. Ann Arbor, 7:30</p>	<p>19</p>		<p>20 Meeting Northwest LP. Cottage Cafe 420 Munson Ave. Traverse City, 7:00</p>
<p>21 LPWC Ypsi Caucus Sidetrack Bar 56 E. Cross St. Ypsilanti, 7PM</p>	<p>22</p>		<p>23</p>	<p>24 Meeting Oakland Co. Gino's Rest. 1999 Cass Lake Rd. Keego Harbor, 7PM</p>	<p>25 Meeting Washtenaw Co. Dominick's 812 Monroe St. Ann Arbor, 7:30</p>		<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>		<p>30</p>					



Affiliate Report

PAGE 9

Mid-West Mich. Party to hold 2nd Amendment Rally

The LP of Mid-West Michigan will be holding a 2nd amendment rally in conjunction with their annual picnic on August 9th. The "Keep and Bear Fair" will feature speakers, games, an Operation Politically Homeless booth, and a memorial service for the millions of victims of gun control throughout the world. A permanent, portable, victims memorial has been built by affiliate Vice-Chair Brian Kluesner. "We felt that if we were going to hold a rally to celebrate our right to keep and bear arms, it was important that we also remember the millions of people around the world who lost their lives because governments took that right away from them", explained Kluesner.

The picnic and rally is being held at Rose Lake County Park, near Tustin. It will begin at noon with the rally starting at 2:00 PM. Along with the planned events, the park offers swimming, horseshoes, miniature golf, and much more. For further information, contact Brian Kluesner at (616) 723-8599.

Wayne Co. to Host Harry

Through the sponsorship of the LP of Wayne Co., Harry Browne, 1996 Libertarian Party Presidential candidate, will visit southeast Michigan for three days in November.

Harry will participate in a number of events during his visit to help build Party membership. A membership recruitment dinner will be held on Saturday, November 8, at the Elks club in Dearborn.

Bill Shotey, Vice-chair of the LPWC is leading the committee organizing Harry Browne's visit. Call Bill Shotey at 313-278-3673 to offer help or donations.

WASTENAW LP HAS BUSY SUMMER

The LP of Washtenaw Co. has a busy summer July 16-19: Art Fair, Aug 2: LPM Picnic, Aug 15-17: Heritage Festival. Volunteers are needed to staff booths and help out, call James Hudler at 313-475-9792.

LP of Wayne County Marches in Wyandotte 4th of July Parade

by Joann Karpinski

More than 25,000 spectators lined the parade route to watch the annual 4th of July parade in Wyandotte Michigan. For the second year in a row, Paul Kane's pick-up truck style float bearing giant red, white and blue stars reading "Libertarian Party of Wayne County" was a big hit. Renae Coon dressed in a golden robe, and carrying a torch and book, beautifully portrayed the Statue of Liberty amidst the stars. Ben Bachrach drove the truck. Ed and Joann Karpinski and Dave Nagy walked beside the truck that was playing music extolling liberty and a free country.

At frequent intervals, viewers clapped and showed support as the float passed by. Jon Coon, who stood at the float judging area, commented that the LP got a much better reception than the Republican elephant float.

"Newer" Meeting Location

The LMC has had to find yet another new location for its monthly meetings.

They are now meeting at the Fire Station Restaurant in Fraser at 31185 Utica Rd. which is on the southwest corner of Utica Rd. and Groesbeck just north of 13 Mile Rd. As before, they will meet on the second Wednesday of every month ordering dinner between 6:00 and 6:30 pm. and business starting at 7:30 PM.

New Meeting Location For Lapeer/Genesee Party

The Lapeer/Genesee Libertarian Party will hold its next meeting at Whitey's Restaurant in Davison. Party trustees felt that this would be a more congenial location and will encourage public attendance. The Business meeting will be kept to an absolute minimum and the balance of the meeting will be devoted to discussions of strategies and issues important to libertarians.

Whitey's is about one mile north of I-69 in Davison just north of the railroad tracks.

OPPOSING VIEWS

Most Americans believe handguns ought to be regulated like automobiles. That's a key finding in a new survey by the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and the University of Chicago's National Opinion Research Center.

The telephone survey of 1,200 Americans throughout the country disclosed for the first time an overwhelming public demand for handguns to be treated like other consumer products. The survey showed:

-82 percent favor mandatory registration
-70 percent want handgun owners to be trained and licensed.

-86 percent support laws to require all new handguns be childproofed.

-68 percent want new handguns "personalized" so only an authorized user could operate the weapons.

Tom Smith, director of the survey, characterized the public's position as "the automobile model." "People want to expand the current patchwork system of regulation into a more comprehensive system of regulation analogous to what now exists for automobiles," he said. "We register cars and require that people have a license to drive. Similarly, we could register guns and license gun owners."

Almost all Americans, according to the survey, would tighten restrictions on gun purchases by criminals and even by those convicted of misdemeanors such as shoplifting and driving under the influence of alcohol. Ninety-five percent would prohibit handgun purchases by people convicted of displaying a firearm in a threatening manner -- and 61 percent would deny guns to people convicted of indecent exposure.

There are 38,000 gun-related deaths a year in the United States --more than 100 deaths every day. An additional 17,000 are treated for accidental, nonfatal gunshot wounds, which costs the public \$4 billion annually for medical care. Gun homicide is the leading cause of death for black males aged 15 to 24. And, the survey disclosed, 20 percent of all Americans have been threatened with a gun.

IN HER OWN WORDS

"Our task of creating a socialist America can only succeed when those who would resist us have been totally disarmed."

-Sarah Brady, Chair Handgun Control, Inc. From remarks made to U.S. Senator Howard Metzenbaum as she lobbied in support of a ban on semi-automatic firearms.

source: Historical Society of Wisconsin

WISE USERS LOSE BID TO DELIST THE THREATENED MEXICAN SPOTTED OWL

A federal judge has ruled against the "Coalition of Arizona/New Mexico Counties for Stable Economic Growth" in their bid to delist the threatened Mexican spotted owl from the Endangered Species Act. The Coalition argued that the Fish and Wildlife Service made procedural and substantial errors in denying their petition to delist the owl.

The Southwest Center, represented by Earthlaw, intervened in the case, arguing that the Coalition of Counties lacked standing to bring the suit. While the counties claimed the listing had caused loss of jobs, loss of Forest Service payments, and increased beetle and disease infestation, they were not able to provide any documentation of their claims. The judge agreed with the SW Center, throwing the case out for lack of standing.

Earthlaw has represented the SW Center and many other groups pro bono throughout the Mexican spotted owl wars, winning 4.8 million acres of habitat, a 16 month logging injunction on eleven National Forests, and fighting the "wise users."

Kieran Suckling
ksuckling@sw-center.org
Executive Director
ph: 520-733-1391

They said it....

Garrison Keillor (on the new Republican majority in Congress in 1995)

"The same old fraternity boys, geezers in golf pants, cheese merchants, cat stranglers, corporate shills, Bible beaters, swamp developers, amateur cops, and old gasbags that we have known since time immemorial."

P. J. O'Rourke-

"The Democrats are the party that says government will make you smarter, taller, richer, and remove the crabgrass on your lawn. The Republicans are the party that says government doesn't work and then they get elected and prove it."

HL Mencken-

"In this world of sin and sorrow there is always something to be thankful for. As for me, I rejoice that I am not a Republican."

Bill Clinton-

"[W]hen we got organized as a country and we wrote a fairly radical Constitution with a radical Bill of Rights, giving a radical amount of individual freedom to Americans, it was assumed that the Americans who had that freedom would use it responsibly.... [However, now] there's a lot of irresponsibility. And so a lot of people say there's too much freedom. When personal freedom's being abused, you have to move to limit it."

Thomas Jefferson-

"A wise and frugal government which shall restrain men from injuring one another, which shall leave them otherwise free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement, and shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it had earned--this is the sum of good government."

James Madison

"Always remember that an armed & trained militia is the firmest bulwark of republics -- that without standing armies their liberty can never be in danger, nor with large ones safe."

Gun laws are enforced at gunpoint. -- L. Neil Smith

"I, the state, am the people" -- Nietzsche

David Letterman's

TOP TEN WAYS AMERICAN CARS WOULD BE DIFFERENT IF RALPH NADER HAD NEVER BEEN BORN

10. Dashboard hibachis
9. Seat belts made of piano wire
8. Windshield replaced with ant farm for the kids
7. Strobe headlights make oncoming traffic look like old-time movie
6. 50-foot antennas allow you to broadcast while driving
5. Optional front seat hammocks
4. Wiper fluid reservoir routinely filled with Thousand Island dressing
3. New York city taxis would be exactly the same
2. The paper Buick
1. Speedometer replaced with electronic voice chanting "Punch it! Punch it!"

STATISTIC

If a robbery victim does not defend themselves, the robbery will succeed 88% of the time, and the victim will be injured 25% of the time. If the victim resists with a gun, the robbery "success" rate falls to 30%, and the victim injury rate falls to 17%. No other response to a robbery, from using a knife, to shouting for help, to fleeing, produces such a low rate of victim injury and robbery success.

BUMPER STICKERS

The U.S. Constitution may be flawed, but it's a whole lot better than what we have now.

If you cannot love your Constitution, at least hate the Government.

If brains are outlawed...nothing will change.

Too bad ignorance isn't really bliss. Then it could be outlawed.

Complex problems have simple, easy-to-understand wrong answers.

You non-conformists are all alike.

Me... a skeptic? I trust you have proof...

Libertarian Party Membership Application

JULY-AUGUST, 1997

- \$35 Yes, I want to join the LP on all 3 levels - National, Michigan and _____ County
 - \$10 I already belong to the state and national party, now I want to join the _____ County chapter
 - \$25 I've already joined my local chapter, now I'd like to join the Michigan and National LP
 - \$15 I need more information, please continue to send the *Michigan Libertarian* newsletter for one year
- \$_____ Additional contribution to the Libertarian Party of Michigan
- I want to join the monthly pledge program, please send me the registration material

Note: All state and national memberships include a subscription to the national *Libertarian Party News* and the *Michigan Libertarian*. Local memberships may include a local newsletter.

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

SEND TO: Libertarian Party of Michigan, 11700 Merriman Rd., Livonia MI 48150

- Check or Money Order Enclosed, made payable to: **The Libertarian Party of Michigan**
- Bill My Visa or Master Card Account #: _____ Exp. ___/___/___

Charge Card Signature: _____

Please Print!

Name: _____

Address: _____ County: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ E-Mail: _____

Telephone: Day (____) _____ Evening (____) _____ Fax (____) _____

Applicants 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 statement does not preclude self-defense or resistance to tyranny.

Signature: _____ Date: _____



Michigan Libertarian

11700 MERRIMAN RD
LIVONIA MI 48150



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

U00453A BX Exp:4/18/98
Greg Stempfle
23150 HOLLANDER ST
DEARBORN MI 48128-2302

