



# 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.*

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 1998

## LPM Keeps Ballot Status

The Libertarian Party of Michigan retained its ballot status in the November 3 general election, but had mixed results in the various races.

In the "top of ticket" race, Diane Barnes received 100,246 votes, down one-third from 1996 despite running a much more active campaign. This is partly explained by the lower turnout in a non-presidential year; her vote total was up from the 1994 total of 85,000 for Erwin Haas. Jon Coon pulled 85,448 as the other State Board of Education candidate. Yet, Barbara Goushaw collected 167,693 votes for MSU Trustee, compared to Mary Ruwart's 97,000 in 1994. Mark Heil took 86,371 also in the MSU contest. Our U of M candidates did worse than our '94 entrants did. The Wayne State Governor race was really weird, with Scotty Boman taking 136,083 and Tom Jones only 84,476, compared to 105,000 and 102,000 in '94. There was a lot of ticket splitting with other minor parties.

State Representative races saw percentage increases to the 2.5-3.6% level from the sub-2% levels of '94. Teresa Pollok took 4.1% in a very active race, Mark Carney got 5.8% and Mike Brinkman stayed at 3.6% in a well-financed and well run campaign.

Most races saw some improvement from 1994, we ran twice as many candidates and got better media coverage. Thanks to all of them and their staffs.

## Hornberger's Hat In The Ring at Awards Banquet. Bachrach, Black Honored

Jacob Hornberger, President of the Future of Freedom Foundation and a challenger for the Libertarian Party's presidential nomination was the featured speaker at the third annual Defender of Liberty Award Banquet at the top of the Ponchartrain Hotel on November 7.

Honored at the event with the "Libby" award were Ben Bachrach and Bob Black who received the coveted Statue of Liberty for their achievements in the LPM. Bachrach, an LPM member since 1979, was cited for his behind-the-scenes work. Creator of the LPM database, long time membership chair, former Treasurer and Secretary, Ben has been the voice of reality and common sense in party matters. Black has been the organizer and spark plug of the Upper Peninsula LP and an effective spokesman there in the frozen north.

Hornberger, a critic of the national LP strategy of focusing on membership growth confirmed that he will challenge Harry Browne for the 2000 top spot, calling the 1996 campaign boring. His speech called for an emphasis on the moral argument for freedom rather than the usual cause-and effect arguments, saying that great social movements have been primarily moral in nature.

The audience of 150 raised over \$3,100, adding to the \$2,000 profit for the event. The view from the Top of the Ponch was lovely, and all had a great time.

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College Organizing	Greg Stempfle	313-565-4407

**LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES**

Allegan County	Krystal Dutkiewicz	616-673-5503
Berrien County	Scott Beavers	616-944-1852
Calhoun County	Vacant	
Ionia County	Dick Whitelock	616-527-9263
Isabella County	John Tuttle	517-866-2365
Kalamazoo County	Vacant	
Lapeer-Genesee Co.	Joe Smolinski	810-742-8729
Lansing area	Mike Miller	517-351-0514
Livingston County	Teresa Pollok	810-229-0737
Macomb County	Paul Soyk	810-977-3523
Midland-Bay-Saginaw	Clint Foster	517-671-8257
Midwest Michigan	Brian Kluesner	616-723-7087
Northeast Mich	Rich Binkley	517-379-4219
Northwest Mich.	Jim Anderson	616-334-3037
Oakland County	John Robertson	248-745-6225
Shiawassee Co.	Ben Steele	517-288-5616
South Central	Albert McCallum	517-857-2531
Upper Peninsula	Bob Black	906-875-3913
Van Buren Co.	Bill Bradley	616-637-4525
Washtenaw Co.	James Hudler	734-475-9792
Wayne Co.	Joann Karpinski	313-925-6917
West Michigan	Bill Gelineau	616-249-9735

**MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN**

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## Assisted Suicide, Proposal B and Dr. Jack

By Keith Edwards

Assisted suicide is back in the news. The overwhelming defeat of Proposal B in November did nothing to end the debate and Jack Kevorkian's move from merely assisting suicide to apparently using euthanasia has broadened the scope of the debate.

The Libertarian Party of Michigan in its platform supports the right of assisted suicide, although limited to "terminally or hopelessly ill persons." We believe that the right to life logically implies the right to control one's own life including the ending of it, with assistance if necessary. A minority disagree. The LPM gave its first Freedom Fighter Award to Dr. Kevorkian in 1993 and has only given it once since.

The party took no official position on Proposal B. Some libertarians voted for it, thinking that it was at least a start and fearing that a loss would create the impression of rejection of the principle. Others voted against it because it limited eligibility too much (such as Alzheimers, quadriplegics, Lou Gehrig's Disease) and it would have created a new state bureaucracy to decide individual cases. We warned some of the backers of Proposal B that it would fail for those reasons and add to the impression of rejection of the principle. Others abstained for all those reasons. This writer voted no as did most of his libertarian friends. Kevorkian voted no.

Now, Dr. Jack (he's still a doctor in our eyes despite losing his union card) has apparently administered a deadly drug at the request of an A.L.S. (Lou Gehrig's Disease) sufferer. The patient decided he did not want to strangle to death as so many A.L.S. patients do.

What is the issue? Is euthanasia suicide, murder or something else? Webster defines it as "the act of killing individuals (persons or domestic animals) that are hopelessly sick or injured for reasons of mercy." The implication is one of benevolence. To kill an ill person out of greed, impatience or other low motive is murder, "to kill a (human being) unlawfully and premeditated malice." Governments are properly charged with investigating suspicious cases.

The difference is mercy vs malice. To perform euthanasia at the patient's request cannot be murder by these simple definitions.

Morally, only the patient has the right to request assisted suicide or euthanasia. Except in rare cases such as prolonged, hopeless coma, the decision does not belong to anyone else, not the spouse, parent, child, police, parish priest, or government bureaucrat. If the patient requests it and the doctor agrees and his personal ethics permit, there can be no reason to stop it. To prohibit euthanasia and prolong suffering is at the least, cruelty, if not malice.

For government to prohibit either assisted suicide or euthanasia is to deny the most basic right of a human being, the right to one's own life. We live for and with ourselves.

Many people object to Dr. Kevorkian's methods, statements and attitude. He has been open, assertive and egoistic. I consider those to be virtues, not vices. I also believe that he has been justified in view of the moral cowardice of many doctors, the intrusiveness of government, and the dark ages mentality of much of the clergy. Would he have been able to bring the issue to the forefront by acting secretly, unsure or servile? Not only would that have been ineffective, it would have been hypocritical. He may lack tact, but surely does not lack integrity.

Incidentally, the act for which he has been criticized the most was his "harvesting" of organs, may be his best achievement (assuming it was with the patient's OK.) By bringing up the shortage of organs and dramatizing a solution (to which we suggest adding a completely free market) he may have begun a process that would extend human life, not shorten it.

I've only met Jack once and don't know too much about him personally except for what his sister Margo said at our awards banquet. But I'll support his work to the end. I see little to criticize and much to applaud. He has thrown reason into the face of the mystics. I hope I never need his services, but if I do I will certainly think about using them. And, it will be none of the government's damned business!

## **Are You a Member of Your Local Affiliate?**

By Stacy Van Oast

As everyone knows, the Libertarian Party of Michigan joined the National LP's "Unified Membership Program" over a year ago. This means that when you pay \$25 and sign the pledge (first time members must sign; renewals don't need to sign) you are automatically a member of both the state and national Libertarian Party. Easy, huh?

But wait a minute! What about joining local Libertarian affiliates? How can you become a member of your local Libertarian group? The answer is: not through National! They are not equipped to process local memberships.

In order to join your local Libertarian group, you must pay \$10 either directly to the local chapter or to the state party (if the latter, specify which county you live in.)

So, here's what to do:

To join or maintain membership in both state and national PL, send \$25 to National LP, they're the ones who send out the renewal notices every year. The State LP does not send out renewal notices.

To join or maintain membership in a local LP, send \$10 directly to the local chapter. See contact information on page 2 of this newsletter.

Being a member of the LP at all three levels is the best way to support the Party and keep informed of what all levels are doing. Thank you for your support!

Please contact Mark Heil, LPM Membership Chair, at (810)468-0509 or at [markheil@flash.net](mailto:markheil@flash.net) if you have any questions.

**If you're going to be thinking anyway, you might as well think big.**

**Donald Trump**

## **"Liberty Matches" Are Back!**

By Stacy Van Oast

Remember the wildly successful book matches promoting the Libertarian Party's "hands-off" position regarding tobacco? Well, due to popular demand . . . they're back! And, one again, we need your help distributing them!

The project, which consisted of leaving boxes of 50 books of matches at smoke shops, bowling alleys and bingo halls, was a huge success. The affiliates and volunteers did a terrific job of distributing them and the store owners (and apparently their customers) LOVED them!

These matches are available FREE OF CHARGE and are being distributed through LPM affiliates and contacts. All you have to do is pick them up from your nearest affiliate (see the Directory on page 2) and get them out. Contact Stacy at [stacyvo@eesc.com](mailto:stacyvo@eesc.com) or 810-784-8783 if you have questions.

Thanks to all who helped with this program, especially Ben Bachrach, Mark Owen, Bill Gelineau and Jim Anderson.

### **Help Wanted**

How would you like to help the LPM increase its membership and earn a few bucks while doing so?

You can do this by just making a few phone calls a day to members whose dues have lapsed recently or to people who have expressed interest in the Libertarian Party for the first time. If you would like to participate, please contact Ben Bachrach at [ben45@aol.com](mailto:ben45@aol.com) or 313-563-1558 for instructions and a calling list. We will pay \$5 for every membership renewal or new member you sign up from the list. When making your calls, you should be prepared to answer a few basic questions about the Libertarian Party and be able to refer tougher questions to people who can answer them.

## Picnic Bids Invited

By Stacy Van Oast

Think ants, Hot dogs and volleyball . . .

It may seem to be thinking about summertime and picnics, but with Michigan's dreary weather upon us, it seems uplifting, doesn't it? Just picture it: green grass, full, leafy, green trees; hot yellow sunshine; shorts and tanktops; bare skin (watch it now!); cold beer; ahhhhhhh. This kind of thinking sure gets me in a better frame of mind!

But wait! It's August, time for the annual LPM picnic! All that mentioned above plus an afternoon of visiting with like-minded Libertarian folk. What could be better?

Hey, I know: being the host of the picnic. Libertarians from around the state coming to your neck of the woods. Your affiliate making some money on food and refreshment sales, and maybe even on a game or raffle. Your affiliate starting a new tradition, maybe a volleyball competition with a traveling trophy as a prize. Remember how much fun the shooting competition was at last year's picnic in Shiawassee?

So think of it now. Affiliates, submit your proposal to host the August, 1999, LPM picnic. (Individuals interested in hosting the picnic should contact their nearest affiliate.) Proposals should include probable location of picnic, potential parks and attractions, and any costs to attendees (park entrance fees, etc.) Affiliates are responsible for rental fees and are expected to earn enough at picnic to cover any such costs as well as to earn some extra money. The LPM will pay appropriate promotion costs (newsletter coverage and perhaps a separate flyer/invitation.

Send proposals to Stacy Van Oast, 26161 Dayton Rd., Richmond, MI 48062 or e-mail them to Stacy at [stacyvo@eesc.com](mailto:stacyvo@eesc.com). The LEC will make a decision at its February meeting and notify the chosen affiliate immediately so that planning and promotion can begin. Meanwhile, happy holidays! Enjoy the snow!

## Party Portrait

By Keith Edwards

Libertarians are an independent breed, resisting conformity and regimentation. It's been said that organizing libertarians is like herding cats, and as an ex-State Chair myself, I know it's true. But no organization ever goes anywhere without good leadership. If you have leadership, you will do well, if not, you won't.

Perhaps the best leader in the 26 year history of the Libertarian Party of Michigan has been Emily Salvette. A former Vice Chair of the Kentucky LP, Emily returned to Michigan in the mid 1980's and became a driving force in the Oakland and Washtenaw County organizations while raising two sons and pursuing a degree at the University of Michigan. She was a leader of two successful ballot access campaigns. As Vice Chair in 1994-95, she improved our affiliate party development. Emily began a two year stint as State Chair in 1995, running short, focused meetings, following up on projects, and providing ideas, inspiration and maturity.

Husband John's work took the couple to Germany in 1997, but they are returning to Michigan and Em is already organizing the 1999 Sam Adams Dinner, an event she created in 1995. Creator, organizer leader, and Wolverine football nut. That's Emily Salvette!

## LEC News

At its November 15 meeting, the Libertarian Executive Committee restructured its campaigns structure to create the positions of Informational Campaign Committee, Campaign Consulting Committee and the Presidential Campaign Committee to recognize the differing nature of campaigns and to spread the work a bit. This was done at the suggestion of Doug MacDonald. The next LEC meeting will be at Tim and Nancy O'Brien's home in Allen Park, Feb. 7 at 1:00 pm, 17015 Cicotte.

## With Friends Like These . . . .

By Keith Edwards

This has been one of those weeks in which one can only wonder when Americans will wake up, reach over and crack the federal government open between two thumbnails.

It started innocently enough. I've been reading "The Failure of America's Foreign Wars", a collection of essays published by The Future of Freedom Foundation. It features articles by a wide range of authors from Daniel Webster and William Graham Sumner to Jacob Hornberger, Richard Ebeling, Doug Bandow and Sheldon Richman. I thought I knew a lot about US foreign policy, but nearly every essay here has been a revelation to some degree, and I'm only one-third through the book. I've despised the US government since the undeclared Korean War shot down the patriotic bilge I was force-fed by the public school system. Now I think it is just totally evil. No redeeming qualities at all. Especially like the two longer historical essays by Ralph Raico. The book is a terrific antidote for the brainwashing we have all had.

Speaking of brainwashing, I saw a TV report this week on the CIA- Canadian intelligence joint project in Canada that tested whether they could destroy a unsuspecting patient's memory by multiple electro-shock treatments and other methods. They succeeded. Gee! I thought the Nazis were the bad guys.

Next, I received another mandatory government survey at work.

Then, Ben Steele III passed along an ACLU report which says the FBI is pressuring the FCC to find ways to monitor private internet communications and to get permission to use a person's cellular phone as a tracking device! Check the ACLU web site at [www.aclu.org/action/calea106html](http://www.aclu.org/action/calea106html) for further info. The deadline for comments to the FCC on this issue is December 14, so you may not get this in time. But be aware. After Ruby Ridge, Waco, the Atlanta bombing investigation fiasco and now this, every libertarian candidate should be calling for the abolition of the

FBI.

Then, there was the article by Eric Peters in The Wall Street Journal November 24 on the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. NHTSA, or NUTSY as I have called it since 1983 when they faked a filmed test of a wheel assembly falling off a General Motors Truck, is just another of those useless producers of inconvenience that is only mildly dangerous. When Congress repealed the 55 mph speed limit in 1995, NUTSY predicted that an additional 6,400 motorists would die annually. Guess what? Since the limit was raised to 65-75 mph in the various states, fatality and accident rates have dropped. NUTSY continues its hand-wringing over the higher speed limits in a desperate attempt to justify its existence.

Six wars in the last 100 years, brainwashing, FBI murders, tracing our movements, mickey mouse surveys, fakery and lies, not to mention taxes and social security.

With friends like these, who needs enemies.

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"Those who expect to reap the blessings of liberty must, like men, undergo the fatigues of supporting it."

Thomas Paine

"We must spread the gospel that there is no gospel to spare us the pain of choosing at every step."

Supreme Court Justice Benjamin Cardozo

"Failure is the opportunity to begin again more intelligently."

Henry Ford

"Facing it, always facing it, that's the way to get through. Face it."

Joseph Conrad

## November 1998 Election Highlights

The Libertarian Party elected a State Representative in Vermont, won at least seven local offices around the USA, registered its best-ever showing in a Congressional race, and picked up ballot status in at least three more states in Election '98. "Libertarians have many reasons to be excited about this election," said Ron Crickenberger, LP Political Director.

In the day's biggest win, Libertarian Neil Randall won a seat as a state legislator in Vermont. Randall, the LP candidate for governor in 1996, was elected to the Orange County District 3 seat with 53% of the vote in a two-way race, beating a Democrat. He won the seat on a dual-party nomination, which allowed him to pick up additional votes as a Republican.

Also in Vermont, John Simons won office as High Bailiff of Caledonia County.

In Indiana, two Libertarians won partisan races in Washington County, where an out-of-nowhere slate of 22 LP candidates had rocked the local political landscape. Both Mary Dufour and Zenneth Caudill won seats as Jefferson Township Trustees. Dufour won 60% of the vote in a two-way race, and Caudill finished third in a six-way race for three seats.

In Colorado, Libertarian Sheriff Bill Masters overwhelmingly won re-election by a four-to-one margin. With most of the vote counted, Masters (who was on the ballot as an independent) had about 80% of the vote in the partisan race.

In Virginia, Jennifer Reams won election as the Director of Soil & Water Conservation in Prince William County. In West Virginia, Bill Clem was elected to the partisan office of Jefferson County Surveyor, in an unopposed race.

And in South Carolina, Kathy Woolsey won a seat on the Soil & Water Commission in Charleston County, coming in second (with 27% of the vote) in a four-way race for two seats.

In Mississippi, LP member William Chipman set a new record for the Libertarian Party by winning 29% in a two-way race for U.S. House.

Chipman, the former State Chair of the LP of Mississippi, ran a low-key but surprisingly effective campaign against incumbent Democrat Bennie Thompson. The previous record for a Libertarian candidate in a two-way Congressional race was 27%, set in 1990 in California.

In one of the biggest victories of Election '98 for the Libertarian Party, voters in Florida overwhelmingly passed Revision 11, a constitutional amendment that will level the ballot access playing field for third parties. The measure, which was supported by the LP of Florida with a radio advertising and publicity campaign, passed with a whopping 64% of the vote.

In ballot status news, the Libertarian Party qualified for the 2000 ballot in at least three more states: Massachusetts, Nebraska, and New Mexico.

In other referendum and initiative contests closely watched by Libertarians, medical marijuana won big in at least three states. Voters in Nevada approved the use of marijuana to treat illness by a 59% to 41% margin; voters in Washington state voted yes by 57% to 43%; and voters in Alaska did likewise by a 58% to 42% margin. In Arizona, voters rejected a proposal to require federal approval before doctors could prescribe medical marijuana. The vote was 57% to 43%.

In addition, citizens in Oregon dealt a setback to the federal government's "War on Drugs" by overwhelmingly rejecting a proposal to recriminalize the possession of small amounts of marijuana, by a 68% to 32% vote.

In an analysis of those and other initiative results around the USA, Associated Press writer Sharon Cohen said voters' "message to the government is simple -- leave us alone."

In all, the Libertarian Party ran 836 candidates for local, state, and federal office -- the most ever in party history and the largest slate of third-party candidates since the 1930s. The record number of candidates earned the party coverage in newspapers such as USA Today and the Washington Times.

Overall, the Libertarian Party is coming out of Election '98 in "very good shape," said Steve Dasbach, LP National Director.

# Liberty Calendar

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

DECEMBER

1998

JANUARY

1999

		<b>1 Meeting</b> Wayne Co. La Tratorria 13736 Mich. Ave Dearborn, 6:30 PM	<b>2</b>	<b>3 Meeting</b> Washtenaw Co. Room 2105D Mich Union 530 S. State Ann Arbor, 7:30	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	
<b>6</b>	<b>7 Meeting</b> Tri-City LP Delphines Rest. Saginaw, 8PM	<b>8 Meeting</b> Ottawa Co. China Garden Rest. 133 Washington Grand Haven, 7:30	<b>9 Meetings</b> Macomb Co. No meeting this month	<b>10 Washtenaw Co.</b> see Dec 3 <b>Mid-Michigan</b> , Sneekers Rest. 600 Homer, Lansing, 6:30 PM <b>Western MI.</b> Brann's, Leonard & 131, Grand Rapids 7:30	<b>11 Meeting</b> Mid-west LP Kountry Kitchen, 1920 N. Mitchell Cadillac, 7:00		<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>14 Meetings</b> South Central LP Tom's Grill/Pub 3075 Ann Arbor Jackson, 7:00 PM Livingston Co. Mexican Jones Rest. 675 Grand River Brighton, 6:30 PM	<b>15</b>	<b>16 Meeting</b> Ionia Co. Party Corcoran's Downtown Ionia, 7:30 PM	<b>17 Washtenaw Co.</b> see Dec3 <b>Shiawasee Co.</b> Nancy's Family Restaurant 230 W. Main, Durand 7PM <b>Van Buren Co.</b> CT's Rest. M 140 & Blue Star Hwy 6:30	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23 Meeting</b> Oakland Co. Party Chi-Chi's Restaurant Telegraph & Square	<b>24</b>	<b>MERRY</b> <b>CHRISTMAS</b>		<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>HAPPY</b> <b>NEW YEAR</b>		<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4 Meeting</b> Tri-City LP Delphines Rest. Saginaw, 8PM	<b>5 Meeting</b> Wayne Co. La Tratorria 13736 Mich. Ave Dearborn, 6:30	<b>6</b>	<b>7 Meeting</b> Washtenaw Co. Room 2105D Mich Union 530 S. State Ann Arbor, 7:30	<b>8 Meeting</b> Mid-west LP Kountry Kitchen, 1920 N. Mitchell Cadillac, 7:00	<b>9</b>	
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<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20 Meeting</b> Ionia Co. Party Corcoran's Downtown Ionia, 7:30 PM	<b>21 Washtenaw Co.</b> see Dec3 <b>Shiawasee Co.</b> Nancy's Family Restaurant 230 W. Main, Durand 7PM <b>Van Buren Co.</b> CT's Rest. M 140 & Blue Star Hwy 6:30	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27 Meeting</b> Oakland Co. Party Chi-Chi's Restaurant Telegraph & Square	<b>28 Meeting</b> Washtenaw Co. Room 2105D Mich Union 530 S. State Ann Arbor, 7:30	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	



# Affiliate Report

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## Upper Peninsula Party Very Active

by Robert Black

The Upper Peninsula Libertarian Party has been busy since the state convention when they were officially recognized as an affiliate of the LPM.

On April 15th they had a Tax Day protest at the Federal Courthouse and Post Office in Marquette. Even though there was freezing rain and snow that day, John Loosemore, Charlie Gershfield, Christine James, and Robert Black (dressed up as a patriot) made the front page of the newspaper and had a 20-second blurb on the T.V. news!

They've been in five parades: Houghton-Hancock Bridgefest, Crystal Falls Bass-Fest, Iron River Rodeo Parade, Alpha's July 4th, and Ontongon's Labor Day parade.

At the June meeting in L'anse, they approved membership cards and logos and also decided to raffle guns and have a booth at the Houghton County fair.

During the Houghton Fair on August 27, 28, and 29, they had the politically homeless quiz and passed out "social insecurity" cards, Richard Delene video tapes, and lots of liberty-related items. Seven members worked the booth and there was always at least one candidate present. None of the Democrats showed up at their booth, and the Republicans didn't even know who their candidates were for that district!

They also had a politically homeless booth at Houghton MTV during a NORML rally. Robert Black gave about a three-minute speech which received a warm and welcomed response to Libertarian ideas.

In September they hosted a picnic at a local sportsman's club. John Loosemore's black powder cannon was fired and the dozen participants enjoyed some target shooting. Speaking of shooting...several members have formed the UPLP Rifle Team and will be shooting in competitions throughout the Upper Peninsula.

## Libertarian Appointed To Office

The Libertarian Party candidate for Iron County Board of Commissioners, Christine James, was unanimously elected by that Board to serve on the Iron County Authority on Aging.

According to Ernest Rawson, the Iron County Administrator, Christine's "selection to fill this important position is truly reflective of her many fine qualifications and attributes as an outstanding citizen of Iron County..."

Ironically, it appears that Christine's appointment received the support of her opponent in the November election.

Christine James' appointment brings to more than 13 the number of Michigan Libertarians that are currently serving in public office.

## Libertarians Oppose Airport Expansion

by Brian Kluesner

The Libertarian Party of Mid-West Michigan adopted a resolution opposing the slated expansion and improvement of Manistee County Airport, at its monthly meeting on October 10th.

The resolution; which comes in response to the county's ongoing efforts to expand the airport by taking land from private owners, refers to the planned improvements as, "...a severe perversion of the legitimate functions of government, for the benefit of special interests." It not only calls upon the Manistee County Commissioners to: "...immediately terminate all plans for airport expansion or improvement," but also calls for the sale of all county assets connected with the airport to "...PRIVATE, individuals, groups, or corporate entities.

"The Board's insistence that the planned improvements constitute, "a matter of public necessity," is ludicrous," said Party Chair, Brian Kluesner in a letter to the commissioners. "The only difference between this board's actions, and those of the average street gang, is that the board has the force of government at its disposal."

### **Libby Awards More Like a Homecoming**

The Libby Awards Banquet at the Top of the Ponch on November 7 was, among other things, sort of a homecoming, at least for a couple of former LPM State Chairs. Brian Wright, who served the LPM in that job in the 1980's was back from Houston. Emily Salvette, Chair in 1995-97, has returned from a year in Germany. They were joined at a table with Keith Edwards, Chair in 1990-91, 1992-95 and Tim O'Brien the incumbent, who succeeded Emily. Also present was James Hudler who nearly monopolized the job in the 1970's. Other notables present were Richard Ebeling, professor of Economics at Hillsdale College and David Littman, Vice President and Chief Economist at Comerica Bank. Ebeling is also Vice President of academic affairs for The Future of Freedom Foundation, of which the guest speaker, Jacob Hornberger is President.

The event was organized by LPM First Lady Nancy O'Brien and went perfectly, as any event will when Nancy is in charge. Barbara Goushaw and Tim O'Brien did the honors.



Featured speaker  
Jacob Hornberger



# LIBERTARIAN PARTY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- \$35 Yes, I want to join the LP on all three levels (national, state and \_\_\_\_\_ County)
- \$10 I already belong to the state and national LP, now I want to join my local chapter, I live in \_\_\_\_\_ County
- \$25 I already belong to my local chapter, now I'd like to join the state and national LP
- \$15 I want to learn more before I join, please send me a one year subscription of the *Michigan Libertarian* newsletter

### Major Contributor Categories:

\_\_\_\_\_ Patron - \$250, \_\_\_\_\_ Contributing - \$100, \_\_\_\_\_ Sustaining - \$50

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

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".

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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: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

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