



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.

January-February, 1999

Second Amendment Awareness Day At MSU

Michigan State University Libertarians will hold a Second Amendment Awareness Day on Wednesday, March 31, 1999, on the MSU campus. The event will feature numerous speakers extolling the benefits of gun ownership and the importance of the right to keep and bear arms as guaranteed in the Second Amendment to the Constitution.

Among the speakers will be libertarian Jon Coon, founder of Brass Roots, State Senator Dave Jaye, Larry Pratt, President of Gun Owners of America, and a high profile representative of the National Rifle Association.

A reception will follow.

Specific details as to exact time and location were not available at press time.

Anyone seeking further information may contact Robb Zimmerman at zimmer60@pilot.msu.edu who is organizing this event.

* * *

“Many of life’s failures are people who didn’t realize how close they were to success when they gave up.”

Thomas Edison, inventor

LPM Convention Set

The 1999 Annual Convention of the Libertarian Party of Michigan will be held on April 30-May 2 at the Ramada Inn on Nine Mile Road in Southfield. The hotel is located between Greenfield and Southfield roads.

The event will be held in conjunction with the Success 99 program of the national Libertarian Party. The principal presenters of the program will be National Director Steve Dasbach, Michael Cloud and former Michigan LP activist and author Mary Ruwart.

Further details will be released soon.

The Convention is sponsored by the Oakland County LP and is being organized under the direction of Convention Chair Pam Collins.

* * *

Oops!

Contrary to my report in the last issue, Jacob Hornberger did not announce his candidacy for the LP Presidential nomination, but merely that he was considering running, although his enthusiasm carried some of us away. The error is entirely my fault. See Page 3 for details and commentary.

Keith Edwards, Editor

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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	Mark Owen	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
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Van Buren Co.	Bill Bradley	616-637-4525
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MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

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Letter to the Editor

Dear Keith:

Bill Winter, the editor of LP News, advised me that the Michigan LP newsletter announced my candidacy for the LP presidential nomination.

As I indicated at the Michigan LP event in Detroit, I am giving serious consideration to seeking the LP presidential nomination. However, I have not yet decided whether to do so. I will make a final decision sometime in 1999. In the meantime, I will continue advancing libertarianism as president of the Future of Freedom Foundation. I will also be speaking at various state Libertarian Party conventions in 1999.

Thank you for the nice reception at the Detroit event. I sure enjoyed being part of it.

I will keep you and the Michigan Libertarians advised of my plans.

Sincerely,
Jacob G. Hornberger

Hornberger vs Browne in 2000?

By Keith Edwards

My apologies to Jacob Hornberger for misstating his intentions. He is such an exciting speaker, one can be carried away as I (and some others) were at his November speech at the Top of the Ponch. I regret any inconvenience to Jacob caused by my article.

True enough, he announced that he was "thinking seriously" about running for the nomination and then launched into specific details about how such a campaign would be run if he were nominated. He would take his campaign to the streets, looking for support from the minorities usually overlooked by LP presidential candidates, blacks and Hispanics in particular. He also would put emphasis on the moral arguments for liberty rather than the "practical" arguments of previous candidates, an approach that appeals to me.

How would Jacob Hornberger compare to Harry Browne, the 1996 nominee and probable front runner for the 2000 nomination?

Jacob Hornberger is a "purist" libertarian. His articles in *Freedom Daily*, the monthly publication of his Future of Freedom Foundation, are scholarly, abolitionist and uncompromising. His spirit reminds one of Ayn Rand. He is not a gradualist. He does not want to reform or phase out Social Security, he wants to abolish it as theft.

He is probably the most exciting speaker in a libertarian movement populated with the likes of Michael Cloud, Harry Browne and Dick Boddie, all of whom have their fans. His keynote speech at the 1996 National Convention was a masterpiece. His imagery, humor, colorful rhetoric expressing firm principle catches the imagination. His boyish good looks would attract young voters.

How would he fare as a candidate? To my knowledge he has no experience as a candidate and would need guidance he may not be willing to accept. He is his own man. He would be sharp in debate, but is unknown to most of the media (but every LP presidential candidate has been in that position, we've never had a repeater) and his fund raising ability is unknown. He has criticized national LP bigwigs for not being neutral in the 1996 nomination process and questioned the integrity of some. Would they welcome his candidacy and give him as much support as they did Browne? Would he accept their input?

Harry Browne was the LP presidential candidate in 1996 and is regarded as a probable contender for the 2000 nomination. Tall, elegant and articulate, he has excellent stage presence. He *looks* presidential! (History shows that the tallest candidate usually wins.) In '96 he ran a simple campaign based on the slogan that "government doesn't work" and focused on a limited number of issues with some quick solutions (including some abolition) and some longer term gradualist remedies. He was humorous, benevolent, relaxed, good at repartee, but not philosophical. He was criticized early for not being a purist as a newcomer to the libertarian movement, but recovered

(Continued on page 4)

Hornberger vs Browne in 2000?

(Continued from Page 3)

fast and adapted well. He focused on the practical, rather than moral, arguments for liberty.

As an investment advisor for many years, Harry has contacts that apparently brought financing to the '96 effort. As the first ever LP repeat candidate, he would have the advantage of having been through it all before. There would be fewer mistakes, better planning, less tension and quicker response in debates, all making for a smoother operation. He would be more familiar to the media. He has the full support of the national LP leadership, assuring a united effort, and he accepts advice. He will have to freshen his speeches, which have sounded a bit tired recently.

For delegates to the National Convention the choice would be Hornberger purism and excitement vs Browne mixed abolition-gradualism and presence. Dynamism vs "cool." Browne is normally calm and genial, but can be tough and forceful as he was in rescuing the Bergland National Chair campaign at the 1996 Convention. Hornberger lacks the LP "inside" status that make such toughness easier and his criticism of the '96 campaign may keep him on the outside track.

A Hornberger-Browne competition for the 2000 nomination would make the Y2K Convention a classic. Unlike Republicrats and Dumbocrats who can't develop anything resembling an articulate, moral, principled candidate, the LP could have the luxury of choosing between two such people. We could also examine the abolitionist-gradualist debate and the fresh-face vs campaign experience matter, hopefully without making either a divisive fight.

Either would do honor to our cause. I like 'em both and could support either. I was an early Browne supporter four years ago, but am open to persuasion. I hope Jacob takes a shot at it. It would put some excitement into the Convention. There's nothing duller than a coronation.

News Briefs

Friedrich Hayek and **Alan Greenspan** were both profiled by Investor's Business Daily in January.

On January 7, Hayek was featured under the sub-title "Faced A Lifetime Of Challenges As If He Never Knew Any Fear" as a part of its inspirational series of successful people. The article pointed out that Hayek, in an era when socialism was the dominant economic theory and the left was at its nastiest, was never afraid to speak out despite the condemnation that usually followed. He remained friendly to his rivals, knowing that he had to maintain communications in order to persuade them. He accepted criticism as an opportunity.

Hayek (1899-1992) won the Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences in 1974 and is best know for his "The Road to Serfdom." The article was written by Kerry Jackson.

Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan was featured in the January 19 issue in the Leaders and Success series. The Charles Oliver article focused on Greenspan's ability to cultivate support and track the economy well beyond any of his predecessors. It also tracked his early life and the extent to which he has been influenced by Ayn Rand, citing his support of the gold standard and an end to antitrust laws. Whether this excuses his taking the position of commissar of money remains a subject of debate among us.

Ayn Rand will be featured on a US Postal Service 33 cent commemorative stamp on April 22, 1999. The designer is Nick Gaetano who also did the recent covers of her paperbacks. The novelist-philosopher who became the mother of the libertarian movement (not that she would claim that honor) was also a stamp collector.



Whitelock Fights Millage

Ionia County LP Chair Richard Whitelock filed a suit to stop the Ionia County Library millage November 24, 1998. He seeks an injunction to nullify the passage of the vote in the August 4 primary election. The measure passed by only 31 votes and would raise the county property tax by one mil for the next 20 years.

Whitelock contends that the vote violates the Michigan State Constitution in that only property owners can vote ad valorem tax rates for a period of more than five years and that property non-owners also voted on the issue.

The Ionia County Board of Commissioners, the Ionia County Library Association and six public libraries are defendants. Whitelock believes the violation was not intentional, but out of ignorance of the law.

Whitelock expects a savings to property owners of some \$750,000 if the millage is overturned, according to an article in the Sentinel-Standard.

Dick is a veteran of Ionia County activism in defending libertarian principles. He served as State Chair of the LPM for two terms, 1988-90.

* * *

Never underestimate your opponent. General Custer left behind four Gatling guns on his way to the Little Big Horn.

* * *

You can't have a long, successful career without a positive attitude. I believe that an I-can-do-this mentality is the pitcher's best friend.

Nolan Ryan, Hall of Fame pitcher

Proliferating Liberty

By Josh Mercer

How many of us discovered libertarianism by a co-worker, innocently picking up a copy of *The Freeman*? In other words, didn't libertarianism find us rather than the other way around?

So, how do we increase the likelihood that other will "bump into" libertarianism?

1. Increase Accidental Encounters. The best and cheapest way to introduce liberty is to hand out copies of the World's Smallest Political Quiz. It can be left at restaurants, phone booths, laundromats, almost anywhere! To get copies contact the Advocates for Self-Government, 269 Market Place Blvd., #106, Cartersville, GA 30120, or 1-800-932-1776. Also, you might consider dropping off old copies of *Reason*, *The Freeman* or *Liberty* at your dentist, doctor or library. Do we really need to keep all those old copies?
2. Become Non-Confrontational. Would you want to listen to a person who appeared pushy, pompous, or downright crazy? Sometimes we get so excited and passionate about liberty that we lose sight of reality and turn off potential political partners. Listen to what *they* say before answering. Know when to say when. Limit your response to questions with brief answers. Also, realize that libertarianism is not for everyone. Try your best and move on. If you give a good introduction to liberty, they might pursue it later. Overnight conversions are rare!
3. Reaching Those We Know. The first step should be the Quiz. Then you might choose to give them a gift. Frederic Bastiat's *The Law* is a pocket size book that presents libertarianism in under 80 pages.

In the future, the message that "Freedom Works" will be heard in our songs, read in our news, and depicted in our movies. Until then, we must present our vision in a polite and civil manner armed with information in case others want to join us in our fight for liberty.

In The Beginning: Starting The LPM

In The Beginning, there was only the darkness of the Nixon presidency and a Democrat Congress administering the Viet Nam War, inflation, wage and price control, and the new Prohibition II war on drugs. Gone was the light of the Goldwater campaign which had brought many young freedom fighters into politics with its promise of economic and personal liberty. What to do?

The Libertarian Party was founded in Taylor, Michigan in June, 1972, just before the first National Convention of the Libertarian Party in Denver. Pete and Kay Augustin, then husband and wife, organized the first meeting in the clubhouse of their condominium complex. Among those gathered were Goldwater supporters; Objectivists (Ayn Rand and Nathaniel Branden had split, but many people had awakened to politics through Rand's writing); fans of Karl Hess, whose rhetoric inspired many torn over the Viet Nam War, Austrian school economists influenced by the writings of Ludwig von Mises, Friedrich Hayek, Frederic Bastiat and Henry Hazlitt; and drop-outs from the SDS and YAF.

The roster of first activists included Pete and Kay, James Hudler, Bob Delaney, Jeff Doan, Bill Krebaum, Greg Clark, Dennis Starner, Jack Thompson, Brian Wright, Harry Veryser and Keith Edwards. The attendees came out of curiosity and hope. They were generous with time, money and ideas. They were not seeking power nor money nor control. They wanted to move the political spectrum and redefine the issues. They wanted the "govern" of government out of our lives.

Many in the group were University of Michigan students who were influential enough to be elected officers of the first LPM. Stuart Weiner was chosen LPM Chair; Bill Krebaum, Vice Chair; Howard Victor, Treasurer; and Alan Harris, Secretary. Weiner left the LPM for a secluded Mormon existence in Utah that autumn so Bill Krebaum succeeded to Chair and James Hudler became Vice Chair. Keith Edwards, (later State Chair, 1990-91, 1992-95) who had unsuccessfully argued for a think tank rather than a political party, wrote the first by-laws.

The National LP nominated its first presidential ticket of Professor John Hospers and Tonie Nathan, but it was too late to get on the ballot in Michigan. So we ran a write-in campaign managed by Jeff Doan, printing up several thousand stickers. We received about 250 votes in November, 1972. Tonie came to Michigan and was interviewed by media in Detroit and Ann Arbor. The ticket received one electoral vote from a renegade Elector in Virginia, Roger MacBride. Tonie thus became the first woman ever to receive an electoral vote in the United States, 12 years before Geraldine Ferraro.

Many years later we learned that we were under surveillance by Detroit Mayor Coleman Young's "Red Squad" (so much for liberal pretensions to the ideals of political freedom.) It concluded "The LIBERTARIANS are a political party which was formed in November, 1971, in Colorado, as a protest to an alleged collectivist trend. The party advocates individualism, and is opposed to collectivist trends, oppose (sic) the coercive legislation the other parties sponsors (sic) and is opposed to guaranteed income, foreign aid, the United Nations, publicly funded education and forced bussing (sic, we do like kissing.) Mrs. TONIE NATHAN is the VP candidate for 1972."

The Red Squad was accurate, if ungrammatical.

Many of the early meetings were held in Ann Arbor because of the predominance of U-M students, but progress was slow. Few of us had much political experience and much time was spent in philosophical dispute rather than organizing. But, we were on the way.

James Hudler, State Chair in 1973, 1975-78, 1979-80 and 1985-86, led the fight for ballot status in 1976, which was successful. The ticket featured the aforementioned Roger MacBride for President, David Bergland for Vice President and Bette Erwin for US Senator. MacBride-Bergland got 5,406 vote in Michigan and over 170,000 nationally, losing ballot status in Michigan.

In June of '76, the two major parties demonstrated their respect for democracy by attempting to sweep the LPM and all other minor parties off the ballot by

(Continued on page 10)



Affiliate Report

Livingston Co. Has Bowling Party

-by Teresa Pollok

The LPLC held its 4th Annual Holiday Bowling Party December 20th at the Brighton Bowl in Brighton, MI. This annual event was well attended this year by 20 eager bowlers. No records were set but fun was had by all. Door prizes were given to two lucky winners.

2nd Annual LPM Affiliates Contest

- by Stacy Van Oast

Hello everyone, and Happy New Year! I wanted to remind you all about the 2nd Annual LPM Affiliates Contest. The deadline for entries is February 15. Entries should be mailed to me, Stacy Van Oast at 26161 Dayton Road, Richmond, MI 48062. I need them by Feb 15 so that I can have the winner's banner ready in time to present *at* the convention May 1. Contest guidelines are below, contact me if you have any questions. (stacyvo@eesc.com or (810)784-8783)

Here is a list of things the judges are looking for:

Membership: Growth, participation of members, outreach for new members, renewal program/success, database maintenance, inquiry packets, follow-up programs (inquiries, new members, new meeting attendees)

Political Activity: campaigns/candidates, individual members participation in community, affiliate participation in community/government

Newsletter: Published regularly, quality (appearance, style), content (pertinent, interesting, exciting -- does it make members proud to belong and nonmembers want to join?)

Finance: Budget/plan, fundraising program/events, what is money being spent on .

Meetings: Held regularly, productive, social incentive, defined purpose of meetings (and is purpose achieved?)

Media: Media plan, press releases, affiliate coverage, letters to editor (with L-word)

Leadership: Organization, professionalism, strategy and goals, success, assistance to new or neighboring affiliates

There are several purposes for this contest. One is to encourage each affiliate to maintain a log of what they've done. This helps new and potential members see what you've been up to, it helps future leadership see what's been done and how, as well as how well it has worked. The entries/notebooks/journals provide bragging rights -- they'll be displayed at the convention for everyone to peruse. The contest should encourage a little bit of friendly competition between the affiliates. It should provide a forum for sharing successes, so that the successes can be emulated by other affiliates so that liberty will spread and membership will grow. The contest should provide guidelines, helping affiliates focus and get things done! It should be fun fun fun!!!! So enter enter enter!!!!

The prize, as you may recall, is a banner with the winning affiliate's name and the fact that they won the contest. Tri-Cities LP won the contest in '98.

Entries should be in the form of a "scrapbook" and can include any evidence to support that your affiliate has done the things suggested above (agendas, flyers, membership statistics, sample renewal letters, budgets, etc.). Have fun and be creative!!!!

NEW MEETING LOCATIONS FOR LOCAL GROUPS

-Tri City LP has changed meeting location to Texan Restaurant on Bay Rd., Saginaw, near Fashion Square Mall, 7 PM.

-Mike Brinkman advises that the Mid-Mich. group is no longer meeting at Sneekers. The new location is La Senorita Restaurant, 2706 Lake Lansing Rd. Still the 2nd Thursday at 7 PM.

-The Libertarian Party of Shiawassee Co. will hold regular monthly meetings at Nancy's Family Restaurant in Durand (7:00)

Liberty Calendar

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

FEBRUARY 1999

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
	1 Meeting Tri-City LP Texan Rest. Bay Rd. Saginaw near Fashion Sq. Mall 7P	2 Meeting Wayne Co. La Tratorria 13736 Mich. Ave Dearborn, 6:30 PM	3	4 Meeting Washtenaw Co. Room 2105D Mich Union 530 S. State Ann Arbor, 7:30	5	6 	
7 LEC Meeting Tim O'Brien's 313-562-5778	8 Meetings 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	9 Meeting Ottawa Co. China Garden Rest. 133 Washington Grand Haven, 7:30	10 Meetings Macomb Co. To be announced	11 Washtenaw Co. see Feb 4 Mid-Michigan , La Seniorita, 2706 Lake Lansing Rd. 7PM Western MI. Brann's, Leonard &131, Grand Rapids 7:30		12 Meeting Mid-west LP Kountry Kitchen, 1920 N. Mitchell Cadillac, 7:00	13 County Chair Meeting At Noon La Seniorita Just off 127 Lansing
14	15	16	17 Meeting Ionia Co. Party Corcoran's Downtown Ionia, 7:30 PM	18 Washtenaw Co see Feb 4 Shiawasee Co. Nancy's Family Restaurant 230 W. Main, Durand 7PM Van Buren Co. CT's Rest. M 140 & Blue Star Hwy 6:30		19	20
	22	23	24 Meeting Oakland Co. Gino's Rest. 1999 Cass Lake Rd. Keego Harbor, 7PM	25 Meeting Washtenaw Co. Room 2105D Mich Union 530 S. State Ann Arbor, 7:30	26	27	
28	1 Meeting Tri-City LP Texan Rest. Bay Rd. Saginaw near Fashion Sq. Mall 7P	2 Meeting Wayne Co. La Tratorria 13736 Mich. Ave Dearborn, 6:30 PM	3	4 Meeting Washtenaw Co. Room 2105D Mich Union 530 S. State Ann Arbor, 7:30	5	6	
7	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	9 Meeting Ottawa Co. China Garden Rest. 133 Washington Grand Haven, 7:30	10	11 Wash Co. see Mar 25 Mid-Michigan , La Seniorita, 2706 Lake Lansing Rd. 7PM Western MI. Brann's, Leonard &131, Grand Rapids 7:30		12 Meeting Mid-west LP Kountry Kitchen, 1920 N. Mitchell Cadillac, 7:00	13
14	15	16	17 Meetings Macomb Co. To be announced	18 Wash Co. see Mar 25 Shiawasee Co. Nancy's Family Restaurant 230 W. Main, Durand 7PM Van Buren Co. CT's Rest. M 140 & Blue Star Hwy 6:30		19	20
	22	23	24 Meeting Ionia Co. Party Corcoran's Downtown Ionia, 7:30 PM	25 Meeting Washtenaw Co. Dominick's 812 Monroe St. Ann Arbor, 7:30	26	27	
28	29	30	31 Meeting Oakland Co. Gino's Rest. 1999 Cass Lake Rd. Keego Harbor, 7PM				

MARCH 1999

Help Wanted

-by Mark Heil

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. We have a long list of members whose dues have lapsed in recent months. We have an even longer list of people who have expressed interest in the Libertarian Party for the first time during this past election cycle. We need to contact these people and invite them to renew their membership or join the party for the first time. This is where we need you and your phone calls. We'll send you instructions and a calling list of names and phone numbers and to cover your costs and time we are offering to pay \$5 for every renewal or new member you sign up from your calling list.

If you'd like to participate, please contact Ben



Bachrach at ben45@aol.com or 313-563-1558 to get your calling lists. 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.

"Ten Goals for MSA."



Platform of one of the candidates running on the Liberty (libertarian) ticket for University of Michigan Student Assembly

1. Better dorm food and toilette paper
2. Compensation for missed meals.
3. Fall Break in 1999
4. Create real support for MSA
5. Eliminate useless legislation (i.e. the circumcision bill last year)
6. Be a check on the U of M administration
7. Cut the operations budget
8. No free trips for MSA reps.
9. Death to the Students Party
10. Bring an end to the commie scum that runs the University

SAM ADAMS EVENT PLANNED

-by Emily Salvette

For the last four years the Libertarian Party Of Washtenaw Co. has hosted the Sam Adams Dinner as our major fundraiser for the year. We honor the Boston patriot Samuel Adams, often called the Father of the American Revolution, because he was instrumental in encouraging the colonies to govern themselves based on libertarian principles.

This years Sam Adams committee has decided to skip the formal banquet-with-speaker format this year. Instead, we're hosting an educational and fun afternoon for the whole family. Plans for the Sam Adams Liberty Festival include speakers, historical re-enactors, traditional music, and games for the kids. Food and drink will be provided by volunteers. Tentatively, we are planning to hold the event on **Saturday, April 17** at the Pittsfield Grange Hall on Saline Ann Arbor Road in Ann Arbor. Admission price is expected to be \$10 per adult, \$5 for students, and free for children 11 and under. We hope these lower prices will encourage people to bring family and friends to learn more about the Libertarian Party and our roots in American history. for more info call Emily Salvette: 734/668-2607; or e-mail: SALVETTE@AOL.COM

WARNING! PLEASE READ IMMEDIATELY!

If you get an envelope from a company called the "Internal Revenue Service," OPEN IT AT YOUR OWN RISK! This group operates a scam around this time every year. Its letter claims that you owe them money, which will be taken and used to pay for the operation of essential functions of the United States government. This is untrue! The money the IRS collects is used to fund various inefficient and pointless social engineering projects. This organization has ties to another shady outfit called the Social Security Administration, which claims to take money from your regular paychecks and save it for your retirement. In truth, the SSA uses the money to pay for the same misguided make-work projects the IRS helps mastermind. These scam artists have bilked honest, hard working Americans out of billions of dollars. BE CAREFUL!

In The Beginning

(Continued from page 6)

boosting the requirements for ballot status. Under their new rules, supporters would have to vote for their party in the August primary, winning at least one-half percent of the total vote to stay on the November ballot. In response to this tyranny, the LPM sued the state with the help of one of our esteemed mentors and members, attorney Richard Durant (also well-known as the then long-time Chairman of the 14th District Republican organization !) Our suit, Hudler et al v. the State of Michigan, was, according to Tom Jones, LPM legal scholar, one of the pivotal election suits in the history of the country. Although the case was not resolved until late August of 1980 on appeal, The LPM finally prevailed and the law was struck down.

MacBride, incidentally, was the producer of the very popular TV series, "Little House on the Prairie."

To boost our sagging morale from having lost ballot status in '76, we had a star-studded State Convention in 1978 that included, John Hospers, author Walter Block, tax resister Karl Bray, Durant, William Niskanen (later Chairman of Cato Institute) and Roy Childs, famous libertarian writer and activist. Held in Warren, the event was an artistic success and financial disaster. Chair Hudler was deposed along with Barb Rowe, Secretary and a new group took over. The LPM lost ballot status in November, the new Chair and Vice Chair quit and the party hit a new low point.

In 1979, Hudler, Anne Bilinski, Judy Steinberger, Ray Warner and Jim Greenshields picked up the pieces at the Convention in Ann Arbor and Hudler returned to the Chair with Brian Wright as Vice Chair. Brian, one of the originals who had shunned the party for a while from his "Randian ivory tower" returned to the party and served as party Chair in the early eighties and as newsletter editor, lifting spirits with his droll wit.

The LPM regained ballot status in 1979 with help from the National LP and a lot of campaigning at the Ann Arbor Art Fair, with mailings and a phone bank to get out the vote. We needed 8,000 votes in the primary because the suit had not been decided, but we prevailed. This set the stage for the very successful

election in 1980. Ed Clark was the Presidential candidate and David Koch was the VP choice. Koch's money fueled a big TV ad campaign resulting in over 900,000 votes nationwide and over 41,000 in Michigan, fourth best in the country. The Libertarian Party had come of age through hard work, adherence to principle and above all, persistence.

We will cover more of the history of the LPM in a future issue.

(This early history of the Libertarian Party of Michigan was written in the main by James Hudler, with contributions of Kay Augustin, Brian Wright, Emily Salvette, and Keith Edwards, and is adapted from the program of the twenty-fifth anniversary celebration of the LPM of Saturday, May3, 1997 in Traverse City. We wanted to share this with those who were unable to attend or who are new to the party.)

* * *

"We never lose. We are always progressing."
Susan B. Anthony, suffragette

"Before you attempt to set things right, make sure you see things right."
Blaine N. Lee, writer

" The greatest mistake you can make in life is to be continually fearing you will make one."
Elbert Hubbard, publisher

Check out the LPM

on the World Wide Web

<http://www.mi.lp.org>



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

\$_____ Additional donation for operating fund

I want to join the pledge program. Please send me the registration material.

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

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