



LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF MICHIGAN
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MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

July-August 2023

Volume 52:7-8

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Comments from the editor(s)

The Newsletter Editor position is in transition from Scotty Boman to Joshua Jongema. Please welcome the new editor and be kind to any oversight in punctuation, grammar, spelling, or style. Comments or concerns about anything, including accuracy of information, may be launched vehemently or otherwise, at newsletter@michiganlp.org. Thank you.

Contributions welcome

We welcome new contributions with careful attention to our [guidelines](#). Articles for the next issue of the *Michigan Libertarian* must be submitted to chair@michiganlp.org, and newsletter@michiganlp.org no later than the 20th of each month. This allows for publication on the first of each month. We regularly post articles to michiganlp.org/headlines ahead of our publication date.

The *Libertarian Party of Michigan* depends on contributions to carry out its mission. Please visit us at MichiganLP.org and scroll down to the bottom of our homepage to gain access to our contribution form.

Defend the Guard

June 13, 2023 / By Justin Miramonti / Legislative Committee, Legislative Notice

This article expresses the opinion of the author. Other Libertarian Party of Michigan [members](#) are welcome to send in opinion articles (In keeping with our [guidelines](#)) for consideration to the editor.



Governor Whitmer is bragging about how Michigan's National Guard is actively providing support to NATO on the Russian Latvian border. Meanwhile, several of our Michigan legislators have been seeking to restore a Constitutional role to their deployment. For their role in sponsoring the ACLU endorsed "Defend the Guard Act." (HB-4336) the Libertarian Party of Michigan Legislative Committee would like to thank the following Representatives:

Steve Carra	Jay DeBoyer	James DeSana	Rachelle Smit
Joseph Fox	Brad Paquette	Matthew Maddock	Mike Hoadley
Robert Bezotte	Dylan Wegela	Neil Friske	Angela Rigas

Rather than serve the ever-changing whims of an increasingly war-mongering executive branch, we owe our Guard the due diligence afforded by a Congressional declaration of war. Unfortunately, this bill has been vehemently opposed by many in Lansing. Most notably Jennifer Conlin, the Chair of the House Committee on Military, Veterans, and Homeland Security.

Despite the fact that multiple committee members have requested she put the matter to a vote (including a co-sponsor from her own party) and the overwhelming popularity for the bill across Michigan she has repeatedly refused to put this bill to a vote before her committee. When constituents call her office to implore action, she regularly ignores their concerns.

We sincerely hope Representative Conlin will reflect upon her Constitutional Oath, act on behalf of her constituency, and place this matter before the committee. However, she seems to be embracing the war machine's agenda and has gotten comfortable with the blood on her hands. Fortunately, there are many on both sides of the aisle who feel differently and the LPM will continue working with all of them to ensure this critical legislation passes. To voice your support for this legislation sign up for the Defend the Guard phone bank today.

55 Counties Rebuke Lansing

June 13, 2023 / By Justin Miramonti / Legislative Committee, Legislative Notice / 2a, ERPO, Red Flag

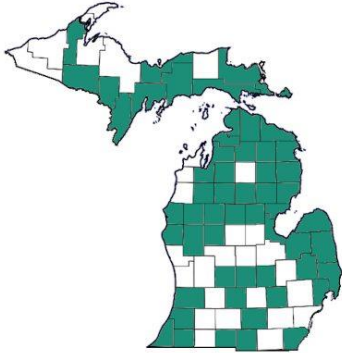


Figure 1. Map of 55 counties which have rebuked Lansing

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From safe storage to red flags, Michigan's legislature has been actively working to eliminate our right to self-defense. In response, 55 counties from around the state have passed resolutions to nullify these ill-conceived and unconstitutional laws. Over the past three months the Libertarian Party of Michigan has been working in conjunction with the March to Defend Lives in an ongoing effort to expand this list.

The tragedy that precipitated the latest gun grab from Lansing also transpired there. As is often the case in mass shootings, a Gun Free Zone (this time on MSU Campus) was temporarily transformed into a One Gunman Zone. We extend our sympathies to all the victims who were rendered defenseless by this demonstrably ineffective policy.

There were multiple laws in existence that should've prevented this unfortunate series of events. In fact, this particular incident was perpetrated by an individual with a gun felony on his record. However, as these laws will only be obeyed by the lawful, they did nothing to prevent this tragedy.

That's not to say that these laws have zero impact, merely that they never have the intended impact. These new laws in particular will lead to a series of unfortunate outcomes. Domestic abusers will be able to legally seek to disarm their victims. With our ability to protect ourselves (especially in our own homes) significantly diminished we can expect to see more violent home invasions. Meanwhile, mental health across the state will suffer as less individuals will seek the therapy they need.

While there are many other plausible negative outcomes to Lansing's latest gun grab, the ones listed here cannot be disputed. People of good faith can have disagreements about the degree to which these things will happen, but it's undeniable that they will. When it's suggested that the people of Detroit should wait (sometimes over 45 minutes) for police to arrive because 'its a gun free zone' the apathy towards those residing in our impoverished communities becomes apparent.

Seemingly undeterred by the growing local response Governor Whitmer made the following remarks while giving her final approval to the red flag law "There's still work to be done. We must continue taking commonsense action to reduce gun violence."

The notion that we should permit the state to disarm a citizen without affording them the full rights of due process, which certainly includes the establishment of guilt beyond a reasonable doubt,

is unconscionable. Like so many of Governor Whitmer's failed policies her latest approach is inhumane and callous. Fortunately, the majority of the state already plans to ignore her. As she continues to demonstrate her unique understanding of "commonsense action" that list of counties will surely continue to grow.

We owe our thanks to each and every county commissioner who voted to put their oath of office ahead of a blind allegiance to Lansing. There are far too many names to list, but the work these elected officials have done to preserve our natural rights has not gone unnoticed.

James Hudler, Libertarian Legend

By Joshua Jongema / UPLP Secretary

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2. James Hudler (Left) with Greg Stempfle (Right)

Dr. James Lewis Hudler, born in 1952 in Michigan, is a man that has had a relationship with politics his entire life. A founder of the Michigan and national libertarian parties in 1971-72, he is an icon of our movement and has deep wisdom from the past, and for the future of the liberty movement. While attending the University of Michigan, he ran for office with a student party called Screw Student Government Council (SSGC). Their hijinks were explosive and notorious, and the Michigan Daily Digital Archives holds records of some of their most memorable moments from

October 6, 1973, among others. According to Hudler, "We were the bad kids on campus." Moving

through many circles, Hudler gained more than the attention of the Daily. "I was on a list," he revealed, and, "they called me a subversive. It was called the Red Squad." The covert dragnet Red Squad program run by the Michigan State Police after taking it over from the Detroit Police Department, was spying on and targeting social groups and subsequently was exposed by civil liberty activism itself, and ended in 1974. Hudler was later given his Red Squad files and said, "it was all blacked out with marker. You couldn't read it."

In rising above the conflict brought on him by the State, Hudler went on to lead a productive career as a statesman in various offices and positions, including a seat on the Libertarian National Committee with Austrian Economist Murray Rothbard. Hudler championed gay rights with a group which eventually dissolved in 2002 called the Libertarians for Gay and Lesbian Concerns (LGLC), and was succeeded by another called Outright Libertarians. He most notably stood toe-to-toe with the Secretary of State's prejudice in 1976 and won the case, getting the LP on the general election ballot. Dr. Hudler recalls a time decades ago when the Michigan LP went for Major Party Status, while not having enough membership, and just how disastrous that effort became. He remarked, "We're too small to win big elections. You've got to do stuff locally." He remembered the words of Tip O'Neill who said, "All politics is local." In reflection on these words, it is clear that as we grow the party, we must do it from the ground up.

When we are ready for Major Party Status again, it will be a movement that keeps rolling and growing, bringing greater liberty to Michiganders.

Another Soldier Turned Anti-War

By Joshua Jongema / UPLP Secretary

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Joshua Jongema, Basic Training (2010)

On Memorial Day I remembered all of the victims of war, civilians and soldiers. I mourned the loss of human life, dignity, liberty, justice, and truth caused by war. As a Canadian-born American who joined the Washington Army National Guard at 25 years old, I knew nothing about history or geopolitics. Like many young men I wanted to protect people, to compete at a real-life game of skill, and to be an elite member of society.

I was proud when I won the Soldier of the Cycle award in Basic Combat Training, and the Honor Grad award in Advanced Individual Training. I was proud when I volunteered to deploy overseas with the Oklahoma guard, but after serving just one tour through Kuwait and Iraq in 2011, I was no longer proud of my service. I didn't secure a single American freedom or liberate a single Iraqi citizen, and the war itself was unconstitutional and illegal.

Although the Iraq War was supposed to end after December 31, 2011, I took part in operations that moved vehicles and equipment into the country that very month. We were told we'd deliver the trucks to the Iraqi government, but we drove them past Baghdad to Mosul. We delivered them to people who didn't wear regular military uniforms. We weren't allowed into their compound- a gated area within the greater base. The trucks I equipped were very similar to ones later seen in images attributed to the rise of ISIS, a group whose purported existence was used to justify 17 nations invading Syria with airplanes, and later boots on the ground. It was later revealed boots on the ground were already present, and just like that one war morphed into another, again without a declaration of war by Congress.

Meanwhile the Iraq War still hasn't ended. As we soldiers went out in 2011, the paramilitary contractors went in, and the American public stopped paying attention. After a century of conflict over control of the fallen Ottoman Empire's oil resources, the western companies that owned Iraqi oil under the 1928 Red Line Agreement are many of the same ones developing oil fields there now, while operating under a different name.

To echo Smedley Butler in 1937, war is a racket. There are those that pay with their lives and tax money (the many), and those that profit (the few). In this world of suffering, the reduction of suffering is a virtuous act.

Ultimately, all soldiers fight for the cause of peace. Only in peace time can any person have freedom, truth, liberty, justice, or dignity. Honor the fallen by opposing the continuing cycle of violence. Oppose all illegal wars for profit and bring all US soldiers home.

The State Convention in Pinconning

By Joshua Jongema / UPLP Secretary

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Figure 3. Ryan Brennan of March 2 Defend Lives cracks a smile during a fiery speech, with Shaun Collins (left) and Avi Rachlin (right).

On July 15th the Libertarian Party of Michigan (now LPMI) held its annual convention. Between 40 and 50 delegates were in attendance. Also in attendance were guest speakers Ryan Brennan and Avi Rachlin, and podcast panelists Shaun Collins and Ben DeJong. Several booths lined the walls of the Pinconning Community Center including the LPMI, and the Mises Caucus. Another booth, Students for Liberty, was manned by Nick Fisher.

Elections were held and the vast majority of delegates supported each succeeding candidate. A Bylaws Committee Report included proposals for strengthening the bylaws, and they were nearly all accepted by an overwhelming

majority of delegates. The most heated debate was on the matter of changing the name of the Party from LPM to LPMI. Adding a dash (LP-MI) was discussed. Importantly, currently unaffiliated regions were voted to have an unaffiliated regions caucus so that delegates from those areas may take part in LPMI conventions, codifying the existing practice.

Officers & Staff

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Affiliate Contacts

***Please contact local affiliate officers to learn how to get involved in their meetings.

Capital Area: Chair Kevin Ellis, capitalarealp@gmail.com.
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Huron-Raisin: Chair Mark King, mark.king@markzz.com. Vice Chair Larry Johnson, 734-320-7237, MichLibertarian@gmail.com.
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Livingston County: Chair Trevor Step, trevorstep@protonmail.com.
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Oakland County: Chair Leah Daily, fuleahrd@gmail.com.
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Straits Area: Chair Andy Evans, (231) 625-8403, amevans_1968@yahoo.com
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Upper Peninsula Libertarian Party: Chair Ryan Roberts, (906) 420-2995,
ryan_r03@hotmail.com.
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Wayne County: Chair Andrew Chadderdon, waynecountyaffiliate@gmail.com .

Upcoming Events

***The Michigan Libertarian recommends contacting an affiliate officer or check the Website (or Facebook page) associated with the meeting host (if they have one) before arriving at a meeting. Some meetings can get canceled, or locations can change with short notice.

Wednesday August 2, 2023 @ 6-8pm – South West Michigan Affiliate Meeting
Travelers Cafe and Pub: 5225 Portage Rd, Portage
Website Link See website for details www.swmlp.com

Thursday August 3, 2023 @ 7-9pm – Livingston County Affiliate Meeting
Brewery Becker: 500 W Main St, Brighton

We'll re-cap a few past events including the Ann Arbor Art Fair, and State Convention. Discussion topic will include an article one of our members got printed in the Livingston daily "Libertarians offer a choice for those seeking a change." We gather at 7 with business starting shortly after and we try to keep things pretty casual. If you're new to the party or to Libertarianism in general you'll find the meetings welcoming and informative!

Email livingstonlp@livingstonlp.org if you have any questions.

Sunday August 6, 2023 @ 2-4pm – Macomb County Adopt-a-Road cleanup
Tortugas: 40850 Van Dyke Ave, Sterling Heights

LMC has adopted 18 mile road in Sterling Heights between Van Dyke Ave. and Utica Rd. The distance is about one mile long. Park in the shopping center parking lot at the corner of 18 mile & van Dyke, near Tortugas Mexican Restaurant. Call (586) 201-3535 with any questions. Many

members eat at Tortugas afterward. They close at 4:00 pm, so some members indicated they would start clean-up early to ensure we get done in time for an early dinner.

Sunday August 6, 2023 @ 8-9pm – LPM of Lapeer County Meeting

E.G Nicks Grill & Tavern: 825 S Main St, Lapeer

The Libertarian Party of Michigan Lapeer County Affiliate meetings every other week at E.G. Nicks at 8:00pm EST on Sundays. If you have any questions please reach out to the chair of our affiliate – Kyle McCauley at 248-974-5085. Call or Text!

**August 8 – 12, 2023 – Straits Area Libertarian Party at Cheboygan County Fair
204 E Lincoln Ave. Cheboygan, MI 49721**

Wednesday August 9, 2023 @ 6-8pm – Wayne County Affiliate Meeting

Habib's Cuisine: 14316 Michigan Ave, Dearborn

Call to Order is at 6:30 PM.

Wednesday August 9, 2023 @ 7-9pm – Macomb County Monthly Meeting

Ike's Restaurant: 38550 Van Dyke Ave, Sterling Heights

Casual dinner at 7pm, Call to order at 8pm. To confirm details call (586) 201-3535.

Important note: Please confirm the details of any affiliate meeting before arrival. The meeting could be canceled or moved to a different location without prior notification to the state party.

Wednesday August 9, 2023 @ 2 PM – Straights Area Libertarian Party (SALP) Business Meeting

Corwith Station: 6461 N Old 27. Vanderbilt, MI 49795

Guest speaker will be Steph Jacobson (Otsego County Liberty Rising).

Thursday August 10, 2023 @ 6:30-8pm – Huron-Raisin Monthly Meeting

The Wurst Bar: 705 W. Cross St, Ypsilanti

More info at www.HuronRaisinLP.org

Friday August 11, 2023 @ 6-8pm – All Affiliate Event (Hosted by Genessee County)

Churchill's Food & Spirits: 340 S Saginaw St., Flint

Pre-SECOND FRIDAY ARTWALK Gathering before dispersing to enjoy the art, food, and offerings in the area. An all affiliate Mingle-'n-Tingle.

Organized by the Greater Flint Arts Council Public Relations Committee, this program is a collaboration between over 20 businesses and cultural organizations in downtown Flint. We coordinate open house receptions, free to the public to promote the diversity of gallery offerings in our downtown. Locations vary seasonally. ARTWALK takes place on the second Friday of every month, 6:00PM to 9:00PM. Maps are available at Greater Flint Arts Council. Parking is available throughout the downtown area.

Find out more [here](#).

Tuesday August 15, 2023 @ 8-9pm – Upper Peninsula Libertarian Party Regular Meeting Online

Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81992623984>

Meeting ID: 819 9262 3984

Wednesday August 16, 2023 @ 6:30-9pm – Oakland County Monthly Meeting

B1 Tavern: 1967 Cass Lake Rd, Keego Harbor

Confirm details by going to <https://www.facebook.com/lpocmi/> and clicking the events tab.

Important note: Please confirm the details of any affiliate meeting before arrival. The meeting could be canceled or moved to a different location without the affiliate letting the state party know in advance.

Wednesday August 16, 2023 @ 6:30-8PM – Jackson-Hillsdale Monthly Meeting

Steve's Ranch Restaurant (311 W Louis Glick Hwy, Jackson

Website Link See website for details www.swmlp.com

Sunday August 20, 2023 @ 8-9pm – LPM of Lapeer County Meeting

E.G Nicks Grill & Tavern: 825 S Main St, Lapeer

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If you are new to the *Michigan Libertarian*, you can find archived issues here:

<http://old.michiganlp.org/resources-2/newsletter>.

The Libertarian Party is committed to America's heritage of freedom: individual liberty and personal responsibility, a free-market economy of abundance and prosperity, a foreign policy of non-intervention, peace, and free trade.

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