

Michigan Libertarian

Volume 33, Issue 6

March 2005

Affiliates Elect New Officers

The Libertarian party of West Michigan held its annual convention on February 10th, at Brann's Restaurant in Cascade Township, and selected a new slate of officers for the coming year. The newly elected officers are:

Jamie Lewis as Chair. Jamie was serving as Board Advisor and ran for Gaines Township Trustee in November.

Warren Adams as Vice Chair. Warren was the party's candidate for the 3rd US Congressional District in 2004.

Eric Larson as Secretary. Eric has recently moved to West Michigan from Iowa where he was active with the party there.

Bill Hall as Treasurer. Bill has been active with the Libertarian Party on the Local, State and National Level for many years and was the State Party's Candidate for University of Michigan Board of Regents in 2002.

Immediate past Chair Ron Heeren will continue to serve on the board as Board Advisor.

(cont'd on pg. 10)



**Libertarian Party of
Michigan**
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<http://www.lpmich.org>

Convention Update

by Rae Jozwiak

I hope by now that everyone is aware of the events scheduled for the upcoming state convention, which will be held on Saturday, April 23, at the Holiday Inn Resort & Convention Center in Mt. Pleasant.

For those wishing to stay on site, a block of rooms has been reserved at the Holiday Inn for both Friday and Saturday nights. The rooms, reserved until March 22, are \$117.72 per night, inclusive. For those planning to stay elsewhere, a brochure with a listing of Mt. Pleasant area hotels/motels (with phone numbers) is available from your local affiliate chair or college group organizer.

Although there is no charge to attend the business session, pre-registration is encouraged to avoid

a wait in line.

There is a registration deadline of April 16th for the luncheon and banquet. Unfortunately, extra meals will not be available the day of the convention and we don't want to see anyone disappointed. Remember to register before April 1st for the banquet to avoid the price increase and definitely before April 16th for the banquet and/or luncheon. The registration form is printed on page eleven of this newsletter and a copy can be printed from the state website (www.lpmich.org).

Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m., with the business session starting promptly at 9:30 and ending at 5:00 p.m., including a break for lunch. In addition to the business of the day, there will be updates on the Libertarian Na-

tional Committee, the Michigan Civil Rights Initiative, and the Instant Runoff Voting in Ferndale. If time permits, also scheduled is a group discussion as to what the membership sees as goals for the LPM and the LEC this next term.

The evening will begin with a banquet reception at 6:30 p.m.; a cash bar will be available. A buffet-style dinner will follow at 7:00 p.m.

Our guest speaker for the evening will be Joseph Bast, President of the Chicago-based Heartland Institute. Mr. Bast, well known to Michigan LP members, having spoken both here and at the National Convention, will focus his speech on our convention theme "Strategies for Success".

And the timing is perfect for the Libertarian *(cont'd on pg. 10)*

Functional Directors

by Greg Dirasian

Over the past few years we have seen a decline in activity in the LPM. There are various reasons for this decline. It has always been difficult to find volunteers to do the jobs necessary to run the organization, but it becomes more difficult when every new executive committee we elect struggles with the process of identifying the areas of responsibility and then recruiting people to perform those tasks.

The LPM Executive Committee consists of a chair, vice chair, secretary, treasurer, and five at-large

directors. But, creating an organization and recruiting volunteers has always been the chair's job. That's a great deal of responsibility for any one person and it creates a single point failure possibility. A poor chair leaves the organization faltering. And, the chair's reasons for appointing somebody into a position of responsibility are not always based on the person's qualifications. Good volunteers are often excluded from participating.

We also have five at-large directors that have no defined responsibilities other than to show

up at a meeting periodically and vote. Although the people that hold these positions are generally very active in their own local groups, much of the work of the state party goes unfulfilled.

I will be submitting two proposals for changing the bylaws at the next LPM convention.

The first proposal will be to replace the five at-large directors with five functional directors, i.e. five director positions that have defined responsibilities. It should be noted that a person elected to such a position *(cont'd on pg. 9)*

LPM Officers and Directors

Chair	Mike Donahue	chair@lpmich.org
Vice Chair	Jim Miller	vicechair@lpmich.org
Secretary	Tom Quinn	secretary@lpmich.org
Treasurer	Will White	treasurer@lpmich.org
At-Large Director	Nathan Allen	knathan_knows@yahoo.com
At-Large Director	Jim Allison	allison10@comcast.net
At-Large Director	Jerry Bloom	jerryliberty@hotmail.com
At-Large Director	Rae Jozwiak	jozwiak@hotpop.com
At-Large Director	Dan Sheill	dsheill@hotmail.com

Newsletter	Dan Sheill	newsletter@lpmich.org
Database Manager	Jim Allison	allison10@comcast.net
Website Director	Steve Van Til	stevenhbdweb.com
Pledge Program	Will White	whitewi5@msu.edu
Field Director	Bill Gelineau	wgelineau@firstam.com
Judicial Committee	William Hall	hallww@wnj.com
Outreach Chair	Jim Miller	vicechair@lpmich.org

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<http://www.lpmich.org/lpmonline/subscribe.htm>

Newsletter Information

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Submissions: Please email articles to newsletter@lpmich.org
Only electronic format will be accepted. Acceptable formats are plain text, Word97, WordPerfect 6.X/5.X, RTF, HTML, Pagemaker 6.5.
Any other formats, please ask first.

Deadline: The next deadline for submission of articles and advertising is May 15, 2005.

Advertising: Please email advertising to newsletter@lpmich.org
Only electronic format will be accepted. Because of the nature of various programs, please send ads in .p65 format. Above formats are also acceptable, but layout or resolution may be lost in the publication process. Please mail payment to:
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25% discount for LPM Candidates, 50% discount for LPM Affiliates.

Visit: <http://www.lpmich.org/Newsletters/index.html>
for more information.

Chair's Message

by Mike Donahue

As we roll along into 2005 things are happening throughout our State. Our affiliates are in the midst of choosing their new officers and I hope many of you are offering your time and talents to making your local Libertarian Party better known and more successful. It takes all of us to contribute, so please do your part. The Party needs you.

And that reminds me that our State Convention is going to be here before we know it. This year we will be in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan at the Holiday Inn on April 23, 2005 for our annual get together. Please put it on your agenda now. Our Convention Chair Rae Jozwiak of the Tri-Cities Libertarian Party and her committee have put together a fine program and banquet for the occasion. Our banquet speaker will be Joe Bast, President of the nationally known Heartland Institute in Chicago. It ought to be a great time and we are all invited. They say springtime in Mt. Pleasant is, well.....Pleasant. Read more about the Convention elsewhere in this Newsletter and make your plans now.

Your LEC has been active since the elections last fall, and has recently completed the incorporation of the Executive Committee in order to encourage more members to participate in the operation of the State Party. Our thanks go out to fellow Libertarian, Bill Hall, of Grand Rapids who helped us accomplish this goal and follow the pattern being set by many of our fellow Libertarian state organizations around the country, as well as our national LNC and the governing bodies of other political parties.

We also want to acknowledge the work of former State Chair Keith Edwards of the Macomb County affiliate who has commenced the thankless task of putting together an Operations Manual for the LEC. He has finished the early work on an index of topics and is now working with others to flesh it out so that each LEC officer will have a permanent handbook of directions for carrying out the duties for which each is responsible. It is a project long overdue and is much appreciated by all of us on the LEC who are glad to have Keith's experience as a "ship's rudder" to see this done properly. Thanks, Keith.

The LEC has also recently authorized the commencement of an ongoing membership development and public relations program in the form of a series of radio spots around the State on a continuing basis. This effort will center on raising issues important to Michiganders and that highlight the Libertarian political viewpoint. Our former State Chair, Tim O'Brien of the Wayne County affiliate has offered to lend his expertise in developing the text for these ads and getting them distributed to the radio markets we enter. Our goal is to create a consistent and ongoing presence for the LPM in the eyes of the public and will be financed by a fundraising effort to allow us to have adequate financing to make it all possible. You will be receiving something in the mail soon asking for your help in making this a success. Seeing as we do not have state dues anymore because of the Unified Membership Program (UMP) of the National Party the LEC strongly urges you to help with this fund raising effort. It will be money well spent and will stay right here in Michigan to help our efforts to both recruit new members and educate the voting public as to the practical wisdom of the Libertarian message. The more successful our fundraising, the more radio markets we can

cont'd on pg. 8

Fiduciary Responsibility of the LEC and Its Delegates

by Greg Dirasian

Now that the Libertarian Party of Michigan's Executive Committee (LEC) has incorporated, there are certain legal responsibilities that officers and volunteers (i.e. people who have been delegated authority) should be aware of. These responsibilities are well identified by both Michigan statute and case law.

Some of these issues should be discussed for the benefit of current and potential future directors and volunteers.

The LPM's nine member executive committee is the board of directors for the nonprofit corporation that runs the Libertarian Party of Michigan. "Michigan law provides that a director of a nonprofit corporation must discharge the duties of that position in good faith and with the same degree of diligence, care and skill which an ordinarily prudent person would exercise under similar circumstances in a like position."* In the past, some officers/directors have erroneously claimed that they have no fiduciary responsibility to the party. Such disputes should now be put to rest.

Who else has a fiduciary responsibility (under which they could be held personally liable)? Every recognized LPM affiliate (regional or county party) receives its franchise (authority to officially exist) from the LEC. Thus the affiliate and its officers have been delegated authority by the LEC and they have a fiduciary responsibility to the organization.

These people are referred to as non-director volunteers. "Non-director Volunteers may also be protected from personal liability provided that the volunteer was acting in good faith, was acting within the scope of his or her authority and his or her conduct was not a result of gross negligence or willful and wanton misconduct or was an intentional tort."*

The party secretary will also take on a role of greater responsibility. Recorded information and minutes will be much more important if any liability issues arise. "Michigan law provides that directors of nonprofit corporations are presumed to have concurred with Board actions taken at meetings whether or not the director was present. Dissenting directors who are present at the meeting during which the action was taken must ensure that their

dissent is recorded in the meeting minutes or filed with the secretary of the meeting before or immediately after the meeting."*

This makes it that much more important that anybody who plans/hopes to become an LEC member recognize the importance of attending all meetings. "Absent directors/trustees cannot meet their fiduciary responsibilities and are susceptible to personal liability. Regular attendance is critical."* And, "A director or trustee, who is unable to attend a meeting, should carefully review the minutes from that meeting. If he or she disagrees with action taken at the meeting, written dissent should be sent to the secretary for filing in the corporate minutes book."*

Directors (and non-director volunteers) also need to be aware of their legal responsibilities. Failure to perform such responsibilities could be viewed as a dereliction of duty and gross negligence. Legal responsibilities include filing corporate annual reports, IRS forms, FEC reports, Michigan Campaign Finance forms, candidate nomination forms, as well as an understanding of campaign finance so that funds are used in compliance with the law. It is the volunteer's responsibility to learn these things before taking on such a role.

Fiduciary responsibility refers not only to avoiding improper financial transactions, but also to avoiding conflicts of loyalty. This may be especially important for people who are on the LEC and for officers of an LPM affiliate. Voting for preferential treatment for one's own affiliate could be construed to be a conflict of loyalty. Some LEC members may also be on the boards of other like-minded groups, e.g. Brass Roots, NORML, or others. The possibility of a conflict of loyalty may also arise in such cases.

The state of Michigan provides the directors and volunteers of nonprofit corporations with some protection from liability, but along with this protection, the state defines greater responsibility and accountability. Directors and non-director volunteers have always had a fiduciary responsibility when performing tasks for the LPM, but now that the LEC is incorporated, the fiduciary responsibility is better defined by Michigan law and the LEC's Ar-

ticles of Incorporation.** All LPM members should be aware of the heightened responsibility when volunteering and when voting for directors.

* All quotes have been taken from Law & Responsibilities: A Primer for Trustees, Directors and Officers of Michigan Private Foundations, published by the Council of Michigan Foundations. This document may be found at:

<http://www.cmif.org/documents/lawandresponsibilities.pdf>

Although this document is primarily about foundations, the quotes used are references to any nonprofit corporation. The Michigan Nonprofit Association is also an excellent source of information with many informative articles on their web site at:

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

**The LEC's Articles of Incorporation may be found online at the state of Michigan web site:

http://www.cis.state.mi.us/bcs_corp/dt_corp.asp?id_nbr=792439

ATTENTION ALL AFFILIATE CHAIRS

We have been able to clarify the procedure and policy regarding affiliates utilizing the State Party's liability insurance coverage when conducting events. If your affiliate is scheduling a public event and you desire to have insurance coverage in case of accident or injury to person or property it is possible to do so by obtaining rider coverage on the policy in effect for the Libertarian Party of Michigan Executive Committee, Inc. Simply contact the State Chair, currently Mike Donahue, by phone or e-mail to make your request. All that is needed is a written request by the Affiliate Chair stating the nature of the event, the date and time and an approximate figure as to how large a crowd is expected. There is a nominal one-time charge payable to the LPM for each event. This covers the time and contact with our insurance agent's staff to process the paperwork. Please give us at least two weeks notice prior to your event.

Thanks for your cooperation.

Mike Donahue, LPM Chair

Smoke and Mirrors Marriage Requirement

by Ernie Whiteside

In this article, we will examine what actually happened to proposed legislation regarding a premarital education requirement when it went before the governor and how it made its way into the law.

The premarital education proposal was linked to eight house bills. The bills were intended to affect Family Law (marriage and divorce, friend of the court), Income Tax (credit) and Children (children's rights). A summary of the House Bills and the actions taken by the governor is provided below.

- House Bill 5467 - Senate Bill 0964 - Family law; marriage and divorce; prerequisites for issuance of a marriage license; require pre-marriage program or longer waiting period. Amends title & sec. 2, 3 & 3a of 1887 PA 128 (MCL 551.102 et seq.) & adds sec. 2a & 2b. - vetoed by the Governor 12/28/2004

- House Bill 5468 - Public Act 503 of 2004 - Income tax; credit; marriage preservation tax credit; provide for. Amends 1967 PA 281 (MCL 206.1 - 206.532) by adding sec. 269. TIE BAR WITH: HB 5469 (2004) - became law without Governor's signature 2004 ADDENDA

- House Bill 5469 - Senate Bill 0961 - Public Act 504 of 2004 - Family law; marriage and divorce; criteria for program to qualify for marriage preservation tax credit; establish. Amends title of 1887 PA 128 (MCL 551.101 - 551.111) & adds sec. 12. TIE BAR WITH: HB 5468 (2004) - became law without Governor's signature 2004 ADDENDA

- House Bill 5470 - Public Act 505 of 2004 - Family law; marriage and divorce; divorce; require an educational pre-divorce program. Amends 1846 RS 84 (MCL 552.1 - 552.45) by adding sec. 5 & 5a. - became law without Governor's signature 2004 ADDENDA

- House Bill 5471 - Senate Bill 0966 - Public Act 506 of 2004 - Children; children's rights; parenting plan procedures and content; add to child custody act. Amends title & sec. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 6a, 7, 7a, 7b & 11 of 1970 PA 91 (MCL 722.21 et seq.) & adds sec. 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 & 19. - became law without Governor's signature 2004 ADDENDA

- House Bill 5472 - Public Act 376 of 2004 (Effective: 10/11/2004) - Family law; friend of the court; certain criteria for determining "interests of the child"; clarify. Amends sec. 45 of 1846 RS 84 (MCL 552.45). - approved by the Governor 10/11/2004 @ 8:00 AM

- House Bill 5473 - Senate Bill 0963 - Public Act 507 of 2004 - Family law; marriage and divorce; recording of certain information on marriage license and certificate; require. Amends sec. 3 & 4 of 1887 PA 128 (MCL 551.103 & 551.104). - became law without Governor's signature 2004 ADDENDA

- House Bill 5474 - Senate Bill 0959 - Public Act 508 of 2004 - Family law; marriage and divorce; individuals who can accept payment and perform marriage and family counseling; expand. Amends sec. 16901, 16903 & 16905 of 1978 PA 368 (MCL 333.16901 et seq.). - became law without Governor's signature 2004 ADDENDA

The governor actually vetoed the bill to require premarital education or a longer waiting period. Apparently the requirement was just too controversial, but the governor's veto did nothing to alter the progressive intention of the legislators. Before I explain this, let's look at what did become law and how.

Six of the eight bills became law without the governor's signature. Individuals that obtain premarital education, as the state defines it, will be eligible for a tax credit. The law defines who can provide premarital education that will qualify for the tax credit and makes provision for their licensure. It also requires that "the cleric or magistrate shall fill in the appropriate space of the certificate indicating whether the parties have or have not received premarital education. For parties who have received premarital education, the parties shall verify completion of the premarital education by a sworn statement to that effect in the license or certificate."

The stage is now set! Every clerk may now ask individuals who apply for a marriage license whether or not they have had premarital education and instruct them regarding the certificate requirements for documentation of

premarital education. The clerk, upon learning that the individuals have received premarital education (good and sufficient cause shown), may now issue the license immediately following the application while continuing to withhold delivery of the license for 3 days when applicants choose not to obtain the premarital education. Individuals that wish to obtain the tax credit must obtain the premarital education from those approved by the state to provide the program approved by the state.

Not all of the eight bills are focused on premarital education. Other issues involved counseling for divorces and "interests of the child." While the governor vetoed the bill that superficially appeared to require premarital education or a longer waiting period, she allowed the more important issues to quietly become law without her signature and boldly signed the bill that is praised for defining "interests of the child" but really makes it easier for courts to serve summonses in divorce cases. Now the governor can claim that she cares about the "interests of the child" and quietly support the progressive cause of mandatory premarital education and expanded regulation of the same while misleading the public with a meaningless veto.

The new laws do not go into affect until October 1, 2005. Interested individuals should watch their clerks and see what happens at that time. As for me, I predict that a coordinated campaign will covertly go into effect to make it appear that premarital education is assumed to be a "soft" requirement of the law based on the provisions that have become law and upon the fact that "the county clerk of each county, for good and sufficient cause shown (i.e. premarital education), may deliver the license immediately following the application" while withholding delivery of the license for "a period of 3 days including the date of application" when premarital education is not obtained.

Calendar

March 9, 2005 - 7:30 PM

Regular meeting of the LMC at Mile's World Restaurant 7689 Masonic, Fraser, MI 48026. Program to be announced. Contact Keith Edwards Phone: 586-777-7468 Email: keithmarni@aol.com

March 10, 2005

Monthly meeting of the Libertarian Party of West Michigan Executive Committee. All LPWM members are welcome to attend. For location contact Secretary Eric Larson.

March 10, 2005 - 7:30 PM

Speech: Badnarik campaign officials Barb Goushaw and Fred Collins will discuss the LP's 2004 presidential campaign. Location: Cubs' AC Restaurant (located in the back room of the Colonial Lanes Bowling Center) at 1950 S Industrial Hwy, Ann Arbor. Contact: Jeff Weber Phone: (734) 434-6486 Email: humanism@comcast.net

March 17, 2005 - 7:30 PM

Speech: a representative of the NRA will talk about Second Amendment rights. Location: Cubs' AC Restaurant (located in the the Colonial Lanes Bowling Center) at 1950 S Industrial Hwy, Ann Arbor. Contact: Jeff Weber Phone: (734) 434-6486 Email: humanism@comcast.net

March 20, 2005

TCLP will participate in annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in Bay City. For more information visit the website @ TriCityLibertarianParty.org or call (989) 922-5226.

March 24, 2005 - 7:30 PM

Work Session. The newsletter will be prepared for mailing. Location: Cubs' AC Restaurant (located in the back room of the Colonial Lanes Bowling Center) at 1950 S Industrial Hwy, Ann Arbor. Contact: Jeff Weber Phone: (734) 434-6486 Email: humanism@comcast.net

April 2, 2005 - 7:30 PM

TCLP will be holding annual election of officers and three Trustees - one from each of the Tri-Counties - Bay, Saginaw, and Midland. Location: Lone Star Steakhouse on Tittabawassee Road in Saginaw (near I-675).

For more information visit the website @ TriCityLibertarianParty.org or call (989) 922-5226.

April 13, 2005 - 7:30 PM

Regular meeting of the LMC at Mile's Word Restaurant 7689 Masonic, Fraser, MI 48026. Program to be announced. Contact Keith Edwards 586-777-7468 Email: keithmarni@aol.com

April 14, 2005

Monthly meeting of the Libertarian Party of West Michigan Executive Committee. All LPWM members are welcome to attend. For location contact Secretary Eric Larson.

April 23, 2005 - 9:30 AM

LPM Convention 2005 - "Strategies for Success". Registration begins at 8:30 am, the business session will start promptly at 9:30 am. Banquet guest speaker is Joseph Bast, President of the Heartland Institute. Banquet cost, before early registration deadline of April 1st, is \$50. On Sunday, April 24, a six hour seminar will be presented by Robert Butler of the Ohio Libertarian Party. This seminar is a must for candidates or anyone planning to work on a campaign. The cost is \$40. Location: Holiday Inn Resort and Conference Center; 5665 East Pickard Road, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 Contact: Rosemarie Jozwiak Phone: (989) 922-5226

May 2, 2005 - 7:30 PM

TCLP will be having a regular business meeting, no speaker, but will discuss participation in the sheduled area parades, especially the May 30th Memorial Day Parade in Midland. Location: Lone Star Steakhouse on Tittabawassee Road in Saginaw (near I-675). For more information visit the website @ TriCityLibertarianParty.org or call (989) 922-5226.

May 12, 2005

Monthly meeting of the Libertarian Party of West Michigan Executive Committee. All LPWM members are welcome to attend. For location contact Secretary Eric Larson.

LP Reaches Out To Conservatives at CPAC Event in Washington

by Daniel Cloud

The Libertarian Party was a cosponsor of the Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC) on Feb. 17-19 at the Ronald Reagan Building in Washington, D.C. — using the opportunity to reach out to other organizations, to get ideas for outreach and to tell fiscal conservatives that there is an alternative to the Republican Party.

More than 90 organizations sponsored the event, including the Objectivist Center, Americans for Tax Reform, the NRA, the National Taxpayers Union, the ACLU, Heritage Foundation, Bureaucrash, the Drug Policy Alliance and a host of others.

According to CPAC's Web site, the event is the nation's oldest and largest gathering of conservatives, having been held annually for more than 30 years.

"While we aren't aligned with the political views of these other groups on all subjects, the other groups didn't necessarily line up on every issue, either," said LP Executive Director Joe Seehusen. "By taking part in this CPAC conference, we hope to show that Libertarians are the true fiscal conservatives — much more so than the Republicans are."

Speakers at the conference included libertarian-friendly people such as former U.S. Rep. Bob Barr of Georgia, Grover Norquist of Americans for Tax Reform and Adam Thierer of the Cato Institute, as well as other such notables as Karl Rove, author Ann Coulter, Ohio Secretary of State Ken Blackwell, Pat Buchanan and Newt Gingrich. Vice President Dick Cheney spoke at the presidential banquet.

Sam New, who organized the LP's activities at the conference, said, "The CPAC conference is one of the biggest outreach exhibitions of political action groups in the Washington, D.C. area, with about 4,500 people attending."

"I feel we were very well received," New said. "We met a lot of people who are either supportive of our ideas or who simply support having an alternative to the big government ideal put forward by the Republicans and Democrats."

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Promote Libertarianism by Getting Elected to a Nonpartisan Office

by Leonard Schwartz

Libertarians' greatest success is in nonpartisan elections. Eight Libertarian Party of Michigan members currently serve on city councils: Fred Collins in Berkley, Martin Howrylak and David Eisenbacher in Troy, Andy LeCureaux in Hazel Park, Mark Owen in Owosso, Bill Bradley in South Haven, John Stempfle in Grosse Pointe, and Erin Stahl in St. Clair Shores. Most nonpartisan elections are in odd-numbered years. Most cities will hold an election on November 8, 2005. In some cities the November election is preceded by a primary on August 2. Here is how you get on the ballot:

1. Visit the city clerk's office. Ascertain (a) the deadline for submitting candidate paperwork and (b) the number of valid signatures you need on your petitions. Also ask if the city allows candidates to get on the ballot by paying a filing fee instead of petitioning; ask whether the filing fee is refundable. Pick up an "Affidavit of Identity" form and (unless you pay a filing fee) petition forms.

2. If you will be petitioning, start gathering signatures from persons who live in your city. First ask friends to sign. Some friends might even be willing to circulate petitions. Next start petitioning door-to-door in your neighborhood. Petition only in daylight. Saturday and Sunday afternoons are best. Say something like: "Hello. I'm [name]. I want to be a candidate for [name of office]. Please sign this petition so that my name will appear on the ballot. I'm not asking you to vote for me. I'm merely asking your permission to be on the ballot." Most people will sign.

Occasionally someone will want to discuss issues. Don't waste your time. Say something like: "I'll be happy to discuss issues after my name is on the ballot. But today I'm in a hurry." If the person won't sign, just go to the next house. Because some persons aren't registered to vote at the address they put on the petition, you should get at least 50% more signatures than you need.

3. File your "Affidavit of Identity" and petitions (or filing fee) before the deadline.

4. Form a candidate committee and file a

"Statement of Organization" with the county clerk. The campaign finance rules are the same for nonpartisan and partisan offices. See my article in the Michigan Libertarian, March/April 2004, page 4. Then start campaigning. Contact your LPM affiliate to get support from members.

Don't be discouraged if you don't win the first time. Martin Howrylak, David Eisenbacher, and Erin Stahl lost their first city council races. But they were elected on their second attempts.

It is time for each LPM affiliate to recruit and support candidates in nonpartisan elections. LPM has had a "Just One" project. Each affiliate was asked to recruit and support just one candidate in a nonpartisan election in odd-numbered years. The Libertarian Party of Oakland County has already recruited five candidates. Why can't your affiliate recruit and support just one?

LP at CPAC

cont'd from pg. 5

Seehusen agreed, saying conference attendees were "surprised, but glad to see us."

"I think this is a big step forward for the LP," he said. "Our profile has been low for some time, and we were able to showcase our party in a positive light to many people and groups, including a large number of students and small business owners."

"As I spoke with representatives of various groups, they frequently noted that their belief systems include libertarian ideas, especially regarding their support of limited power for government and appreciation for individual rights. And many of them stopped by our booth to learn more."

The party's booth was manned by LP headquarters staff, including New, Development Coordinator Jessica Neno Wilson, development associates Kelly Kohut and Margaret Taylor, office assistant Matthew Dailey, intern John St. Leger and volunteer Pere Garlinghouse.

They handed out copies of LP News, the

"New Vision" brochure and issue-specific brochures about gun rights, taxes and ending the welfare state, Wilson said.

"We also received requests for information from more than 100 people," she added. "Both Sam New and I were also able to meet staffers with other organizations and spoke with many students who had never before encountered the LP."

The opportunity to meet people who otherwise would have been unfamiliar with libertarianism was a primary reason for the party to take part in CPAC, Seehusen said.

Michael McKay, an LP member and donor from Fairfield, Iowa, attended several events with Seehusen. He noted that "as the conference went on, more and more people kept coming up to us, saying they're leaning toward libertarian principles."

Wilson said she spoke with many young people who "call themselves conservative, but are learning that they are really libertarian."

"Many people said 'I'm with the Libertarians on everything but the immigration issue,'" she said — to which she responded, "Wouldn't it be better to be with a political party whose platform you agree with on 80 percent of the issues, rather than with a party with whom you disagree on so many other issues?"

This concept had apparently not occurred to most of them, she added, noting that a number of requests for more information came from people who acknowledged that they already agree with the party's stance on many issues.

Communications Director George Getz also had an opportunity to discuss the LP's stance on the immigration issue.

Getz spoke with FoxNews.com reporter Kelly Vlahos, "who frequently calls to get an LP perspective for her stories," he said. "Kelly was doing an article about President Bush's 'guest worker' program, which would grant temporary work visas to some immigrants. She was having difficulty finding conservatives in favor of Bush's proposal."

During the interview, Getz was able to explain that Libertarians "know that immigration control is just another big-government program that can't work. In the process of rounding up a few thousand immigrants, the government will end up harassing employers, breaking up families and forcing every American to carry a national ID card."

And those are some of the issues Libertar

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Meeting Minutes

Libertarian Party Of Michigan
Executive Committee Meeting
December 12, 2004

Called to order by LPM Chairman Mike Donahue at 12:18 pm.

Roll call:

Chair	Mike Donahue	Present
Vice Chair	Jim Miller	Absent
Secretary	Tom Quinn	Present
Treasurer	Will White	Absent
At-Large Director	Nathan Allen	Present
At-Large Director	Jim Allison	Late
At-Large Director	Jerry Bloom	Present
At-Large Director	Rae Jozwiak	Present
At-Large Director	Dan Sheill	Present

Allen moved to accept the minutes from the October 10 meeting. Second by Sheill. Motion carried.

Chairman's report:

- Donahue reported on the radio ads that were aired prior to the November elections and the positive feedback he received. The amount spent on this project was \$6500 - \$7000. It would be good if this were an ongoing effort.

- Treasurer White had to file a federal campaign report that was rather detailed and took a lot of time.

(At Large member Alison arrived at 12:40.)

Newsletter editor Dan Sheill reported that the current issue has just been printed and copies are available. Deadline for the next issue will be late February.

Allison reported on his activities as the Michigan coordinator of the Badnarik campaign.

Motion by Sheill, second by Allison to incorporate the LEC in accordance with the material from William Hall that was presented at the last meeting.

Motion by Bloom, second by Sheill, to change the time requirement in the above mentioned material for calling a meeting via mail or written notice. In the articles of incorporation bylaws, Article III, Section 3, (a), to be changed from "5 days notice" to "5 business days notice". Motion Carried.

Vote was taken on motion to incorporate, and motion carried.



parted at 12:53.

Jozwiak reported on her work for the 2005 convention. It will be held at the Holiday Inn in Mt. Pleasant on April 23. Several possible speakers have been considered, with one responding that he is available. Suggestions for other possible speakers are welcome. Both By Laws and the platform will be on the agenda. The final cost has not been nailed down yet.

General discussion was held on the need for a media/communications director. It was also suggested that a regular budget amount be established for this. No action was taken.

Bloom reported that our Nidus database has not been receiving updates from National for several months. Discussion ensued regarding the database, and membership and information records. No action was taken.

The possibility was raised of paying some workers such as the newsletter editor or web master. No action was taken.

Donahue reported that National has told him that Michigan's membership numbers have gone up 10%.

Motion by Bloom, second by Allison, that a cell phone be purchased for the use of the chairman. Motion failed.

Next meeting to be held on February 13, 2005.

Meeting adjourned at 3:10

Minutes prepared by LEC secretary, Tom Quinn

Motion by Bloom, second by Allen, for Chairman to obtain Errors and Omissions Insurance. Motion carried.

The Chair will take care of needed changes resulting from incorporation such as name changes, office lease, bank accounts, etc.

Dan Sheill de-

LP at CPAC

cont'd from pg. 6

ians were able to focus on at CPAC, Getz said. "Libertarians support the right to work, we're pro-family, and we're against a national ID card. On those issues, we can appeal to the true conservatives, who have been abandoned by the big-government neo-conservatives."

In the same vein, Seehusen spent about 20 minutes on the air with Martha Zoller, a talk show host with Gainesville, Ga.-based radio station WDUN, telling an estimated 350,000 listeners "that George Bush is a socialist, and the Democrat and Republican parties are two rival socialist factions, vying for your money and freedom."

At the same time, Seehusen said, he and other Libertarians "were able to strengthen old connections with such groups as the Leadership Institute and the Americans for Tax Reform."

"Over the course of these three days, we were also able to build some new relationships for the party, by spending time with people like Wayne LaPierre of the NRA and with leaders of many other organizations," Seehusen said. "We were able to find common ground, to talk about ways we can work together and help each other."

"This is the first time we've done a function like this in some time, and we put up a good presentation, both through our booth and through personal interactions with a wide variety of individuals."

"But it was also beneficial for us to study the other organizations that were there, to benchmark successful groups and see how they reach out to the public. By seeing how other groups successfully market themselves, I think we learned a great deal about how the LP can more effectively reach out to conservatives."

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LPM Committee Meeting Minutes

Libertarian Party Of Michigan
Executive Committee Meeting
February 13, 2005

Minutes of the February meeting have not yet been approved by the LEC and should be considered unofficial at this time

Called to order by LPM Chairman Mike Donahue at 12:05pm.

Roll call:

Chair	Mike Donahue	Present
Vice Chair	Jim Miller	Present
Secretary	Tom Quinn	Present
Treasurer	Will White	Present
At-Large Director	Nathan Allen	Present
At-Large Director	Jim Allison	Late
At-Large Director	Jerry Bloom	Present
At-Large Director	Rae Jozwiak	Present
At-Large Director	Dan Sheill	Present

Also present were LPM members Emily Salvette, Keith Edwards, Marnie Edwards, Lowell Gandt, Bill Gelineau, Bob Broda, and Dick Jozwiak.

Motion by Jerry Bloom to accept the minutes from the December 12 meeting. Second by Jim Miller. Motion passed.

Will White distributed the treasurer's report.

Chairman Donahue appointed Bloom — and two others who have yet to be named — to an auditing committee to prepare a report for the convention on the Party's finances.

Donahue reported that the new lease on the office is for the same amount per year as the previous lease, however the lease period has been expanded to two years. Is this what we want?

Motion by Bloom to accept the lease as offered. Second by Miller. Motion passed.

12:37 White had to leave due to an emergency at work; Jim Allison arrived.

Donahue advocated that the LPM do regular promotion of the party via radio ads. Motion by Dan Sheill to expend up to \$3500 for a six month period for radio advertising that will be centered on increasing membership and deal with current advocacy issues. The project is to be carried out by Tim O'Brien, with issues

to be covered receiving approval from the LEC prior to being aired. Second by Jim Allison. Motion Passed.

Allison will develop benchmarks of such items as current membership numbers, web site hits, and inquiries so we will be able to analyze any results from the radio ads.

By Laws Committee chairman Ernie Whiteside has had personal issues arise which have hindered him from effectively leading his committee. Donahue appointed Will White as new By Laws Committee chair.

1:39 White returned.

Miller presented copies of the flier he is preparing to promote the LPM.

Recessed from 1:56 to 2:04.

Bill Gelineau reported on work being done on a new database. Bloom mentioned several ongoing problems with our current setup which will not be solved any time soon.

Motion by Bloom to pay to have programming work done on the Nidus database with the amount to be approved by the LEC before any expenditures. Second by Sheill. Motion passed on a 5 to 3 vote.

Discussion ensued regarding insurance coverage of affiliate activities. If affiliates would like coverage for a local event they should contact the LPM chairman.

Sheill gave his report as newsletter editor. He will be starting law school and will soon need to resign his position.

Rae Jozwiak reported on plans for the convention. It may cost \$1000 for Sunday's presenter, Mr. Butler. This will be offset by participants who will pay \$40 each. Motion by Bloom to cancel Mr. Butler if, three weeks before the convention, there are not at least 15 people signed up to attend his presentation. Second by Sheill. Motion passed.

Emily Salvette, the Region 3 Alternate Representative on the LNC, spoke on recent events at the LNC.

Needed changes for the web site were discussed.

Keith Edwards presented his draft of the new Operations Manual. He plans to have a meaningful portion completed in time to hand it out to the new LEC members.

Lowell Gandt, chairman of the Wayne

County Affiliate, spoke on proposed legislation in Lansing that would significantly increase taxes on mobile homes and also create more regulations.

Allison left at 5:37.

Donahue will work on a press release regarding the mobile home issue, and it will also be the first topic for our radio ads.

Sheill will speak with Greg Dirasian regarding the purchase of the web site name.

Meeting adjourned at 5:58 PM.

Chair's Message

cont'd from pg. 2

enter and the more we can let the voters know we are a viable answer to the political mess we see around us. Please do your part when the request hits your mail box.

As an adjunct to the radio project, our State Vice-Chair, Jim Miller, of the Macomb County affiliate, has been authorized by the LEC to proceed with the development of a Michigan – specific brochure to be distributed to the public through our local affiliates and other outlets. The brochure will cover current topics of political importance to the citizens of our State and will encourage contact with our State Party for both membership and further information on the topics covered in the brochure. We hope to have these available soon for distribution. Many thanks go out to Jim for his ideas and efforts.

Finally, we are pleased to report that our membership has increased over last year at this time. From a member base of 815, we now have over 900 members and continue to grow. It looks like we have once again taken over fifth place in total Libertarian Party membership nationally. I would like to thank those of you who brought in new members within the last year. Keep fighting the good fight and tell your friends about the party. See you all at the Convention in Mt. Pleasant this April.

For Liberty All-Ways,
Mike Donahue, Chair

LPM Affiliate Contacts

<u>Affiliate Name</u>	<u>Contact Name</u>	<u>Website/E-mail</u>	<u>Phone/Website</u>
Capital Area Libertarian Party	Bob Broda	www.calparty.org	517-321-7647
Libertarian Party of Kalamazoo/St. Joseph County	Matt Umlor	www.kalamazoolp.org	269-324-2282
Libertarian Party of Livingston County	David Buck	Not Available	810-220-5741
Libertarians of Macomb County	Keith Edwards	www.macomblp.com	586-777-7468
Midwest Michigan Libertarian Party	Brian Kluesner	www.pecktec.com/lpmwm/	616-723-7087
Libertarian Party of Oakland County	Leonard Schwartz	www.lpocmi.org	248-546-3569
Libertarian Party of South Central Michigan	James Parker	jamesp@hillsdale.epcorp.com	517-439-0643
Libertarian Party of Saint Clair County	Mark Byrne	iwantska@hotmail.com	810-987-9856
Libertarian Party of Southwest Michigan	Jason Gatties	www.lpswmich.org	269-465-6725
Libertarian Party of Washtenaw County	Lawrence Johnson	www.lpwash.org	734-476-7817
Thumb Area Libertarian Party	Paul Hitch	phitch@intouchmi.com	810-667-7218
Traverse Bay Libertarian Party	Jerry Coon	jtcoon@gtii.com	231-369-2395
Tri-Cities Libertarian Party	Richard Jozwiak	www.TriCityLibertarianParty.org	989-922-5226
Libertarian Party of Wayne County	Loel Gnadt	cynical_bob@juno.com	313-381-7697
West Michigan Libertarian Party	Jamie Lewis	www.lpwm.org	616-254-2878
Kettering University	Adam Hogan	hoga4008@kettering.edu	Not Available
Hillsdale College	Heidi Morris	hcmorris@hillsdale.edu	www.hillsdaleliberals.com
Northern Michigan University	Michael Brown	docbrown_77@yahoo.com	Not Available
University of Michigan College Libertarians	Andrew Moylan	admoylan@umich.edu	www.umich.edu/lpumich/
Michigan State University Libertarian Club	Brendan Dennis	dennisb3@msu.edu	www.msu.edu/dennisb3/libertarian3
Western Michigan University	Brian Harris	bharris5781@vipmail.kvcc.edu	Not Available

Accomplishing More With Functional Directors

cont'd from pg. 1

does not need to perform all the work himself, but he will be the one who is responsible for making sure that the work gets done. He will be able to recruit volunteers to assist him in accomplishing the task. The members will decide who they think is best suited to do the job. If, after a year, a director seeks to be re-elected, the members can decide if they think the job was done well or if they want to try somebody else. Here are the five positions that will be in the proposal.

Membership Director: This person will be responsible for maintaining the membership database, membership retention, and recruiting new members. He/she will also be responsible for operating a Speakers Bureau and maintaining a database of schools, colleges, and organizations that may want a speaker and past speaking engagements including the date, location, contact person, and speaker.

Development Director: This person will be responsible for fundraising and outreach to major contributors. He/she will be responsible for the annual LPM convention, Liberty Fest,

and any other fundraising events that the party may choose to hold.

Newsletter Director: He/she will be responsible for the print newsletter that goes out to members and for regular online/email communications to members (currently done via LPM Online).

The **Political Director** will be responsible for recruiting candidates, assisting with candidate paperwork, candidate and campaign manager education, and maintaining an up to date list of elected and appointed officials. This person will also be responsible for our SpeakOutMichigan web site, following state legislation, and representing LPM positions in Lansing.

A **Communications Director** will be responsible for issuing press releases, maintaining our media database, and the web site which is another public face of the party.

The **Vice Chair** position currently has no defined role. From time to time, the vice chair has been responsible for working with the affiliates throughout the state. This responsibility

should be formalized in the bylaws. In addition to the various affiliates, the vice chair will be responsible for student groups throughout the state.

As is probably obvious, there is a great deal of work that needs to be done to run the LPM. Each of the positions described is responsible for more work than one person alone could accomplish. It should be emphasized that the functional directors are not intended to perform the work by themselves. They are, however, responsible for making sure that it gets done.

The second proposal I will be making is that these changes take immediate effect. Normally, bylaws changes take effect at the end of the convention, which means that we would have another year before the changes are implemented.

It should be clear that the system we currently have is not working. It is time to try something new. I hope all members will show up at the state convention and support these changes.

Affiliates Elect New Officers

(cont'd from pg. 1) Ron was the candidate for the 73rd State House District last November.

The LPWM Board looks forward to using this year to build the party's name and idea recognition in the region and to promote the benefits of Liberty!

The Libertarian Party of Oakland County elected the following officers at its January 2005 convention: Chair: Leonard Schwartz, Vice Chair: Dick Gach, Secretary: Tony Fontana, Treasurer: Dianne Szabla, Development Director: Mike Netski, Membership Director: Sara Sjoberg, Communications Director: Jim Young.

The party this year will focus on electing members to nonpartisan offices. Five members announced that they will be candidates in city elections. The party solicits additional candidates. If you are thinking about being a candidate, contact Leonard Schwartz, Leonard@Schwartz45.com, 248-546-3569.

Convention Update

(cont'd from pg.1) Party of Michigan to pay a special tribute to Michigan's first presidential campaign team, that of Barb Goushaw Collins and Fred Collins. An award will be presented by LPM Chair Michael Donahue for their role as LP activists and the driving-force of the 2004 Presidential Campaign of Michael Badnarik. We hope you will join us for our "Thank You" to Barb and Fred.

Sunday, April 24, will see an addition to our original plans. Mr. Robert Butler, Executive Director of the Ohio Libertarian Party, will be presenting a training seminar. The seminar package will include a combination of "Starting a Campaign", "Managing a Campaign" and a third with some hands-on work. This is six hours of very reasonably priced training and a must for all potential candidates or anyone planning to work on a campaign. Deadline for registration is April 1st.

On Saturday night, there is a "Retro Dance" at Boomer's Lounge in the Holiday Inn, just one of the 'hotspots' in the Mt. Pleasant area. Or you can try your luck at Soaring Eagle's gaming tables and slots, just a mile down the road. The hotel shuttle runs hourly (as requested) with the last run at midnight.

If you are a golfer, Mt. Pleasant is considered to be the golfing 'Mecca' of Michigan. The Holiday Inn offers two courses: the championship PohlCat and the Holiday Greens. Both are scheduled to open the first part of April, depending on the weather. Golf packages are available and reservations can be made by calling 1-800-292-8891. There is also free shuttle service from the Holiday Inn to the PohlCat.

This year's convention promises to be productive, informative, and fun — but the most important thing is that we are prepared for the next election. I know you feel the same way. I'm looking forward to seeing you in Mt. Pleasant.

The LSUA works to eliminate the gerrymander from politics. The gerrymander is the most destructive device injuring the interests of persons using legal services which have been monopolized by the bar associations.

All members of the LPM are automatically members. There are no dues or obligations of membership. If you don't want to be, call and cancel. Membership has a benefit in that your interest in better, cheaper legal services and less corrupt courts are represented in any way possible.

Please contact your senators and representatives and urge the repeal of unauthorized practice of law statutes that prevent cheaper providers from entering the market. You would give strength to your communication to government representatives by prefacing your remarks that you are a member of LSUA.

David Raaflaub
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Libertarian Party of Michigan Convention 2005

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Banquet Tickets @ \$50 each = \$ _____

After April 1st

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Business Session

(Avoid Lines – Register Now!) @ \$0. each = \$ _____
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Luncheon @ \$10 each = \$ _____
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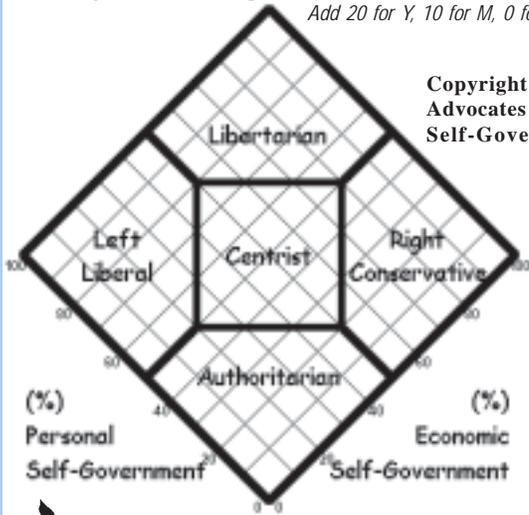
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Personal Issues	Y	M	N
Military service should be voluntary. (No draft)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Govt. should not control radio, TV, the press or the Internet	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Repeal regulations on sex for consenting adults	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Drug laws do more harm than good. Repeal them.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Let peaceful people cross borders freely.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Add 20 for Y, 10 for M, 0 for N			<input type="text"/>

Economic Issues	Y	M	N
Businesses and farms should operate without govt subsidies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
People are better off with free trade than with tariffs.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Minimum wage laws cause unemployment. Repeal them.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
End taxes. Pay for services with user fees.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
All foreign aid should be privately funded.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Add 20 for Y, 10 for M, 0 for N			<input type="text"/>



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