



DON'T TREAD ON ANYONE



Upper Peninsula
LIBERTARIAN PARTY

UPLP Newsletter #4 - August 2021

Leadership Required in Quest to Major Party Status

BY DAVE CROCKETT - NEWSLETTER CHAIR

In 1962, President Kennedy recognized the Soviet's growing dominance of space. Grabbing at an opportunity to propel the US ahead of them, he challenged the country to put a man on the moon by the end of the decade. He then directed NASA to accomplish that task. With the correct leadership in place, history was made.

In our last newsletter, I presented an opportunity for the Libertarian Party to move into major party status. With a polarized country and equally divided Senate, all that is required is the election of 2 Libertarian senators to replace one Democratic and one Republican senator in the 2022 election. With this single accomplishment, Libertarians would reduce both major parties to minority status. Without Libertarian support, neither party would be capable of passing their own agenda into law. It would be an historic change in our political landscape. A victory that will bring significant growth to the Libertarian party.

The opportunity is real, and it is achievable. All that remains is to set about the task.

To begin, readers of this article must make top party officials aware of this opportunity, or it is lost. Commitment from the party at the national level is required. The election of senators is generally handled at the state level.

To be successful requires focusing party resources to only a couple of states - states with the highest probability of electing a Libertarian senator. This is what top officials must recognize and commit to.

The 2022 election must be a strategically targeted election by the party with the sole goal of putting 2 Libertarian senators in Congress. It does not require discussion or debate on how to accomplish that. Kennedy did not know how we were going to put a man on the moon. He believed by picking the right leader for the task it would be accomplished. That is the key to success. And time is of the essence.

This is not a task that can be accomplished by current party leadership. They need to stay focused on the big picture. Also, this task cannot be accomplished through selection of a committee to lead. Committees lack cohesive decision-making skills and individual responsibility. To accomplish this task requires party leaders to select an individual to lead this effort.

History shows that political parties do not achieve major party status by slow attrition of the dominate parties. They arrive there by leaders that seize opportunities to propel them there. In our next newsletter I will present the qualifications of the person required to accomplish this task.

What are Libertarians

BY DAVE CROCKETT - NEWSLETTER CHAIR

I am often asked what Libertarians are and how they are different from Democrats or Republicans. Below is a visual comparison, similar to what is found on the Michigan LP site. As you will note, Libertarians do have some common ground with Democrats and Republicans. However, Libertarians do stand out from the other parties in regard to our belief in individual responsibility rather than government responsibility to the individual and the efficiency of government at a local level versus federal.



James Hudler - Libertarian Legend

BY JOSHUA JONGEMA - SECRETARY

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, 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.

Introducing the UPLP E-Board

BY JOSHUA JONGEMA - SECRETARY

Chairman - Ryan Roberts: I joined the LP because I read the platform and did research on what free markets are and how we could build a society that doesn't require welfare coming from a central authority. Real change will only come to us when we realize that empowering those in Washington will not advance liberty in our country. Instead we should focus on stripping them of their imbalanced power and giving that back to common citizens.

Vice Chairman - Dan Wood

Treasurer - Daniel Bowling

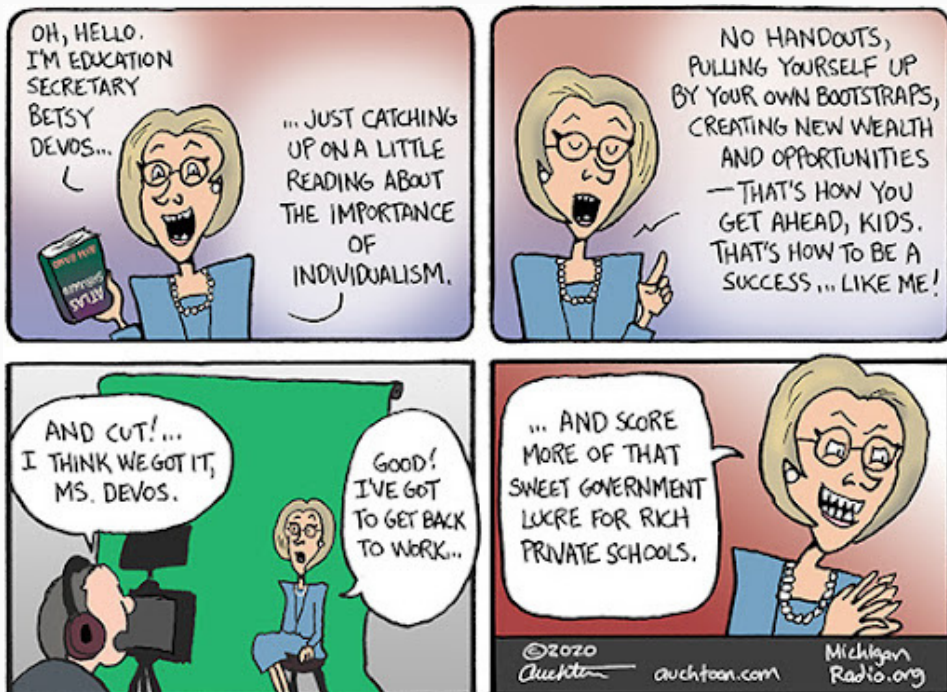
Secretary & Newsletter Committee

Member - Joshua Jongema: I am an Army veteran that moved to the U.P. to be left alone, but liberty and freedom will fade without human action.

Newsletter Committee Chairman - Dave Crockett: I am an engineer and owner of an engineering firm in the Soo. A couple of years ago I moved back to the area after spending 40 years living and moving around the west. In my spare time I write editorials for the Duluth News Tribune (in Minnesota) and some for the Sault Evening News. Writing tends to focus on current social issues and fiscal policies/problems. Many of which can be traced to the current major parties. Hence, I am a Libertarian.

Newsletter Committee Member - Lucas Limon: I'm a lifelong resident of the U.P. and I want to help fight for liberty in the state of Michigan.

The Not-So-Funnies



Events Corner

The UPLP will have booths at the following county fairs:

Baraga - Aug 6-8

Gogebic - Aug 12-15

Dickinson - Sept 2-6

The 2nd Annual UPLP Cookout will take place in Lake Mary Park in Norway, MI.

Date is TBD