



**LNC MINUTES**  
**KANSAS CITY, MO**  
**AUGUST 19-20, 2017**

CURRENT STATUS:  
AMENDED BY LNC:

AUTO-APPROVED SEPT 19, 2017  
JUN 30, 2018

LEGEND FOR AMENDMENTS: [text to be inserted](#), ~~text to be deleted~~, unchanged existing text

**CALL TO ORDER**

Nick Sarwark called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. (all times Central)

At the suggestion of Brett Bittner, the LNC participated in a 1-minute standing ovation in remembrance of R. Lee Wrights.

**ATTENDANCE**

Attending the meeting were:

Officers: Nick Sarwark (Chair), Arvin Vohra (Vice-Chair), Alicia Mattson (Secretary), Tim Hagan (Treasurer)

At-Large Representatives: Sam Goldstein, Daniel Hayes, Joshua Katz, Bill Redpath, Starchild

Regional Representatives: Caryn Ann Harlos (Region 1), Ed Marsh (Region 2), Brett Bittner (Region 3), Jeff Hewitt (Region 4), Jim Lark (Region 5), David Demarest (Region 6), Whitney Bilyeu (Region 7)

Regional Alternates: Steven Nekhaila (Region 2), Ken Moellman (Region 3), Aaron Starr (Region 4), Sean O'Toole (Region 6), Erin Adams (Region 7), Larry Sharpe (Region 8)

Not attending were: Patrick McKnight (Region 8 Representative), Steven Nielson (Region 1 Alternate), Trent Somes (Region 5 Alternate)

Staff included Executive Director Wes Benedict and Operations Director Robert Kraus. Contractors Lauren Daugherty and Andy Burns were present.

The gallery contained several other attendees in addition to those listed above.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Starting from the proposed agenda:

There was no objection to a motion by Ms. Mattson to:

- delete the agenda item for a report from the Credentials Committee;

- add a 20-minute item (after Social Media Process Review Committee Report) to make nominations for the Credentials Committee;
- allow overnight for marking the ballots; and
- make the ballots due at the call to order on Sunday

Ms. Mattson moved to extend the time on the Protect Party Assets item to 30 minutes. The motion was adopted by a show of hands with a vote total of 8-7.

Mr. Katz moved to extend the time for the EPCC report to 10 minutes. There was no objection.

There was no objection to a motion from Mr. Hewitt to adopt the agenda as amended, as shown below:

<b>Report of Potential Conflicts of Interest (Mattson)</b>	3 minutes
<b>Officer Reports</b>	
Chair's Report	15 minutes
Treasurer's Report	15 minutes
Secretary's Report	15 minutes
<b>Convention Oversight Committee (BetteRose Ryan)</b>	25 minutes
<b>Staff Reports</b>	45 minutes
<b>Counsel's Report</b>	30 minutes
<b>Protecting Party Assets (Mattson)</b>	30 minutes
<b>Reports of Standing Committees</b>	
Audit Committee (Julie Fox)	15 minutes
Affiliate Support Committee (Hayes)	15 minutes
Awards Committee	5 minutes
Employment Policy & Compensation Committee (Lark)	10 minutes
IT Committee (O'Toole)	20 minutes
Platform Committee (Mattson)	5 minutes
Bylaws Committee (Katz)	5 minutes
Ballot Access Committee (Moellman)	25 minutes
<b>Reports of Special Committees</b>	
Historical Preservation Committee (Harlos)	15 minutes
Social Media Process Review Committee (Bittner)	15 minutes
<b>Credentials Committee Nominations</b>	20 minutes
<b>New Business with Previous Notice</b>	
Creation of a Process for Supporting Candidates (Starchild)	30 minutes
Creation of a Candidate Support Committee (Goldstein)	30 minutes
Staff Directive Regarding APRC Functions (Mattson)	15 minutes
Document Destruction and Whistleblower Policies (Mattson)	15 minutes
Discussion of Membership Decline (McKnight)	15 minutes
Resolution on Withdrawal from NATO (Vohra)	10 minutes
<b>New Business without Previous Notice</b>	
<b>Regional Reports</b>	5 minutes each
<b>Announcements</b>	10 minutes

## REPORT OF POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The Secretary reported that since the previous meeting, the following potential conflicts of interest were submitted:

Erin Adams:

Board Member, The Feldman Foundation  
Volunteer, Rex Lawhorn's campaign for Governor in Oklahoma

David Demarest:

Promoter of the Omaha Roads to Liberty Un-Convention, a non-profit event under the legal and financial responsibility of my "2017 Omaha Un-Convention, LLC" corporation

I have had verbal and email discussions with John Engle and Mike Fishbein of Paladin Strategies about their availability to speak at the Omaha Un-Convention and provide their advice on event publicity. We have not agreed on any specifics yet since the event is 8 month away. Paladin Strategies has done no work yet for the Un-Convention nor has any compensation been discussed although I will certainly be offering at a minimum to cover their travel and lodging expense

I have offered some LNC members and LNC staff the opportunity to speak at the Un-Convention and have suggested arrangements to cover their travel and lodging expense

Vice-Chair, Libertarian State Leadership Alliance  
Secretary Pro Tem, Libertarian State Leadership Alliance  
Founder, Road to Freedom Foundation  
Founder, Grassroots Privatization Caucus

Sam Goldstein:

Political Director, Libertarian Party of Indiana through at least May 2018

Caryn Ann Harlos:

husband Wayne Harlos was elected Chair of the CO affiliate in March 2017

One of the founders of the Unity Caucus

Plans to start a liberty activist YouTube/Patreon show soon

Daniel Hayes:

President, Metairie Unit of the National Association of Parliamentarians

Founding member, Louisiana Self Defense Coalition

Ken Moellman:

Treasurer, Libertarian Party of Kentucky

Bill Redpath:

Vice Chair, Libertarian Party of Virginia

Treasurer, Cliff Hyra for Governor Campaign in Virginia

The following updates were reported during the meeting:

Daniel Hayes

involved with an organization called NOLA Initiative to modify the New Orleans charter, with a goal of eradicating red light cameras

Caryn Ann Harlos

is no longer on the board of the Radical Caucus

Jeff Hewitt

is no longer an At-Large Alternate on the Executive Committee of the California affiliate

Member, West Riverside County Council of Governments  
Member, West Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority

Starchild

is no longer on the Executive Committee of the California affiliate  
Vice-Chair, Libertarian Party of San Francisco  
Member, Libertarian Party Audacious Caucus

David Demarest

no longer Secretary ProTem of the Libertarian State Leadership Alliance  
indicated his prior listing as Founder of the Grassroots Privatization Caucus is premature and can be removed

Brett Bittner

Chair, Libertarian Party of Marion County, Indiana

After receiving a schedule update from Julie Fox, the agenda was amended without objection to set the Audit Committee Report for a time certain at 2:00 p.m.

## OFFICER REPORTS

### CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Sarwark had submitted a written report in advance (see Appendix A). He supplemented with a brief oral report and fielded questions and comments. The LNC took no action.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

July financials had been distributed in advance. Mr. Hagan noted that we received a bequest from Frank Clinard of New Mexico. He made a brief oral report and fielded questions and comments.

Because membership fundraising costs have been over budget, Mr. Hagan moved to amend the budget to move \$12,000 from Line 37-Building Fundraising Expense, and to move \$8,000 from Line 36-Ballot Access Fundraising Expense, and to add \$20,000 to Line 33-Membership Fundraising Costs. Dr. Lark moved to postpone the motion to be taken up after hearing the staff report. There was no objection to postponement.

Mr. Hagan moved to amend the budget to move \$20,000 from Line 45-Compensation to Line 80-Media to cover contractor expenses for the newly hired Press Secretary, and to move \$20,000 from Line 45-Compensation to Line 60-Candidate, Campaign & Initiatives to cover contractor expenses for the Candidate Support Specialist expected to be hired soon. At Dr. Lark's request, there was no objection to also postponing this motion to be taken up after hearing the staff report.

### SECRETARY'S REPORT

Ms. Mattson had submitted a written report in advance (see Appendix B). There were no questions. The LNC took no action.

## CONVENTION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

BetteRose Ryan, as Chair of the Convention Oversight Committee, had submitted a written report in advance (see Appendix C). She supplemented with an oral report and fielded questions. She noted that the 2018 convention website is now live ([www.libertarianconvention.org](http://www.libertarianconvention.org)) and event t-shirts are ready for sale. The LNC took no action.

## STAFF REPORTS

Staff had submitted a written report (see Appendix D). Mr. Benedict made an oral presentation regarding staff changes, and Lauren Daugherty gave a presentation on fundraising.

The LNC took up the motions which had been postponed from the Treasurer's report, but divided them.

Following debate, the motion to amend the budget to move \$12,000 from Line 37-Building Fundraising Expense and to add \$12,000 to Line 33-Membership Fundraising Costs was adopted without objection.

Following debate, the motion to amend the budget to move \$8,000 from Line 36-Ballot Access Fundraising Expense and to add \$8,000 to Line 33-Membership Fundraising Costs was adopted without objection.

Following debate, the motion to amend the budget to move \$20,000 from Line 45-Compensation to Line 80-Media to cover contractor expenses for the newly hired Press Secretary was adopted without objection.

Following debate, the motion to amend the budget to move \$20,000 from Line 45-Compensation to Line 60-Candidate, Campaign & Initiatives to cover contractor expenses for the Candidate Support Specialist was adopted without objection.

Mr. Hagan moved to amend the budget to increase Line 33-Membership Fundraising Costs by \$50,000 for membership prospecting letters (to the Gary Johnson campaign list, to a purchased list of registered Libertarians, and to a Reason list) and to increase Line 20-Membership Dues by \$20,000 and to increase Line 21-Donations by \$30,000.

Following debate, the vote on the motion was as follows:

Voting "aye": Demarest, Goldstein, Hagan, Hayes, Hewitt, Marsh, Redpath, Sharpe, Vohra

Voting "no": Bittner, Harlos, Katz, Lark, Mattson, Starchild

Abstaining: Bilyeu, Sarwark

The motion was adopted with a 9-6 vote total.

Mr. Goldstein moved to amend the agenda to add 15 minutes under New Business Without Previous Notice to take up a motion regarding wealth screening. There was no objection.

Mr. Katz moved to suspend the rules to take up the Affiliate Support Committee Report now. The motion failed with a show of hands.

## COUNSEL'S REPORT

LNC Special Counsel Oliver Hall joined the meeting by telephone. He had submitted a written report in advance. He supplemented with an oral report and fielded questions. The LNC took no action.

## PROTECTING PARTY ASSETS

Mr. Sarwark yielded the gavel to Mr. Vohra.

Ms. Mattson moved to insert a new Policy Manual Section 2.04.5, titled "Protecting Party Name", to read as follows:

“Party Officers and Staff shall work with legal counsel to ensure that the Libertarian Party name is used only by authorized entities.”

Following debate, the vote on the motion was as follows:

Voting “aye”: Hewitt, Katz, Mattson

Voting “no”: Bilyeu, Bittner, Demarest, Goldstein, Hagan, Harlos, Hayes, Lark, Marsh, Redpath, Sarwark, Sharpe, Starchild

Abstaining: Vohra

The motion failed with a 3-13 vote total.

Upon inquiry by Ms. Mattson, Mr. Sarwark indicated that we will be proceeding to register a copyright and/or trademark on our Torch Eagle logo.

Mr. Sarwark resumed the gavel.

The LNC adjourned for lunch and called back to order again at 2:00 p.m.

## **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

### **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Julie Fox, as Chair of the Audit Committee, joined the meeting by teleconference. The non-confidential portions of a report from the outside audit firm had been made available to the LNC in advance. The confidential management letter was distributed to the LNC only in writing during the meeting. Ms. Fox supplemented with an oral report and fielded questions.

Starchild moved to add a 5-minute agenda item tomorrow to discuss whether to remove the confidential status of the management letter from the audit firm. The motion was adopted without objection.

### **AFFILIATE SUPPORT COMMITTEE**

Daniel Hayes, as Chair of the Affiliate Support Committee, had submitted a written report in advance (see Appendix E). He supplemented with an oral report and fielded questions. The LNC took no action.

### **AWARDS COMMITTEE**

The Awards Committee is not yet populated, but Dr. Lark suggested that we make arrangements to fill those positions at the December meeting.

### **EMPLOYMENT POLICY & COMPENSATION COMMITTEE**

Jim Lark, as Chair of the EPCC had submitted a written report in advance (see Appendix F). He supplemented with an oral report, noting they are working with LNC Special Counsel Oliver Hall on some revisions to the employee manual.

Mr. Katz noted that our policy manual has particular rules for director-level employees, but those requirements could be intentionally avoided by merely re-defining positions. He also indicated the EPCC is likely to review the organizational chart in the employee manual, in light of the recent staff reorganizations. The EPCC may bring specific proposals on these subjects to the December meeting.

## IT COMMITTEE

Sean O'Toole, as Chair of the IT Committee, had submitted written report in advance (see Appendix G). He supplemented with an oral report, noting a desire to build a candidate database for our website to allow the public to determine which libertarian candidates will be on their ballots in their districts.

Andy Burns and Ken Moellman made a presentation titled "Enabling LP States to Grow," noting progress in rolling out standardized websites to affiliates, and in providing email service to affiliates. They presented a proposal to build a CRM system with CiviCRM as a base, and to make it available to all affiliates.

Mr. Goldstein moved to increase budget Line 40-Administrative Costs by \$5,000 for the IT Committee to implement the proposed CiviCRM project for state affiliates, with a proviso that the IT Committee will report back on implementation progress at the December meeting. The motion was adopted without objection.

## PLATFORM COMMITTEE

After noting that the Platform Committee reports to the convention delegates rather than to the LNC, Alicia Mattson, as Interim Chair of the Platform Committee indicated that the committee is awaiting appointments from several more states before it is fully populated.

## BYLAWS AND RULES COMMITTEE

After noting that the Bylaws and Rules Committee reports to the convention delegates rather than to the LNC, Joshua Katz, as Chair of the Bylaws and Rules Committee announced that the committee will have an in-person meeting in Kansas City, Missouri on September 16-17, 2017.

## BALLOT ACCESS COMMITTEE

Ken Moellman, as chair of the Ballot Access Committee had submitted a written report (see Appendix H). He supplemented with an oral report. The ballot access drives in Arkansas and Virginia are complete. The Ohio drive is 40% complete, and it is running over budget because various commitments made by the Ohio affiliate have not materialized.

Mr. Redpath moved to increase the ballot access expense budget line by \$32,500 for the Ohio ballot access drive. Following debate, Ms. Harlos moved to postpone the vote on the motion to be the first item of business tomorrow morning. The postponement was adopted by a show of hands with a 10-4 vote total.

Justin Cornett from the Tennessee affiliate presented a proposal for a ballot access drive in Tennessee. The number of signatures needed (33,844) is 2.5% of the 2014 gubernatorial vote. With a presumption of a 60% validity rate, the plan is to collect 56,000 signatures at \$2.50 each. The affiliate proposes to collect 14,400 raw signatures and raise another \$36,000 toward the effort. Each of the 9 regional chairs in Tennessee has pledged to raise \$2,500, the state chair has pledged to raise \$2,500, and the other three officers have pledged to raise \$2,000 each. Each of the 9 regions has pledged to collect 1,600 raw signatures. If a pending Tennessee legislature bill passes to lower the threshold to 5,000 signatures, no commitment from the LNC would be needed.

Mr. Sarwark yielded the gavel to Mr. Vohra.

Mr. Marsh moved that the LNC encumber \$67,000 for a ballot access drive in Tennessee. Mr. Sarwark moved to amend the motion to also increase the ballot access budget line by \$67,000. There was no objection to the amendment. Following debate, the vote on the motion, as amended was as follows:

Voting "aye": Bilyeu, Demarest, Goldstein, Hagan, Harlos, Hayes, Hewitt, Lark, Marsh, Moellman, Redpath, Sarwark, Sharpe, Starchild

Voting “no”: (none)

Abstaining: Katz, Mattson, Vohra

The motion was adopted with a vote total of 14-0.

Mr. Sarwark resumed the gavel.

## ***RECONSIDER BUDGET AMENDMENT***

Mr. Katz moved to reconsider the previously adopted motion to amend the budget to move \$8,000 from Line 36-Ballot Access Fundraising Expense and to add \$8,000 to Line 33-Membership Fundraising Costs. The vote on the motion to reconsider was as follows:

Voting “aye”: Bilyeu, Bittner, Demarest, Harlos, Hewitt, Katz, Lark, Marsh, Mattson, Redpath, Sharpe, Starchild, Vohra

Voting “no”: Hagan, Hayes

Abstaining: Goldstein, Sarwark

The motion was adopted with a vote total of 13-2.

The motion to reconsider having been adopted, the LNC again took up the motion to amend the budget to move \$8,000 from Line 36-Ballot Access Fundraising Expense and to add \$8,000 to Line 33-Membership Fundraising Costs. The re-vote on the motion was as follows:

Voting “aye”: Hagan, Hayes, Sharpe

Voting “no”: Bittner, Harlos, Hewitt, Katz, Lark, Marsh, Mattson, Redpath, Starchild, Vohra

Abstaining: Bilyeu, Demarest, Goldstein, Sarwark

The motion failed with a vote total of 3-10.

## ***AGENDA AMENDMENTS***

Mr. Redpath moved to amend the agenda to schedule the two items regarding supporting candidates to be tomorrow after the vote on the Ohio ballot access increase. The motion was adopted with a show of hands.

Mr. Hagan moved to amend the agenda to add a 10-minute item for scheduling the spring LNC meeting, and place it after New Business With Previous Notice. There was no objection.

## ***REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES***

### **HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**

Caryn Ann Harlos, as Chair of the Historical Preservation Committee (LPHPC), had submitted a written report in advance (see Appendix I), and she supplemented with an oral report.

Ms. Harlos moved that the LNC grant permission to Lyrasis to list the Libertarian Party as a participant in its digital preservation collaborative. Following debate, the motion was adopted without objection.



Ms. Harlos moved (as amended without objection by a motion from Ms. Mattson) to authorize the LPHPC to retain up to three copies of any issues of LP News with any remainder being disposed of at the LPHPC's discretion, in compliance with FEC regulations, with any proceeds to be credited to the LPHPC budget. Following debate, the motion was adopted without objection.

Ms. Harlos moved that the LPHPC can dispose of any software-related disks for legacy and unused software and any related instruction manuals. Following debate, the motion was adopted without objection.

Ms. Harlos moved that the LPHPC can dispose of any utility, rent, or related bills three years or older. Following debate, the motion was adopted without objection.

## SOCIAL MEDIA PROCESS REVIEW COMMITTEE

Brett Bittner, as Chair of the Social Media Process Review Committee, submitted a written report (see Appendix J), and he read their nine recommendations.

Following general discussion, Mr. Starr moved to adopt the committee's first six recommendations, but with each instance of "The LNC is recommended to" replaced with "Staff shall", so that the motion was as follows:

- 1) Staff shall commission the creation of an on-boarding process for all new volunteers with clear titles, responsibilities and goals attached to that position. Current positions for Facebook, for instance, are the creative team as well as the publishing team.
- 2) Staff shall select a point person whose duty it is to create a management hierarchy within the social media team(s) with a clear structure with specific duties, authority and responsibilities.
- 3) Staff shall appoint an ultimate arbiter for social media decisions which would also include pulling content that could be rogue or potentially damaging. We recommend the Press Secretary should fill this position.
- 4) Staff shall create, or appoint a point person or group, to create clear guidelines for replying to user comments and private messages.
- 5) Staff shall create, or appoint a point person or group, to create clear policy for handling HR related concerns.
- 6) Staff shall create, or appoint a point person or group, to create team leaders who will oversee setting the direction of the social media marketing strategies which are in line with current Libertarian Party outreach and political goals.

Following debate, the vote on the motion was as follows:

Voting "aye": Goldstein, Hagan, Hayes, Katz, Lark, Mattson, Nekhaila, O'Toole, Sharpe, Starr, Vohra

Voting "no": Starchild

Abstaining: Bilyeu, Bittner, Harlos, Sarwark

The motion was adopted with a vote total of 11-1.

## CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

Ms. Mattson noted that 29 people had applied for the 5 LNC-appointed seats on the Credentials Committee. Following some discussion, all who applied in advance for the positions were nominated (see Appendix K for a

list of the nominees). There being no other nominees, nominations were closed. Various LNC members spoke on behalf of various applicants.

Mr. Hayes moved to strike from consideration any applicant who is not a member of the party. Following debate, the motion failed by a show of hands.

Ms. Harlos noted that Terry Frost had contacted her and expressed a desire to withdraw his application.

LNC members completed their ballots overnight for submission the next morning.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The LNC adjourned for the day without objection at 6:22 p.m. and called back to order at 9:03 a.m. on Sunday, August 20.

## **BALLOT ACCESS COMMITTEE (CONTINUED)**

The LNC took up the postponed motion to increase the ballot access expense budget line by \$32,500 for the Ohio ballot access drive. The vote on the motion was as follows:

Voting "aye": Bittner, Demarest, Goldstein, Hagan, Harlos, Hayes, Lark, Marsh, Redpath, Vohra

Voting "no": Hewitt

Abstaining: Bilyeu, Katz, Mattson, Sarwark, Starchild

The motion was adopted with a 10-1 vote total.

## **NEW BUSINESS WITH PREVIOUS NOTICE**

There was no objection to combining the separate agenda items regarding candidate support into a single 45-minute item.

## **CREATION OF A PROCESS FOR SUPPORTING CANDIDATES**

Starchild moved that a section be added to the LNC Policy Manual under the heading "Funding of State-Level Candidates and Campaigns" as follows:

No state, county, or municipal candidates shall be funded directly by the Libertarian National Committee unless LNC members vote unanimously to approve such funding, but the LNC shall set aside at least 3% of its annual budget to be transferred to the state affiliate parties for the purpose of funding such candidates and campaigns, with funds to be allocated and distributed in the following manner:

In order to be eligible to receive funds in this manner, a state affiliate must have the following language, with its name entered in the appropriate blanks, included in its bylaws and not contravened or superseded by any other language therein:

"To the extent that such transfers are legal under state and federal law, the \_\_\_\_\_ (name of state) \_\_\_\_\_ LP shall donate 5% of its annual budget revenues to out-of-state Libertarian candidates and campaigns in one or more other jurisdictions, provided that the maximum amount of such donations required in a given year shall not exceed 90% of the total funds provided to the \_\_\_\_\_ (name of state) \_\_\_\_\_ LP by the Libertarian National Committee that same year, and are not required to be expended until the funds have been received from the LNC."

Mr. Goldstein moved a substitute motion to instead amend LNC Policy Manual Section 1.03.1 to insert a new table row as follows:

<b>Committee Name</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Member Selection</b>	<b>Chair Selection</b>
<a href="#">Candidate Support Committee</a>	<a href="#">Five LNC members or LNC alternates and two non-LNC members of the LP</a>	<a href="#">LNC members elected by the LNC; non-LNC members appointed by the LNC Chair based on recommendations from the LNC members of the committee</a>	<a href="#">* Committee Selected</a>

and to insert a new LNC Policy Manual Section 2.02.5 titled “Candidate Support Committee” as follows: (NOTE: The Secretary made a typo in this motion, and to retain an alphabetic ordering in the Policy Manual, the motion should have been to insert Section 2.02.6 rather than 2.02.5. The issue was addressed with the LNC by email, and there was no objection to the Secretary correcting the numbering.)

[The Candidate Support Committee will develop and maintain a set of LNC approved criteria to set standards for LP financial contributions to LP candidates other than President of the United States. The initial set of standards is to be submitted to the LNC for approval no later than the December 2017 LNC meeting. Each succeeding Candidate Support Committee will review the standards and report any needed changes to the LNC for approval no later than the second LNC meeting of the term.](#)

[The Candidate Support Committee will also be responsible for developing a proposed budget for Candidate Support for each election cycle.](#)

[Following the approval by the LNC of the Candidate Support criteria and budget, the Candidate Support Committee will then be responsible for administering financial support for Libertarian Party candidates through each election cycle with a report of its activities and spending to the LNC no later than the Spring LNC meeting following each General Election.](#)

Mr. Hayes moved to amend the Goldstein motion by striking the final two paragraphs. Following debate, the vote on the motion was as follows:

Voting “aye”: Bittner, Demarest, Goldstein, Hagan, Harlos, Hayes, Lark, Marsh, Redpath, Starchild, Vohra

Voting “no”: Hewitt, Katz, Mattson, Sarwark, Sharpe

Abstaining: Bilyeu

The amendment was adopted with a vote total of 11-5.

The vote on the motion to substitute the Goldstein motion as amended for the Starchild motion was as follows:

Voting “aye”: Bittner, Goldstein, Hagan, Harlos, Hayes, Hewitt, Katz, Lark, Marsh, Mattson, Redpath, Sharpe, Vohra

Voting “no”: Demarest, Starchild

Abstaining: Bilyeu, Sarwark

The motion to substitute was adopted with a vote total of 13-2, making the Goldstein motion as amended the main motion. The vote on the Goldstein motion as amended was as follows:

Voting “aye”: Bilyeu, Bittner, Demarest, Goldstein, Hagan, Harlos, Hayes, Hewitt, Lark, Marsh, Sharpe, Vohra

Voting "no": Mattson, Starchild

Abstaining: Katz, Redpath, Sarwark

The motion was adopted with a vote total of 12-2.

Mr. Goldstein moved to add 15 minutes to the agenda at the end of New Business Without Notice, after the item for setting the date for the spring LNC meeting, to populate the just-created Candidate Support Committee. There was no objection.

## **CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE ELECTION RESULTS**

The ballots for the first round of Credentials Committee voting were tallied during a recess.

With 15 signed ballots cast (see Appendix K for ballot details), the totals were: (only listing those candidates which received at least one vote)

Ben Bachrach – 14  
Emily Salvette – 12  
Susan Hogarth – 12  
Steven Linnabary – 9  
David Stewart – 7  
Mike Kane – 6  
Howard Wetsman – 5  
Richard Fast – 4  
Robert Lorrach – 4  
Tom Maciejewski – 4  
Roland Riemers – 4  
Joseph Wendt – 4  
James Logan – 3  
Paul Stanton – 3  
James Harrison – 2  
Lucia Lietsch – 2  
John Pierce – 2  
Lee Santos – 2  
Benjamin Arnold – 1  
Maurice Dunn – 1  
Boyd Kendall – 1  
James Pruden – 1  
Kameron Richards – 1  
Carlos Saavedra – 1

Ben Bachrach, Emily Salvette, Susan Hogarth, and Steven Linnabary were elected, each having received a majority.

Ms. Harlos moved to suspend the rules and appoint David Stewart to the 5<sup>th</sup> seat. The vote on the motion was as follows:

Voting "aye": Bilyeu, Harlos, Hewitt, Mattson, Redpath, Sharpe, Starchild, Vohra

Voting "no": Demarest, Hagan, Hayes, Katz, Marsh

Abstaining: Bittner, Goldstein, Lark, Sarwark

With a vote total of 8-5, the motion failed to achieve the 2/3 vote necessary to suspend the rules for the appointment.

A second ballot was conducted to fill the final seat.

## ***NEW BUSINESS WITH PREVIOUS NOTICE (CONTINUED)***

### **STAFF DIRECTIVE REGARDING APRC FUNCTIONS**

Mr. Sarwark yielded the gavel to Mr. Vohra.

Ms. Mattson had previously sent an email to the LNC noting that she had become aware of a staff directive (see Appendix L) issued by former LNC Chair Geoff Neale regarding the function of the Advertising and Publications Review Committee. Mr. Sarwark confirmed that the directive is still in place. Ms. Mattson raised a point of order that she believes the directive to be improper in such a way that it is null and void, based on RONR, 11<sup>th</sup> ed., p. 251. She believes it violates LP Bylaws Article 14 regarding the procedure for electronic mail ballots, deprives some APRC members of the fundamental right to have a chance to debate prior to a vote, and impinges upon the provisions of LNC Policy Manual Section 2.02.2 which violates LP Bylaws Article 6.3 which says the chair's authority over staff is "subject to express National Committee policies".

Mr. Sarwark resumed the gavel. After reviewing the citations, he ruled the point of order not well taken, as the chair's directive was advice and not a "motion" as listed in RONR, 11<sup>th</sup> ed., p. 251, timeliness exception list item (a), and that allowing staff to publish an item at a certain time does not violate the bylaw provision that email ballots do not end until all have voted or the deadline has passed.

Ms. Mattson appealed ruling of the chair, noting that if one skips the process of making motions with the appropriate bodies, and merely directs staff to violate the bylaws, it is still a bylaw violation.

Following debate, the vote on the motion to sustain the chair's ruling was as follows:

Voting "aye": Bilyeu, Bittner, Goldstein, Harlos, Hayes, Marsh, Redpath, Sharpe, Vohra

Voting "no": Demarest, Hagan, Hewitt, Katz, Mattson

Abstaining: Lark, Sarwark, Starchild

The chair's ruling was sustained with a vote total of 9-5.

Ms. Mattson moved to rescind the staff directive. Following debate, during which it was indicated there may be other related directives that are yet unknown to the LNC, Dr. Lark moved to postpone indefinitely to allow time to gather more complete information. The motion to postpone indefinitely was adopted by show of hands with a vote total of 13-3.

## ***CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE ELECTION RESULTS***

The results of the second ballot for Credentials Committee were available.

With 17 signed ballots cast (see Appendix K for details), the vote totals were as follows:

David Stewart – 9  
Mike Kane – 8  
Howard Wetsman – 6  
Tom Maciejewski – 4  
Roland Riemers – 3

Richard Fast – 2  
James Logan – 2  
Maurice Dunn – 1  
Boyd Kendall – 1  
Lucia Leitsch – 1  
Steven Linnabary – 1  
John Pierce – 1  
James Pruden – 1  
Carlos Saavedra – 1  
Lee Santos – 1  
Paul Stanton – 1  
Joseph Wendt – 1

David Stewart was elected to the 5<sup>th</sup> committee seat, having received a majority.

Mr. Goldstein moved to appoint Mike Kane as the 1<sup>st</sup> alternate. There was no objection.

## ***NEW BUSINESS WITH PREVIOUS NOTICE (CONTINUED)***

### **DOCUMENT DESTRUCTION AND WHISTLEBLOWER POLICIES**

Ms. Mattson reported that LNC Special Counsel Oliver Hall had reviewed the draft document destruction and whistleblower policies, as directed at the April LNC meeting. He provided feedback to Mr. Sarwark, Ms. Mattson, and Dr. Lark. Dr. Lark agreed that the EPCC will review that confidential, attorney-client-privileged advice and again take up the issue as a committee. The LNC took no action.

### **DISCUSSION OF MEMBERSHIP DECLINE**

Mr. McKnight wasn't in attendance to lead this agenda item. Ms. Harlos requested that the LNC use the time for a roundtable discussion of our membership decline. Following discussion, the LNC took no action.

### **RESOLUTION ON WITHDRAWAL FROM NATO**

Mr. Vohra moved to adopt the following resolution:

"Whereas The U.S. spends more on military than the next 8 combined

Whereas, involvement in NATO has caused the U.S. to build a military much larger than what is needed for defense

Whereas, current military policy has destabilized regions and lead to blowback and contributed to terrorist recruitment

Whereas, trade has been able to stop problematic ideologies when violence could not, as has happened in Vietnam

Whereas current military policy has misused many well meaning individuals for purposes other than defense against aggression often as parts of attempts to act as the world's policeman

Resolved, The Libertarian National Committee rejects and repudiates the current U.S. military policy of overreach, world policing, and nation building; demands that the U.S. military immediately shut down all foreign military bases, cease involvement in foreign conflicts, end all current foreign military operations, and bring the troops home; demands that military spending and employment, if any, be reduced to the level necessary only for defense; demands immediate U.S. withdrawal from NATO; and demands an end to all trade sanctions."

Goldstein moved a substitute motion as follows:

"Resolved, the Libertarian National Committee calls for immediate U.S. withdrawal from NATO."

Starchild moved to amend both motions to change all instances of "U.S." to "U.S. government" and to change "8 nations" to "8 national governments" in the first clause of his motion, as follows:

Whereas The U.S. government spends more on military than the next 8 ~~nations~~ national governments combined

Whereas, involvement in NATO has caused the U.S. government to build a military much larger than what is needed for defense

Whereas, current military policy has destabilized regions and lead to blowback and contributed to terrorist recruitment

Whereas, trade has been able to stop problematic ideologies when violence could not, as has happened in Vietnam

Whereas current military policy has misused many well meaning individuals for purposes other than defense against aggression often as parts of attempts to act as the world's policeman

Resolved, The Libertarian National Committee rejects and repudiates the current U.S. government military policy of overreach, world policing, and nation building; demands that the U.S. government military immediately shut down all foreign military bases, cease involvement in foreign conflicts, end all current foreign military operations, and bring the troops home; demands that military spending and employment, if any, be reduced to the level necessary only for defense; demands immediate U.S. government withdrawal from NATO; and demands an end to all trade sanctions.

And the Goldstein motion would read:

"Resolved, the Libertarian National Committee calls for immediate U.S. government withdrawal from NATO."

Mr. Starr raised a point of order that it's out of order to amend both motions simultaneously, and that the amendments to the two motions must be handled separately. Mr. Sarwark ruled it was in order. Mr. Starr appealed the ruling of the chair. The chair's ruling was upheld by a show of hands with an 11-5 vote total.

The vote on Starchild's amendments was as follows:

Voting "aye": Bilyeu, Demarest, Hagan, Harlos, Lark, Marsh, Sharpe, Starchild, Vohra

Voting "no": Bittner, Goldstein, Hayes, Mattson, Redpath, Starr

Abstaining: Katz, Sarwark

The amendment was adopted with a vote total of 9-6.

The vote on the motion to substitute the Goldstein motion as amended for Starchild's motion as amended was as follows:

Voting "aye": Bilyeu, Bittner, Goldstein, Hagan, Hayes, Lark, Mattson, Sharpe, Starr

Voting "no": Demarest, Harlos, Marsh, Starchild, Vohra

Abstaining: Katz, Redpath, Sarwark

The motion to substitute was adopted with a vote total of 9-5, making the Goldstein motion as amended the main motion.

After reviewing the LP Bylaws Article 11.7 provision that “The National Committee may adopt public policy resolutions by a  $\frac{3}{4}$  vote with previous notice or by unanimous consent without previous notice,” and the LNC policy definition of previous notice, and email records, Mr. Sarwark ruled that the motion had previous notice and needed a  $\frac{3}{4}$  vote to be adopted.

The vote on the Goldstein motion as amended was as follows:

Voting “aye”: Bilyeu, Bittner, Demarest, Goldstein, Hagan, Harlos, Hayes, Lark, Marsh, Redpath, Sharpe, Starchild, Vohra

Voting “no”: Katz

Abstaining: Mattson, Sarwark, Starr

The motion was adopted with a vote total of 13-1.

## ***NEW BUSINESS WITHOUT PREVIOUS NOTICE***

### **WEALTH SCREENING**

Mr. Goldstein moved that the LNC authorizes contracting for wealth screening services up to \$25,000.

Mr. Sarwark yielded the gavel to Mr. Vohra.

Ms. Daugherty was recognized to describe that wealth screening is the use of publicly available data (such as property tax records) to identify individuals from our contact lists who are likely capable of making large donations to our organization. Once they are identified, Ms. Daugherty can approach them with one-on-one appeals rather than mass appeals.

Following debate, the vote on the motion was as follows:

Voting “aye”: Bilyeu, Bittner, Goldstein, Hagan, Hayes, Katz, Lark, Marsh, Mattson, Redpath, Sarwark, Sharpe, Starr

Voting “no”: Starchild

Abstaining: Demarest, Harlos, Vohra

The motion was adopted with a vote total of 13-1.

Mr. Sarwark resumed the gavel.

Mr. Hayes moved to suspend the rules and introduce a motion to increase the budget Line 23-Major Gifts by \$25,000 and Line 32-Fundraising Expense by \$25,000. The suspension was adopted by a show of hands, and the LNC took up consideration of the Hayes motion. Mr. Starr moved to amend to also specify that the increase is earmarked for the wealth screening services. Following debate, the amendment was adopted by a show of hands. The vote on the main motion as amended was as follows:

Voting “aye”: Bilyeu, Bittner, Demarest, Goldstein, Hagan, Harlos, Hayes, Katz, Lark, Marsh, Mattson, Redpath, Sharpe, Starr, Vohra



Voting "no": Starchild

Abstaining: Sarwark

The motion as amended was adopted with a vote total of 15-1.

#### **MAKING AUDIT MANAGEMENT LETTER PUBLIC**

Mr. Starr drew the LNC's attention to certain provisions of the audit management letter which should be kept confidential.

Starchild moved to keep the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph on page 4 of the audit management letter confidential, and to treat the rest of the letter as not confidential.

After noting additional provisions which should also be kept confidential, Mr. Starr moved a substitute motion that the audit management letter issued by Frye & Company will remain confidential.

The vote on substitution was as follows:

Voting "aye": Bilyeu, Bittner, Goldstein, Hagan, Hayes, Katz, Lark, Marsh, Mattson, Redpath, Sharpe, Starr

Voting "no": Demarest, Harlos, Starchild, Vohra

Abstaining: Sarwark

The motion to substitute was adopted with a vote total of 12-4, making the Starr motion the main motion.

The voting on the Starr motion as main motion was as follows:

Voting "aye": Bilyeu, Bittner, Goldstein, Hagan, Hayes, Katz, Lark, Marsh, Mattson, Redpath, Sharpe, Starr

Voting "no": Demarest, Harlos, Starchild, Vohra

Abstaining: Sarwark

The motion was adopted with a vote total of 12-4.

#### **DATE FOR SPRING 2018 LNC MEETING**

Following general discussion of date options for the Spring 2018 LNC meeting, Mr. Goldstein moved to schedule an LNC meeting for April 21-22, 2018. Starchild moved a substitute to schedule an LNC meeting for March 31-April 1, 2018. The vote on the motion to substitute failed by a show of hands. The vote on the main motion for April 21-22 was adopted with a show of hands.

#### **POPULATE CANDIDATE SUPPORT COMMITTEE**

Nominations were opened for the newly-created Candidate Support Committee.

Mr. Hayes nominated Larry Sharpe, Jeff Hewitt, Sam Goldstein, Caryn Ann Harlos, and Tim Hagan.

Mr. Goldstein nominated Brett Bittner.

Starchild nominated himself.

There was no objection to using approval voting, with signed ballots. Mr. Nekhaila and Ms. Adams tallied the ballots during regional reports.

## REGIONAL REPORTS

Region 1 Representative Caryn Ann Harlos had submitted a written report in advance (see Appendix M) and supplemented with an oral report. There were no questions.

Region 2 Representative Ed Marsh had submitted a written report in advance (see Appendix N) and supplemented with an oral report. There were no questions.

Region 3 Representative Brett Bittner had submitted a written report in advance (see Appendix O); he supplemented with an oral report and fielded questions.

Region 4 Alternate Aaron Starr presented an oral report and fielded questions.

Region 5 Representative Jim Lark had submitted a written report in advance (see Appendix P); he supplemented with an oral report and fielded questions. Bill Redpath was recognized to provide an update from Virginia, which included an update on the Cliff Hyra for Virginia Governor campaign. Dr. Lark had also submitted a Campus Organizing Report (see Appendix Q) and an International Representative Report (see Appendix R).

Region 6 Representative David Demarest had submitted a written report in advance (see Appendix S) and supplemented with an oral report.

Region 7 Representative Whitney Bilyeu had submitted a written report in advance (see Appendix T). There were no questions.

Region 8 Representative Patrick McKnight had submitted a written report in advance (see Appendix U), and Region 8 Alternate Larry Sharpe supplemented with an oral report.

Mr. Vohra provided an oral report from South Carolina.

## CANDIDATE SUPPORT COMMITTEE ELECTION RESULTS

With 17 signed ballots (see Appendix V for ballot details) cast for the Candidate Support Committee, the results were announced as follows:

Bittner – 15  
Goldstein – 15  
Sharpe - 15  
Hewitt – 13  
Harlos – 12  
Hagan – 11  
Starchild - 5

Brett Bittner, Sam Goldstein, Larry Sharpe, Jeff Hewitt, and Caryn Ann Harlos were elected, being the top 5 who received a majority vote. Mr. Sarwark appointed Mr. Bittner as the committee's interim chair.

While constructing the details for Appendix V, the correct results were found to be as follows:

Bittner – 15  
Goldstein – 15  
Sharpe - 15  
Hewitt – 12  
Harlos – 11  
Hagan – 10

Starchild - 4

The tallying errors did not change the results of the election. It appears the discrepancy was caused by one particular ballot, on which the voter first wrote the names of all seven candidates, and then cast votes by placing checkmarks by the names of only three of the seven candidates. It seems that the onsite tally reflected votes for all seven candidates, rather than only the three with checkmarks.

## *ADJOURNMENT*

Following announcements, the meeting adjourned without objection at 2:19 p.m.

## Chair's Report - 4/17/17 - 8/19/17

- Gave many interviews, including Salon, Glenn Beck, PJ Media, BuzzFeed, Planet Forward, IVN, and others.
- Worked with staff to put out timely press releases and statements on issues.
- Traveled and spoke at Libertarian Party events in Wisconsin, Ohio, Oregon, New Hampshire.
- Conducted conference calls for Libertarian Party members and potential new members.
- Testified in a deposition in Shaber lawsuit against the FEC.
- Consulted with Oliver Hall on legal issues, including lawsuits, appeals, and employment and petitioning contracts.
- Engaged with candidates and LP members on social media.
- Responded to LP member correspondence regarding official positions and concerns.
- Represented the Libertarian Party to the public at conferences in Las Vegas and Puerto Rico.
- **In person and telephone meetings with major donors and potential donors.**
- **Interviewed nearly 20 candidates for the position of Press Secretary.**

## Secretary's Report

For August 19-20, 2017 LNC Session

Following is a status report for minutes of LNC and EC meetings since the previous regular LNC session on April 15-16, 2017:

- May 27-30, 2016 National Convention – adopted during April 15-16, 2017 LNC session
- April 15-16, 2017 LNC session – auto-approved on May 21, 2017
- August 8, 2017 EC teleconference – scheduled for auto-approval on August 25, 2017

LNC membership changes since the previous regular LNC session:

- On May 22, 2017 Danny Bedwell emailed the LNC to indicate he was resigning as Region 7 Alternate effective at 12:01 am, May 24, 2017.
- On June 26, 2017 Region 7 Representative Whitney Bilyeu notified me by email that the state chairs of Region 7 elected Erin Adams as Region 7 Alternate.

Committee membership changes since the previous regular LNC session:

- The LNC is scheduled to make its 5 appointments to the Credentials Committee at this meeting. The following state appointments have already been made: George Zsidisin (VA), Mark Potwora (NY)
- The LNC created a Social Media Process Review Committee during its April 15-16, 2017 session, appointing Brett Bittner, Daniel Hayes, Steve Nekhaila and granting them the power to select two additional members from outside the LNC. On April 28, 2017 the committee announced they had selected Alison Foxall and Elizabeth Van Horn for those two positions.
- Erin Adams had been appointed to a non-LNC position on the Convention Oversight Committee. Her appointment as Region 7 Alternate made her ineligible to serve in that position, creating a vacancy. After a policy amendment was adopted with email ballot 2017-14, she was again eligible to serve and was re-appointed to the Convention Oversight Committee by email ballot 2017-15.

Other tasks I have completed include:

- Notified the applicants for Platform Committee and for Bylaws and Rules Committee of the results of the LNC appointments.
- Contacted all states eligible to make appointments to the remaining positions on the Platform Committee to notify them of their eligibility and the appointment deadline.
- Provided staff an article for LPNews summarizing the April LNC meeting
- The upcoming Credentials Committee appointments were advertised to the membership via email blast one month prior to this meeting.
- Assembled applications for Credentials Committee from 29 applicants for the LNC's review

LNC Policy Manual Section 2.07.2 requires that the Secretary:

“distribute to each affiliate party the Presidential vote totals which the Secretary proposes to use for purposes of delegate allocation for National Conventions as provided for in the Bylaws, no later than the last day of April in the year following a Presidential election. If any Party member seeks a modification of the vote totals proposed by the Secretary, the member shall file with the Secretary a written request to modify the totals along with any documentation supporting the request no later than the last day of May of the same year. The Secretary shall review all such requests to modify the Presidential vote totals and distribute a

final allocation of delegates based on Presidential vote totals no later than the last day of July of the same year.”

The distribution of the proposed vote totals was completed on April 26, 2017. I received no requests to modify the totals, and the final allocation of delegates based on the Presidential vote totals was completed on July 28, 2017. Thank you to Daniel Hayes (Affiliate Support Committee Chair) and to the LNC region reps who assisted me in distributing this info to the current state chairs.

The following 9 email ballots were completed since the December 10-11, 2016 LNC session:

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Motion 2017-08: The 2017 LNC budget meeting shall be held at the New Orleans Hyatt Regency on December 9th and 10th, 2017.

Sponsors: Hayes, Harlos, Goldstein, Bilyeu, Redpath

Started: 04/21/17

Ended: 05/01/17

Voting “aye”: Bilyeu, Bittner, Demarest, Goldstein, Hagan, Harlos, Hayes, Lark, Marsh, Mattson, McKnight, Redpath, Starr

Voting “nay”: (none)

With a final vote tally of 13-0, the motion PASSES.

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Motion 2017-09: The Libertarian National Committee expresses its sorrow at the passing of Lee Wrights, and extends its condolences to his family and friends. In addition, the LNC expresses its appreciation and gratitude for his work for liberty, and for his many years of service to the Libertarian Party.

Sponsors: Lark, Starchild, Harlos, Bilyeu, Hagan, Hayes, Bittner, Goldstein, Marsh, Demarest, McKnight

Started: 05/05/17

Ended: 05/15/17

Voting “aye”: Bilyeu, Bittner, Demarest, Goldstein, Hagan, Harlos, Hayes, Hewitt, Katz, Lark, Marsh, Mattson, McKnight, Redpath, Sarwark, Starchild, Vohra

Voting “nay”: (none)

With a final vote tally of 17-0, the motion PASSES.

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Motion 2017-10: that the LNC to contribute \$5,000 to the Mark Wicks for Congress campaign.

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Sponsors: Sarwark

Started: 05/09/17

Ended: 05/19/17

Voting “aye”: Bilyeu, Bittner, Demarest, Harlos, Hayes, Hewitt, Katz, Sarwark, Vohra

Voting “nay”: Goldstein, Hagan, Lark, Marsh, Mattson, McKnight, Redpath, Starchild

With a final vote tally of 9-8, the motion PASSES.

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Motion 2017-11:

Whereas, We support the maintenance of a sufficient military to defend the United States against aggression and believe that the United States should both avoid entangling alliances and abandon its attempts to act as policeman for the world;

Whereas, We oppose any form of compulsory national service and recognize that many members of the military were unjustly conscripted in the past;

Whereas, Most voluntary members of the military joined with the idea and/or goal of defending the United States and, thereby, their property, families, and friends;

Whereas, The United States Military-Industrial-Complex has used many well-meaning military service members for purposes other than defense against aggression and further involved them in foreign entanglements during attempts to act as the world's policeman; and

Whereas, Many current and former military service members are able to relate, identify, and speak out on the ways in which the United States military mission has been expanded and corrupted beyond a legitimate role of defense against aggression; now, therefore, be it;

Resolved, Present and former members of the military who give such unique and powerful voice to the libertarian principles of peace and the non-initiation of force add great value to the Libertarian Party, and are welcomed as a vital part of our membership.

Sponsors: Hayes, Hewitt, Hagan, Mattson

Started: 05/20/17

Ended: 05/30/17

Voting “aye”: Bilyeu, Goldstein, Hagan, Harlos, Hayes, Hewitt, Katz, Lark, Mattson, McKnight, Moellman, Nekhaila, Redpath, Vohra

Voting “nay”: Demarest, Starchild

With a final vote tally of 14-2, the motion PASSES, having achieved the  $\frac{3}{4}$  vote (with previous notice) required by LP Bylaws Article 7.11 to adopt public policy resolutions.

---

Motion 2017-12: to amend the budget by changing line 26-Branding Development/Political Materials Revenue from \$30,000 to \$60,000, and changing line 55-Branding Development/Political Materials Expenses from \$30,000 to \$60,000.

Sponsors: Hagan, Hayes, Katz, Harlos

Started: 06/05/17

Ended: 06/15/17

Voting "aye": Bilyeu, Bittner, Demarest, Goldstein, Hagan, Harlos, Hayes, Hewitt, Katz, Lark, Marsh, Mattson, McKnight, Redpath, Starchild, Vohra

Voting "nay": (none)

With a final vote tally of 16-0, the motion PASSES.

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Motion 2017-13: to allow staff the discretion to choose between publishing a total of five or six physical issues of LPNews for the year of 2017, subject to the approval of the Chairman.

Sponsors: Hayes, Bilyeu, Goldstein, Redpath, Harlos, Demarest

Started: 06/21/17

Ended: 07/01/17

Voting "aye": Bilyeu, Bittner, Demarest, Goldstein, Hagan, Hayes, Hewitt, Katz, Lark, Marsh, McKnight, Redpath

Voting "nay": Harlos, Starchild

With a final vote tally of 12-2, the motion PASSES.

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Motion 2017-14: Amend the LNC policy manual section 1.03.1 to define the size of the Convention Oversight Committee as follows, "[Seven members, with a minimum of f](#)Four LNC Members or Alternates, plus ~~3~~[a minimum of two](#) non-LNC members who are recommended by the Convention Oversight Committee."

Sponsors: Hayes, Demarest, Goldstein, Harlos, Bittner, Katz

Started: 06/30/17

Ended: 07/10/17

Voting "aye": Bilyeu, Bittner, Demarest, Goldstein, Hagan, Harlos, Hayes, Katz, Lark, Marsh, Mattson, McKnight, Redpath



Voting “nay”: (none)

With a final vote tally of 13-0, the motion PASSES.

---

Motion 2017-15: to appoint LNC Region 7 Alternate Erin Adams to the Convention Oversight Committee.

Sponsors: Hayes, Starchild, Bittner, Goldstein, Demarest, Harlos

Started: 07/01/17

Ended: 07/11/17

Voting “aye”: Bilyeu, Bittner, Demarest, Goldstein, Hagan, Harlos, Hayes, Hewitt, Katz, Lark, Marsh, Mattson, McKnight, Redpath, Starchild

Voting “nay”: (none)

With a final vote tally of 15-0, the motion PASSES.

---

Motion 2017-16: for the LNC to contribute \$5,000 to support the Congressional campaign of Joe Buchman (Utah).

Sponsors: Harlos, Bilyeu, Demarest, Starchild

Started: 07/15/17

Ended: 07/25/17

Voting “aye”: Adams, Demarest, Hagan, Harlos, Hayes, Hewitt, Sarwark, Starchild, Vohra

Voting “nay”: Bittner, Goldstein, Katz, Lark, Marsh, Mattson, McKnight, Redpath

With a final vote tally of 9-8, the motion PASSES.

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Alicia Mattson  
LNC Secretary

## Convention Oversight Committee Report

This is by far the best Convention Oversight Committee I have been part of at the National level, aside from 2008. Participation rate is high from all members and everyone is working hard to ensure a good convention. We meet at least twice a month.

Ticket prices are set and the website should be live before the August LNC meeting. Because of accelerating costs in the area of A/V and F&B, the committee felt it necessary to accept a loss on each ticket sold hoping to raise money through higher ticket sales and increased sponsorship. We begin to recoup those losses after we sell 500 tickets. Our fundraiser on the convention theme has shaved off some of the loss.

Audio Visual Group is to supply our A/V needs at the 2018 convention. The contract should be signed either this week or sometime in the near future.

Significant progress in securing meal, opening and keynote speakers for little or no money has been made. Names will not be in a written report until contracts are signed. However, Daniel Hayes, who has been working on this, can speak to that privately. If he secures any signed contracts we will supplement the report.

The website is set up and we have an ad schedule for the future LP News publications. We are looking for suggestions for advertising the convention. Suggestions can be forwarded to Erin Adams and Whitney Bilyeu.

Volunteers are working on a silent auction and other ways to raise money during the convention. If you have something to donate, please contact me. Lauren is helping us to upgrade our fundraising to attract higher donors.

Next step is to schedule and assign rooms to our various seminars, trainings, and meetings. Once done, we will know what rooms are available for member led events. If you have seminar ideas, please pass them to William Brackeen.

We have narrowed the bids for 2020 convention sites to seven. If the committee has any questions about the process, they may direct their questions to me.

About future conventions:

We must find a way to fund the conventions other than through ticket sales. Because we have a set number of delegates but the price of putting on a convention keeps expanding, each ticket will cost significantly more each time, which means fewer ticket sales in the future. This could cause a spiral that we won't be able to recover from. Here are a few suggestions to help ease this burden.

1. Link the POTUS and the non-POTUS conventions together so that the proceeds from one can help support the other. Had we done this for 2016/2018 there would be no anticipated loss in 2018.
2. Raise annual dues \$5 per member and set aside that amount per year in an account strictly for the convention. The delegates are working on the behalf of all members, just as the office staff is, and therefore the membership should be responsible for the cost of the convention.
3. Increase awareness of the convention as a seminar and training get together to encourage non-delegates to attend. It can be billed as an event to inform, inspire, and invigorate (inform new people; inspire those who are involved to become more involved; invigorate those who are working hard.) It can be billed as a fun place to be. We simply need more than delegate ticket sales if we want future conventions to be successful.

Meeting Dates and Attendance Roster for August 19-20, 2017 LNC Meeting

	Adams	Bilyeu	Brackeen	Goldstein	Hayes	Mattson	Ryan
04/24/17	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
05/08/17	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
05/22/17	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
06/05/17	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
06/19/17	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
07/03/17	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N
07/17/17	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
07/31/17	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
08/10/17	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
08/14/17	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

See the following 14 pages for the Staff Report

## Staff Reports

*Meeting of the Libertarian National Committee, Inc.*

*August 19-20, 2017*

*Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania*

### Contents

1. Executive Director's Report
2. Operations Director's Report
3. Head of Development's Report
4. Affiliate Support Specialist's Report

### Executive Director's Report

**Submitted by Wes Benedict**

#### Summary

2016 was an excellent year for the Libertarian Party. The Party excelled in areas including ballot access, presidential election vote results, membership growth, and financial performance.

We're working to maintain gains from 2016 (results typically peak in Presidential election years), and we're laying the foundation to prepare for the 2018 election cycle.

In Q1 2017 we focused on infrastructure upgrades: LP.org, LPStore.org, LPAction.org, upgrading the membership database to Raisers Edge NXT, a development department, and staff changes. Those projects have gone well, as have overall Q1 financial results.

In Q2 2017, we've continued implementation of Raisers Edge NXT and have had more staff changes.

Areas of concern include the recent large decline in membership, although that was expected.

Much of the content of my section of this report was generated by copying and pasting directly from the great work of the rest of our staff and contractors.

## Membership

Interest generated by the 2016 Presidential election drove “membership” up to the highest level since 2004. At our April 2017 LNC meeting in Pittsburgh, I explained and wrote in my staff report: “I’m projecting a drop of 4,000 to 5,000 members by August.” That drop has mostly occurred, and I expect membership levels will stop declining after the end of August. I’ll have proposals for prospecting for new members.

We use several membership retention efforts:

- “Snail mail” renewal letters
- Email renewal notices
- Phoning lapsed members (by staff and LNC volunteers)
- Special offers, like books and T-shirts
- Facebook (regular posts and paid ads)
- Prospecting to the Johnson for President donor list (subject to contract restrictions)
- Prospecting to lists of other organizations
- New memberships from LP.org

## Staff

We’ve made several staff changes since the December LNC meeting.

Salaried and hourly staff:

- Wes Benedict—Executive Director
- Robert Kraus—Operations Director
- Eric Dixon—Editor & Technology Developer (added)
- Nick Dunbar—Special Projects
- Matthew Thexton—Member Services

Staff contractors:

- Bob Johnston—Candidate and Affiliate Support Specialist
- Andy Burns—State Affiliate Support Specialist
- Lauren Daugherty—Head of Development
- Elizabeth Brierly—Assistant Editor; helps with various publications
- Denise Luckey—Designer
- Jess Mears—Development Coordinator
- Richard Fields—Press Secretary (added)

Other contractors used on a regular basis:

- Oliver Hall—Special Counsel
- Paula Edwards—FEC Consultant
- Mat Thexton—membership renewal calls
- Collin Daugherty—graphic design

- There are more contractors we use on a semi-regular basis that are not detailed here for things such as cleaning services, HVAC repair, general maintenance, tech support, legal help, ballot access petitioning, LP News articles, and other things.

Former staff and contractors:

- Carla Howell—Political Director
- Burly Cain—Special Projects (added)

Upcoming Staff Plans

- Add Candidate Support Specialist
- Add Development Associate

# Director of Operation's Report – April 2017

by Robert Kraus

## **Blackbaud – Data Dumps – Internal Customer Service**

As a reminder we have moved to the upgraded next generation cloud based database by Blackbaud called RE NXT. This also incorporates Online Express by Blackbaud which will tie some of our fundraising via the web site directly into the database. We have utilized this aspect currently for the regional reps who are calling their lapses members & also in-house for some of our renewals, tele-fundraising & pledge updates.

We are now in process of setting up access to our database by the affiliates with testing by Daniel Hayes & Andy Burns on LA Data & we will soon be adding IN, MO & SC as well. If all goes well we should be able to give all the affiliates access by the end of the year. Current access is read-only with the ability to export their own dumps, donor lists, member lists & mailing labels. For their state They also will have access to RE NXT for quick donor lookup via the web.

## **Building Fund**

Curr mortg balc = \$250,860 as of 08/22/17 – that would be HALF of our original mortgage total!

Extra payments made so far this year = \$62,000

Curr in restricted fund \$3108

## **FEC Filing**

We continue to file accurate FEC reports and use Paula Edwards to complete the FEC Filing Process on a monthly basis and handle our amendments. The reconciliation and audit steps to this process continue to work to assure that these reports are correct prior to filing, and to insure that the disbursements and contributions match to our cash accounting records.

As a reminder, the FEC reports are done on a cash basis while our financial reports are done on an accrual basis as required by our bylaws which require adherence to GAAP. Therefore, our Statement of Operations will not always look the same as what is reported on the summary page of our FEC Filings.

## **Financial**

As expected fundraising has slowed down but revenue is on target in terms of budget. Our current reserve as of 07/31/17 is only at \$75,124. We would caution the LNC when it comes to any new expensive projects that are not already planned within the budget. We continue to allocate staff compensation on a monthly basis to functional programs / projects & fundraising as noted in the Monthly P&L Detail report.

## **Thank you!**

Robert



Lauren Daugherty, Head of Development

August 2017

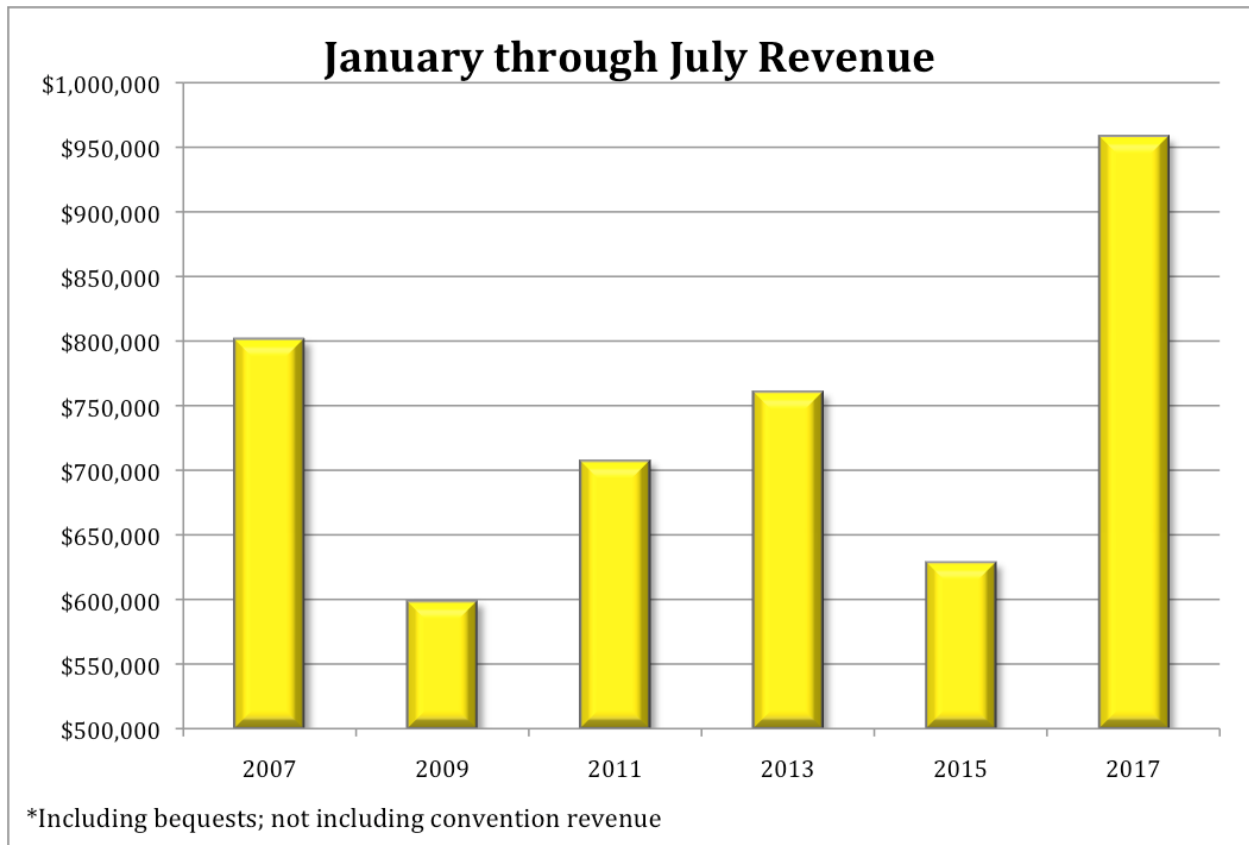
Since its establishment just 7 months ago, our fundraising department has been experimenting with a variety of methods and angles, to find the optimal forms of outreach for our organization given the resources (both financial and human) available to us. That experimentation continues and is bearing fruit. Our revenue continues to be strong. Most of our increase in revenues is because existing donors are increasing their giving.

Between January and July 2017, we raised \$957,529. This number includes the Clinard bequest that will be booked for June and does not include convention revenue.

Our January through July 2017 revenue surpassed all of the past 10 years with the exceptions of 2016 and 2008, which were presidential election years.

Average January through July revenue from 2007 to 2016 (again, minus convention revenue, not counting rollover bequest revenue, but including bequest revenues at the time they were booked) is \$804,599. January through July 2017 revenue surpasses that average by 19%.

This graph compares 2017 with the 5 preceding odd-numbered years:



When compared to these previous odd-numbered years, January through July 2017 beats their average by 37%. This is really the most accurate and useful comparison, given the nature of our election calendar.

As you know, our membership numbers have fallen, as we expected that they would with the nature of the election cycle.

This decline was exacerbated by two things: 1) we don't do much prospecting; 2) our renewals caller was tasked with additional important responsibilities.

Over the summer, our consultant who had been previously tasked primarily with calling members for renewals, was tasked with also processing our in-house mail. This includes processing donations, thank you notes, membership cards, LP Store items, and so on. All of this is important work and must be done carefully and properly if we want our membership and fundraising to grow. Mat Thexton's fastidious nature makes him an excellent fit for making sure this job is done well. But, because of his additional responsibilities, he was not doing as many renewal calls this summer as he might have otherwise.

We are in the process of hiring another consultant to focus on renewal phone calls. We are hoping to start a trial contract for one such consultant within the next week. Getting another solid renewals caller on board will help with member retention and fundraising. I plan for this new person to prioritize upgrades and broader cultivation during these calls as well. This had not been a priority for the renewals caller in the past.

Jess Mears and I are also looking at new options for prospecting. Prospecting through the mail is the traditional method and very costly. It is still worth doing, but we are hoping to use diversified methods to bring in new folks who might not respond to mail and to do so at a lower cost. For example, Blackbaud/Raiser's Edge has a number of features that we seem to have access to under our current contract but which we haven't tried yet. Over the next quarter, we'll be exploring these options, experimenting, and planning for a well-rounded approach in 2018.

I am also very hopeful that our new press secretary's work to get us more press attention will be very helpful for recruiting new members. In the time that I have worked for the national party and, before that, as Executive Director of the Libertarian Party of Texas, it has been my opinion that earned press is the most cost effective way for Libertarians to prospect for new members. When Richard Fields gets settled into his job and starts generating more media attention for our party, Jess and I will be working hard to capitalize on that media attention for fundraising.

In recent years, the national party has not hosted many fundraising events. We are currently experimenting with various formats. Earlier this month, we co-hosted one such event with a donor in Pittsburgh. Arvin Vohra was the featured speaker and did an excellent job. Jess facilitated the event and it went smoothly and was successful. We've raised about \$3,000 from that event so far and I am confident that the event will continue to pay dividends over time as those who attended give in the future. The donor who co-sponsored the event with us was very happy with how the event turned out. He wrote,

*Not knowing the politics or interest in politics of most of my friends, I was gratified by both the turnout and level of interest. Arvin Vohra fielded a broad range of questions and held the group's interest longer than I would have thought possible: this suggests that there is*

*an enhanced opportunity for our party to grow based not only on dissatisfaction with the choices offered by the Republicans & Democrats, but the merits.*

We will co-sponsor another fundraising event in a different format on the Friday before this LNC meeting. I had planned for it to take one format and then, when a generous donor offered a matching pledge, we reconfigured the event to try to maximize that special opportunity. This event too is an experiment and we'll learn various lessons from it that will be useful as we plan future events. Jess has significant event planning experience that has been and will continue to be very useful for us in this way.

Other major organizations send their senior representatives and development officers on the road for a good portion of the year to meet with donors across the country. If we want the Libertarian Party to grow to the levels we aspire for it to, we need to do more of that type of outreach. When Nick is traveling, we try to arrange donor meetings wherever he going. This has been very fruitful. Arvin gave the presentation at the event in Pittsburgh a few weeks ago. That too was very fruitful. Nick can't reasonably add any more travel to his already packed schedule but Arvin has volunteered to travel on our behalf on a regular basis and give presentations to groups of donors. I would like to take him up on that generous offer. Wes, Jess, and I also need to increase our travel to meet with more donors.

The opportunities for growing our donor base are truly limitless at this time. We have so many people on our lists that need to be reached out to and cultivated.

Face-to-face meetings are by far the most effective method for growing those relationships with donors and increasing the likelihood that they will increase their giving. Last month, Nick, Wes, and I attended FreedomFest at met with as many donors as we could. We were successful in raising about \$38,000 during those 3 days.

Until recently, we had no specific donor documents to give to donors at meetings or events. So I created a document called "Path to 2018." Fundraising in an "off year" such as this one has many challenges, as you can imagine. "Path to 2018" encourages donors to invest now to lay the foundation for progress in 2018. So far, this document has been very well received and helpful in securing some

significant donations. We'll be using it in a high dollar mailing in the next couple of weeks.

As mentioned above, we are experimenting with various new tools. We are also experimenting with some traditional tools. Direct mail is timeless though slowly changing. Our housefile rates of return are not as high as we'd like. I have some ideas on how to potentially improve on that and will be experimenting with those ideas more over the coming months. I've also started experimenting with high dollar mailings. High dollar mailings are mailings that are specifically tailored for a higher dollar donor and which ask for a larger gift. Such mailings usually cost a bit more to create but, if well constructed and targeted effectively, they can have a higher return on investment. The first high dollar mailing I put together in the early summer did very well, generating about 20 times what it cost to produce the mailing. The second version, which included almost the exact same content but in a different format, did poorly. This is helpful information to know. I intend to try the first format again sometime in the next few months and see if we have similar results to that first, very successful mailing.

Over the summer, Wes tasked Jess and me with writing and producing the *Liberty Pledge Newsletter*. Previously, the newsletter included mostly excerpts from news articles. Jess and I are generating original content, some written by us, some written by others, and attempting to turn this into a more exciting resource for our Liberty Pledgers who are such a critical resource for the party.

Jess is indispensable in making all of the above happen. She filters data, does research, books meetings, thanks donors, asks for donations, generates content, manages conference calls for members, and so much more. Her event planning experience has been very helpful and she is developing really solid instincts for cultivation and fundraising. Her hard work and creative thinking are invaluable as we continue to ramp up our various fundraising programs.

Up until this time, I have been working part-time. As of the week of the LNC meeting, I'll start booking full-time hours on a regular basis. I think this will help further ramp up our fundraising outreach and rate of progress.

I often say that if we want this party to grow to the ambitious levels that we desire, we need to create an army of fundraisers. Many of you have helped in various ways over the past few months and I appreciate that very much. Special

thanks and recognition go to Caryn Ann Harlos and Daniel Hayes for their work on a weekly basis to increase our fundraising.



**Affiliate Development Specialist Report**  
**Submitted by Andy Burns for 2017 Q2**

## Key Points

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- Launch revised [lpaction.org](http://lpaction.org) site with Carla Howell
- Consulted with Florida and Wisconsin fundraising chair's on fundraising practices
- Sent 11 "Leading Like a Libertarian" book to new state chairs with welcome letter
- Created LP Support Slack channel to facilitate state collaboration. <https://lp-support.slack.com/signup>
- Finalized outreach kit materials to complement existing offering. New items include 10'x10' tent and table throw ([see here](#)).
- Working with Ryan Waterbury on vendor pricing on some of the outreach kit items.
- Provide logos and other graphics via Ryan Waterbury to affiliates who request them. Some clients include Nassau County, NY; Orange County, CA, LPNM, LPKY. We continue to use a centralized Google Drive folder system to store and disseminate these graphics to affiliates.
- Installed, configured and customize LPIA CiviCRM with voter profile fields to house their near 10K registered Libertarian records
- Provide training and import 10k records into LPIA CiviCRM
- Debug and revise [lpia.org](http://lpia.org) site to integrate with CiviCRM without conflict. Made upgrades to donation, email capture and home page.
- Connected Google Analytics to [lp.org](http://lp.org)
- Upgrade plugins at [lp.org](http://lp.org) and ensure no conflicts
- Conference call on Outreach tabling to LP Members
- Revised run for office, info requests and volunteer forms for clarity. Better labeling in subject lines and from email addresses for states to easily see and sort.
- Add promotions and products to [lpstore.org](http://lpstore.org) upon request. Upgrade and maintain on ongoing basis.
- Added "Shop" section on LP Facebook page
- Develop framework for LP 2018 convention site
- Answer several questions by phone, email and Slack from affiliates

# Website Services Update

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States currently on WPEngine multi-site:

[lnorthdakota.org](http://lnorthdakota.org) (moving off)

[lpid.org](http://lpid.org)

[lpne.org](http://lpne.org)

[lpvirginia.org](http://lpvirginia.org)

[lpar.org](http://lpar.org)

States sites in development that will be moving onto the platform shortly:

Tennessee

Missouri

Michigan (originally made on MI's host)

Kentucky

Wyoming

Indiana (originally made on IN host)

Other sites as documented before were made on state's own hosting account. Some of them are now being brought into the multi-site.

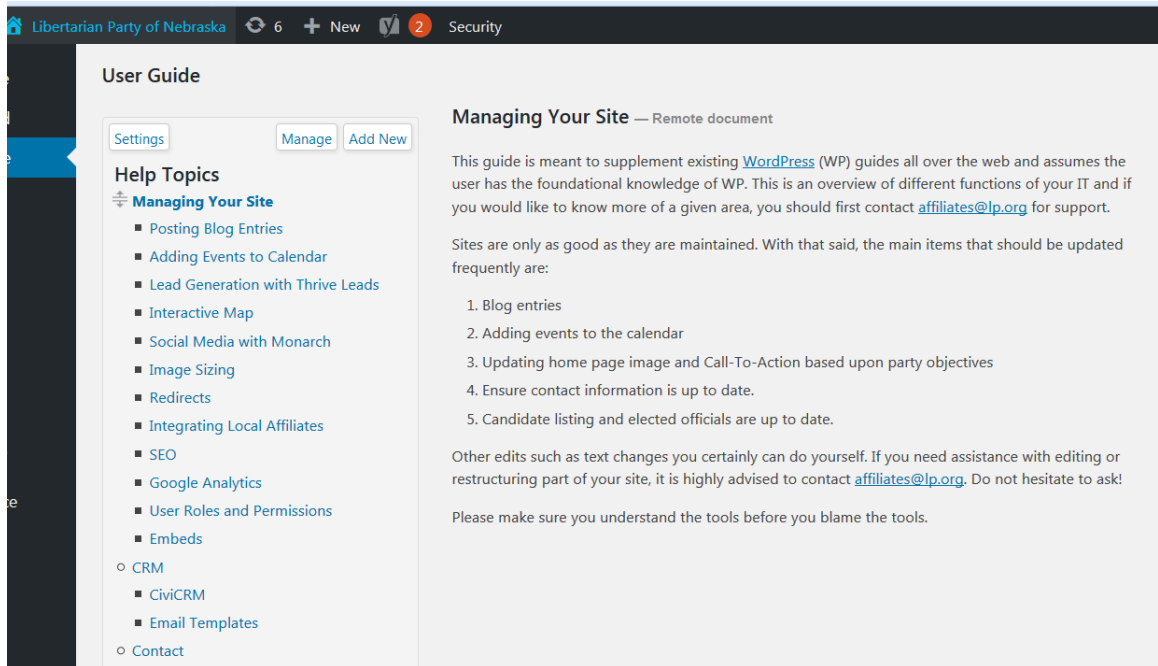
Typically setting up states on MailChimp and configuring flow of contacts and HTML templates to reflect their brand.

## Continue to Extend Functionality

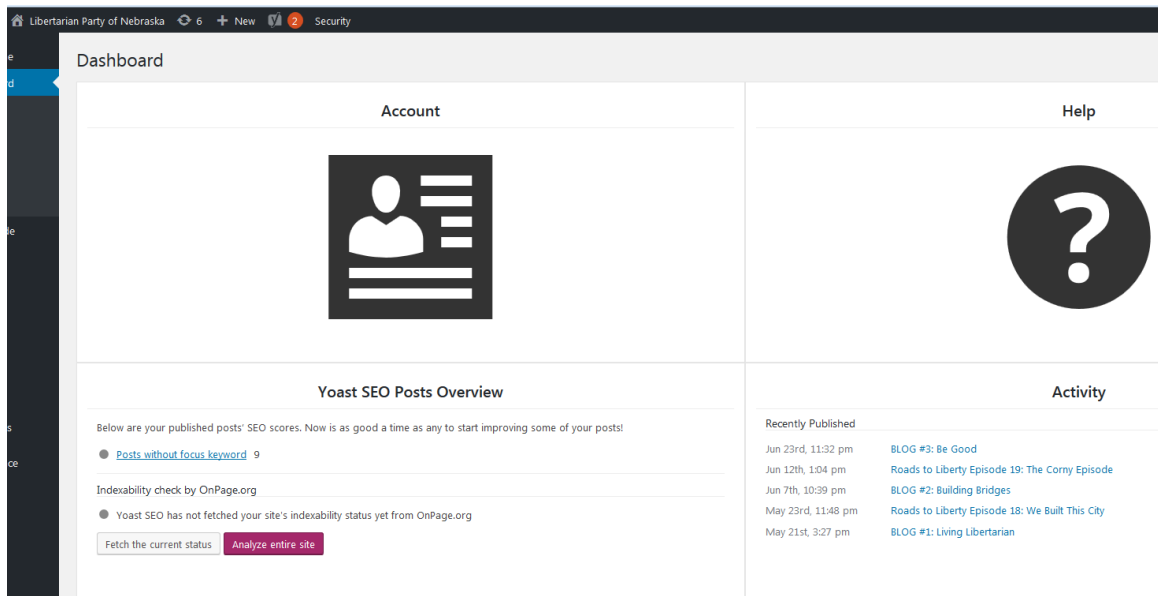
- Created a process to do a one-click site duplication off a template.[lnational.wpengine.com](http://lnational.wpengine.com) to bring new states and to speed up website creation.
- Addition of Gravity Forms plugin to take payment information and other form data. Robust functionality with conditional formatting. e.g. routing contacts to appropriate county contact or consolidation of the number of form pages. (In KY for instance, we have free membership and dues membership offering on one page, and collecting volunteer inquiries. On confirmation screen, they are pushed to the SOS to register Libertarian.)



- Completed central user guide documentation deployed to each state site on managing a state site so users have clear understanding what plugins and components do what, how to post blog entries, etc.



- Configured dashboard to make it useful and removed unnecessary modules



# Moving Forward

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Projects moving forward include:

- **Wiki multi-site for state's internal wiki**

Ability for states to easily document things like convention rules, affiliate organizations, board voting by e-mail, etc.

- **CRM solution for states**

A barrier that continues is the lack of a CRM to integrate with our multi-site offering. I am discussing with Back Office Consulting on a CiviCRM/Drupal portal for states to manage voter contact, donations, events, and leads. Creation of a robust user portal where it becomes natural for state volunteers to log in on a regular basis and if there is state staff, this is where they would start each morning.

Some features:

- Show incoming leads (volunteers, run for office requests, info requests)
- Latest donations/members
- Contacts needing follow up (assigned to)

They will be providing me with a discovery process quote to scope the project by July 10.

See the following 5 pages for the Affiliate Support Committee Report

## Affiliate Support Committee Report Summer 2017

*The Affiliate Support Committee (ASC) shall identify the needs and interests of the various affiliates. In addition, the ASC shall identify those affiliates that are in particular need of assistance that the LNC can provide. The ASC shall deliver a report to the LNC for the last LNC meeting of each calendar year, identifying and prioritizing those needs and interests of the various affiliates. This ranked list shall be taken into consideration when drawing up the following year's budget, and throughout the year as needed. This list will also assist the Executive Director in deciding how to assign tasks to staff, by identifying those services that staff provides to the affiliates that are the most desired. The ASC shall also, as and when needed, recommend to the LNC measures that will address the particular affiliates that need assistance from the LNC. The ASC will also establish a process for tracking the progress in meeting those needs.*

Members and attendance:

Meeting date	5/4	6/1	6/29	7/13	7/27	8/10
David Demarest	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Daniel Hayes	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Leigh Lachine	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y
Patrick McKnight	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y
Steven Nekailia	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N
George Phillies	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Michael Pickens	N	Y	N	N	N	Y

The ASC conducts regular phone conference meetings open to state chairs, officers and other party members. The calls are currently scheduled every 2 weeks. The next ASC meeting is scheduled for Thursday August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Affiliate Support Specialist Andy Burns frequently attends the ASC meetings. Additionally state chairs and state excom members often attend.

#### #ReRegister 2017



The ASC believes the #ReRegister 2016 project was successful. The ASC will be implementing the program again in September 2017. Though it will not have the attention created by a Presidential election to help drive it, the ASC believes that implementing an annual #ReRegister month around the same time each year will lead to greater participation by affiliates going forward, especially during Presidential cycles.

The benefits of increasing the number of registered Libertarians in a state are numerous. It can be done to meet a minimum requirement for ballot access and keep it in the case of increased standards. It helps meet thresholds for inclusion in debates. Also, it can simply help to quantify that the Party is growing and that more and more people identify with libertarian principles and values. This can help to encourage more candidate to run as Libertarians, more people to vote for those candidates when they do run and more people to re-register as Libertarian.

According to Ballot Access News, The Libertarian Party has become only the third Party in history to surpass 500,000 registrants. The number of registered Libertarian Voters in July was reported at 511,277 (.46%). This was up +13,742 (+2.76%) from 497,535 in October 2016. Libertarian partisan registration was 399,302 (.38%) in 2014, 330,811 (.32%) in 2012, 240,328 (.24%) in 2008. Libertarian partisan voter registration has nearly doubled on a percentage basis of the total voting population in partisan states in just under 9 years. It is important that every effort to meet and increase this growing trend be made. The #ReRegister project is an important step in helping to realize achieve this. The ASC recommends setting a stretch goal of doubling its number of registered Libertarians by the next Presidential Convention, and surpassing one million registered Libertarians.

<http://ballot-access.org/2017/07/27/new-registration-data-for-the-united-states/>

There are 32 states that have partisan voter registration in some fashion according to ballot access

news. Those state are: Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Idaho, Iowa, Kentucky, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

To help promote #ReRegister month, the ASC is providing #ReRegister packages to 20 Affiliates at no cost to them on a first come, first serve basis. Each package contains 100 rack cards, 100 bumper stickers, 10 Spanish Tri-folds, and 1 #ReRegister banner.

States to receive #ReRegister packages: Alaska, Arizona, California/Orange County, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Iowa, Louisiana, Maine, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, and Utah.

A member made a donation and request for 4 #ReRegister packages for Alabama despite their lack of partisan voter registration. The purpose there is they have many voters with registrations that are not current and cause problems with ballot access petitioning. By encouraging people to #ReRegister to their current address, etc. it will help petitioning efforts on at least a small level.

The ASC will once again promote the #ReRegister month on social media through use of Memes and "Celebrity" Libertarian videos from people like Larry Sharpe and many of the newly ReRegistered Elected officials. This campaign should include Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Snapchat.

In the case of elected officials, depending on the office, they can ReRegister their partisan affiliation in every state. Increased effort should be made to encourage other elected officials to ReRegister as well..

#### Affiliate Support Committee Fund

On February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017, the Affiliate Support Committee fund officially launched. To date it has raised over \$1410 to go towards the Affiliate Support line item. It is from this portion of the LNC budget that, Affiliate Development Director Andy Burn's contract and our activities are funded. The ASC STRONGLY encourages anyone who supports the continued assistance of Mr. Burns to donate to the fund. To donate please go to :

<https://secure.pirya.com/donate/uO2ehmy0/libertarian/affiliate>

#### New Affiliate Development

*Bylaws Article 5.2. The National Committee shall charter state-level affiliate parties from any qualifying organization requesting such status in each state, territory and the District of Columbia (hereinafter, state). Organizations which wish to become state-level affiliate parties shall apply for such status on a standard petition form as adopted by the National Committee, which petition shall be signed by no fewer than ten members of the Party residing in the appropriate state. Affiliate party status shall be granted only to those organizations which adopt the Statement of Principles and file a copy of their Constitution*

*and/or Bylaws with the Party Secretary.*

There are currently 5 populated territories controlled by the United States which do not have affiliates representing them within the LP. The largest territory is Puerto Rico with about 3.4 million residents. Also, there is Guam with about 163,000, The US Virgin Islands with 104,000, Northern Mariana Islands with 77,000, and American Samoa with 54,000.

Only Puerto Rico seems to have an active Libertarian group though they seem to be difficult to reach. Spanish is used as the primary language by over 90% of the population with only around 20% of the population being proficient in English. Translation and posting of the Party's Statement of Principles and Platform in Spanish may help to encourage residents in Puerto Rico to take the steps necessary to become a formally recognized affiliate.

### Membership

Membership is the core of any organization. Membership in the National LP equates to more members for its affiliates as the data is shared and affiliates reach out to them to become donors and volunteers at the state level. In 2016 the National LP had a massive surge in membership. There was an expected drop off because many of those new members were likely just riding the wave of the 2016 interest and excitement and angst that came with the Presidential race. That said, the Party lost substantial opportunity to retain many of them and recruit even more. Much of this resulted from a lack of staff to handle all of the work required to make the most out of the opportunity. The Johnson donor list with 300,000 people on it still represents a largely unrealized resource not only for the National LP but its state affiliates. Managing such a huge amount of data and the necessary human interaction takes a wealth of resources and is more than a full time job for any one person.

In order to better realize opportunities for growth like the LP had in 2016 going forward, the ASC recommends the creation of full time Membership Coordinator position within the Development Department currently headed by Lauren Daugherty. As a very rough estimate, this shift in position from the part time renewals staffer to a Membership coordinator would cost about \$4000 for the remainder of the year and an additional \$20,000 to the 2018 budget. This additional cost should cover itself with a moderate boost of an additional 5 renewals a day at the minimum donation, assuming \$12.50 in materials cost for each new/renewed member. Larger renewal donation amounts can cut this down considerably.

Additionally, the ASC recommends increasing the Affiliate Support budget line by \$5000 in 2017 and \$10,000 in 2018 to allow the Affiliate Support Specialist Andy Burns the necessary funds to complete a comprehensive data solution for the National Party and its affiliates that would include any and all data in one place, including all 500,000 registered Libertarians in the country.

### Recommendations:

1. Continue supporting contractor(s) or staff member(s) who focus on Affiliate Support.

2. Increase the Affiliate Support budget expense line for 2017 by \$5000 and \$10,000 in 2018 to fund development and maintenance of a general database that could be shared with affiliates. (See details in the PowerPoint presentation by Andy Burns during the IT committee report.)
3. Continue empowerment of the Affiliate Support Committee to assist affiliates.
4. Promote the #ReRegister project with September 2017 being designated #ReRegister Month.
5. Set a stretch goal of 1 million registered Libertarians by Memorial Day, May 25th, 2020.
6. Reach out and encourage more elected officials to ReRegister.
7. Translate and post the Statement of Principles and platform in Spanish.
8. Enhance membership retention and recruitment by creating a Membership Coordinator position in the Development Department.



## EMPLOYMENT POLICY AND COMPENSATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Submitted to: Libertarian National Committee, Aug. 14, 2017

Submitted by: James W. Lark, III  
Region 5 Representative, Libertarian National Committee  
Chair, Employment Policy and Compensation Committee

The members of the Employment Policy and Compensation Committee (EPCC) are Brett Bittner, Joshua Katz, and Jim Lark. They were elected during the LNC meeting on May 30, 2016.

- 1) At this time the EPCC has prepared a draft revision of the Employee Manual. We have sent it to Oliver Hall (LNC special counsel) for his review. We await his comments and suggestions.
- 2) During the previous LNC meeting, a motion was passed directing Mr. Sarwark to direct Mr. Hall to review the draft document retention and whistle blower policies. Mr. Hall has been provided with the draft policies. We await his comments and suggestions.
- 3) In the previous EPCC report we noted that the LNC's FEC Policies and Procedures Manual had not been updated since 2006. We are pleased to report that LNC treasurer Tim Hagan prepared a revision of the manual.



# LIBERTARIAN

## IT COMMITTEE

IT Committee report to the Libertarian National Committee

Submitted August 17, 2017 by Sean O'Toole

The IT Committee continues to meet by telephone every two weeks in order to review and discuss our ongoing initiatives on which I will elaborate here.

### **Email Server**

Since our April meeting, the email server has gone live. States that have been configured are Kentucky, Ohio, Tennessee, New York, and Wyoming. Initially, we found our IP addresses were showing up on various blacklists. We believe that all blacklist issues have been resolved.

Ken Moellman has been the lead developer on this project and is currently configuring our list management software (GNU Mailman) and once this hurdle is complete, we are prepared to move lp.org email to the server. This will allow us to terminate our Softlayer server (\$514/month). The new server, hosted by johncompanies.com, costs \$418/month for an annual savings of \$1,152.

As part of the move to the new server, we have terminated the server at rackspace.com and have a physical backup stored at LPHQ. Annual saving will be \$8,544.

With the cutover to the new server, we recommend that we switch from using forwarders to using email boxes. The Internet is moving away from the use of forwarders in an effort to fight spam. Email boxes ensure that the data is housed with the LP and that email is delivered.

We should also examine an Acceptable Use policy for email ([LP.org](http://LP.org) and other hosted email). Using LP-branded email for "inappropriate" things can harm the image of the party and/or create legal liability for the party.

Any state interested in switching over to our service should contact Andy Burns to begin the process.

### **Candidate Database**

It has long been a goal of LNC staff and those involved in our web presence to have a page on lp.org where voters can easily find LP candidates in local and state-wide races particular to them. Andy Burns has investigated various Wordpress plugins and found nothing that suited our needs. As a long-term solution to this issue, the IT Committee has written a specification for a Ruby on Rails application that satisfies our needs.

The core of the application is an administrative layer that can accommodate multiple administrative users at the national level as well at the state level. Administrative users will have the ability to upload and update candidate data for their particular state (or any state for national administrators).

The application will accommodate voters throughout the U.S. by offering the following features in its initial version:

- Landing page available at lp.org
- Support for local lookup by address with zip code
- Lookup returns candidates at local, state and federal levels

Later enhancements will include the ability to insert landing pages in our affiliates' websites that will be geographically relevant to the affiliate.

This project has been started with the majority of work done by Committee members John Athayde, Steven Haddox. Committee member J.D. Drake, a database consultant, has played a strong role in database design.

This will be an open source project and we are actively seeking other Libertarians to step in, take on an issue and submit a pull request. The repository can be accessed at [https://gitlab.com/libertarians/oss/candidate\\_db/](https://gitlab.com/libertarians/oss/candidate_db/)

### **Voter Database**

Our voter database initiative has been put on hold in favor of the Candidate Database as we see greater need for the latter at this time. Once completed, we will turn our attention back to the design and building of a voter database.

### **Multi-state CRM**

Andy Burns has been putting quite a bit of work into designing the specification for a contact resource management system for our affiliates. Andy's work has led him to believe that (open source) civiCRM is a viable solution to our affiliates' needs.

A handful of states have had experience with the application with varying results. civiCRM is a powerful application but can be difficult to set up and maintain. For this reason, Andy has solicited proposals from consultants well-versed in civiCRM to host and maintain an instance of the software that would be provisioned to accommodate any and all of our affiliates.

See the following 28 pages for Ballot Access Committee Report

**LIBERTARIAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE**

**BALLOT ACCESS COMMITTEE**

**AUGUST 2017 REPORT**

**Presented at the LNC meeting on August 19th, 2017.**

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# OVERVIEW

## About this report

This report is an update to the report presented at the November 2016 LNC Meeting. It only looks at the states in which we do have current activity in 2017.

## Report Contributors

<u>Voting Committee Members</u>	<u>Non-voting Committee Advisors</u>	<u>Staff Contributors</u>
Mark Axinn	Paul Frankel, Petitioner (and scribe)	Wes Benedict
Ed Marsh		Andy Burns
Ken Moellman, Committee Chair		Bob Johnston
Bill Redpath	<u>Additional Information</u>	Robert Kraus
Richard Winger	Nicholas Sarwark, LNC Chair	

## Summary of update

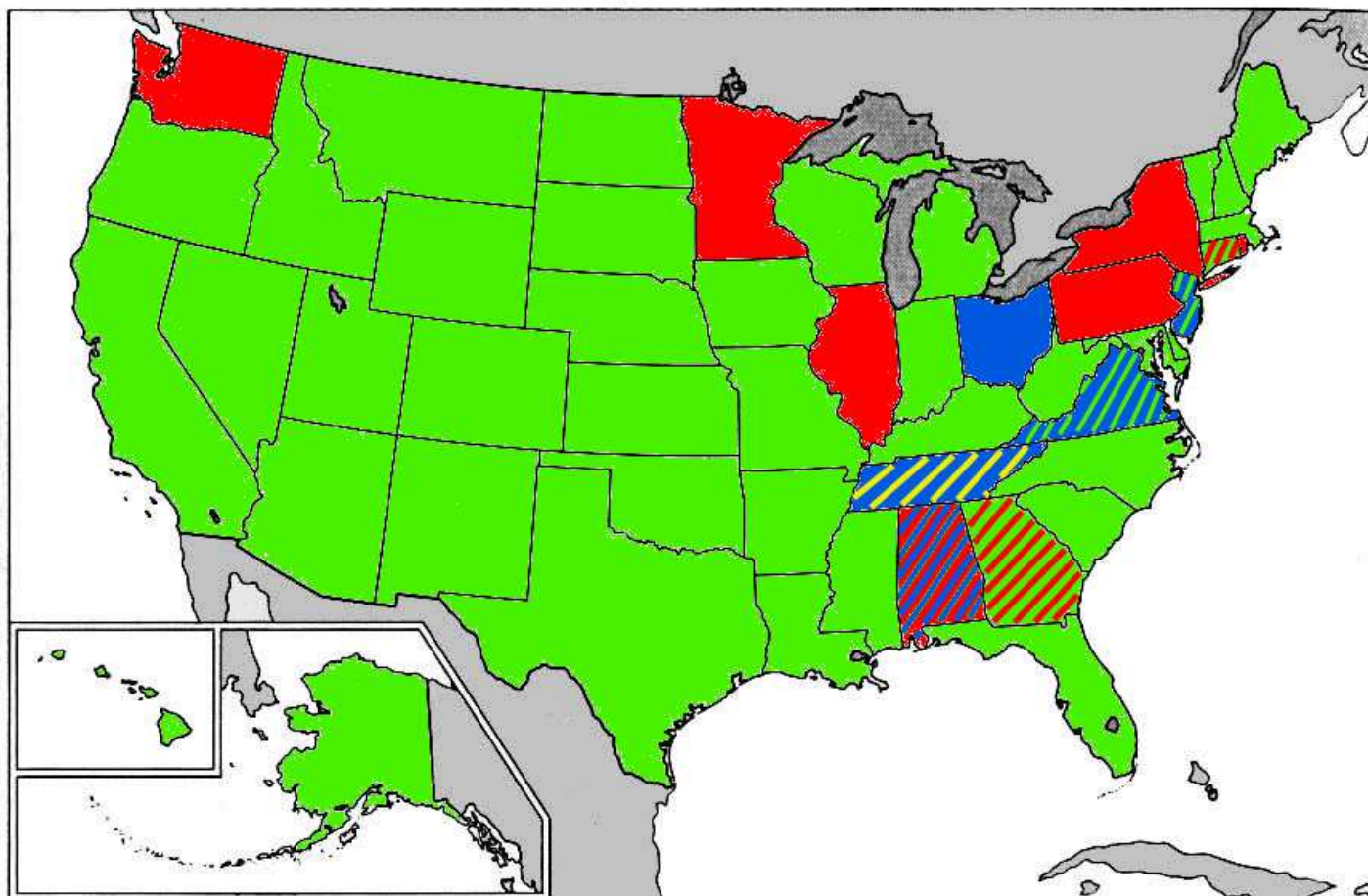
Arkansas is complete. Virginia is complete. We're on the ballot in Maine.

Ohio is over 40% complete, and currently running over budget. Ohio's budget is coming back in-line and Ohio has taken over core operations of the drive. While we are working to drive these costs back down, we also don't want the drive to be put at risk. **Ballot Access Committee asks for additional \$40K to the Ballot Access Committee budget to be used for Ohio.**

There's movement to repeal Top Two in California.

# BALLOT ACCESS MAP

Ballot Access as of 4/15/2017



We now have partial or complete ballot access in 39 states plus DC.

States with a candidate in a ballot access race in 2017: Virginia, New Jersey

States with partial access: Connecticut and Georgia.

States with Top Two: California and Washington.

States without access (active drives in bold): **Alabama**<sup>(s)</sup>, Illinois, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, **Ohio**, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, **Tennessee**<sup>(s)</sup>, Virginia, and Washington.

States with legal action in progress: Arizona, Illinois, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, and Tennessee\*.

States with pending legislation: Maine, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Tennessee.

(s) = State funded and operated ballot access drive  
(L) = LNC loan



(c) = Candidate Funded

This is an abbreviated and updated chart originally provided by Bob Johnston. It only list states where we do not have access, what it will take to get access, and what it will take to retain through 2020.

State	Status	To Become A Recognized Party	Retention through 2020
Alabama	No	Must collect signatures equal to 3% of the 2014 gubernatorial vote (35,413). Due 6/5/18. Can start petitioning now. Can also petition for individual county party status and Independent candidates.	To attain party status, statewide or countywide (county-only status) candidate must get 20%. Also districts, etc.
Connecticut	Part	Can run candidates by petitioning (statewide 7,500, US House 1% of 2016 race vote) between 1/2/18 and 8/8/18. Can run 2018 candidates for the US Senate and US House 2nd without collecting signatures.	To attain party status, 2018 candidate for Governor must get 20%, or party must have 20% of the party-registered voters. If a petition candidate gets 1%, can run for that same office in the next election without petitioning.
Georgia	Part	Can run candidates for statewide office. Must collect signatures for non-statewide candidates, the amount equal to 5% of the registered voters in the office's specific district, between 1/11/18 and 7/10/18. Must also pay filing fee equal to 3% of the office's annual salary.	If a statewide candidate receives 1% of the registered voters, can run 2020 statewide candidates without petitioning.
Illinois	No	Must collect 25,000 signatures, between 3/27/18 and 6/25/18.	2018 candidate for Governor must get 5%. If any 2018 non-gubernatorial statewide candidate gets 5%, can run statewide candidates in 2020 without petitioning.
Minnesota	No	Must collect signatures equal to 5% of the 2016 presidential vote (145,821) by 5/31/18. Can also run candidates by petitioning (statewide 2,000; US House 1,000) between 3/18/18 and 5/31/18.	If statewide candidate gets 5%, becomes a recognized party.
New Jersey	CAND	Must collect 100 signatures for any non-statewide, 800 for any statewide, due 6/6/17. Petitions available the 1st week of Jan 2017. <i>Drive to place Gubernatorial candidate on ballot in 2017 is not a retention race.</i>	2017 candidates running for the General Assembly must get 10% of the votes cast for the General Assembly.
New York	No	Must collect signatures for individual candidates (statewide 15,000, US House 3,500). For statewide office petitions, at least 100 signatures each must come from of 1/2 of the counties. Can start petitioning for state candidates on 7/10/18, and are due by 8/21/18.	2018 candidate for Governor must get 50,000 votes.
Ohio	IN PROG	Must collect signatures equal to 1% of the 2016 presidential vote (53,254) by 7/4/18. Started 2/6.	2018 candidate for Governor must get 3%.

Pennsylvania	<b>No</b>	Must have 15% of the registered voters. Can run individual candidates by collecting signatures equal to 2% of the votes cast for the 2017 elected official of that office, except for statewide office, which is 5,000 signatures. Can start petitioning 3/7/18, and are due by 8/1/18.	Must maintain 15% of the registered voters.
Rhode Island	<b>No</b>	Must collect signatures equal to 5% of the 2016 presidential vote (22,541). Can start 1/1/18, and are due 6/1/18 if nominating by primary, or 8/1/18 if nominating by convention. Can also run Independent candidates by collecting signatures (statewide 1,000, US House 500), due 7/13/18.	2018 candidate for Governor must get 5%.
Tennessee	<b>IN PROG</b>	Must collect signatures equal to 2.5% of the 2014 gubernatorial vote (33,816), due 5/17/18 if nominating by primary, 8/8/18 if nominating by convention. Can start petitioning now. Can run Independent candidates by collecting 25 signatures, between 1/5/18 and 4/5/18.	2018 gubernatorial candidate must get 5%.
Virginia	<b>CAND</b>	Candidates must collect signatures between 1/2/17 and 6/13/17 (statewide 10,000 with 400 from each of the 11 congressional districts; State Senate 250; House of Delegates 125). Started 3/31/17.	2017 statewide candidate must get 10%. Virginia has Gubernatorial candidate on the ballot.
Washington	<b>No</b>	Candidates must either pay a filing fee (federal \$1,740; Governor \$1,669; state \$421), or collect equal amt of signatures, due between 5/14/18 and 5/18/18.	N/A

# LEGAL UPDATES

## ONGOING LP LITIGATION

**Arizona** - The LP is suing to overturn a new law passed in 2015 that increased the burden for Libertarians to get onto the primary ballot. It was intentionally created to harm the Libertarian Party. The main brief in this case was filed in early April.

**Illinois** - There are 3 cases in Illinois. We have won our case in US District Court against Illinois requiring a slate of candidates in order to run for State or County Executive Branch. There is another case pending with an independent on the 5% requirement for US House.

**New York** - A U.S. District Court in New York will hear *Merced v Spano*, e.d. 1:16cv-3054, on December 13, 2017, challenging New York state's ban on out-of-state circulators. It is a Libertarian Party case, filed in 2016.

**Ohio** - Oral arguments have been scheduled in the Ohio Court of Appeals on the Constitutionality of the entire SB193 framework. That case has been dragging on since January 2016.

**Pennsylvania** - A 2016 case reduced the number of signatures, but created a county distribution requirement for state offices. The county distribution requirement is being challenged because it is unconstitutional.

**South Dakota** - We are in an ongoing lawsuit over early petition deadlines. To get a party on the ballot, a petition must be completed by March. The state created a later deadline for candidates running a race without a primary (president), but using that mechanism means LPSD couldn't run for other offices.

**Tennessee** - LPTN has sent the TN Secretary of State a letter asking them to recognize the LPTN based on the results for Johnson within TN. We hope that the TN SoS will grant this request, but should consider litigation if the TN SoS rejects this request.

## SETTLED LP LITIGATION

**Kentucky** - Kentucky's ballot access case was featured on SCOTUS Blog, presenting the issues regarding circuit split and constitutional issues addressed by the case, but SCOTUS chose to not hear the case.

**Maine** - Rather than measure electoral results, Maine law measures how many registered members of a party actually voted in the election. This would be compelling registered Libertarians to vote, even for the candidate of some other party, in order to remain a party. The Johnson/Weld ticket obtained over 5% in the general election, which is the maximum threshold set for limiting ballot access per SCOTUS. We settled the lawsuit, received a refund on attorney's fees, and the proposed law to modify the party requirements has been submitted to the legislature and is presently in committee.

**Ohio** - Ohio Supreme Court refused to hear a motion for reconsideration. The motion was based on the court using incorrect information. See: <https://supremecourt.ohio.gov/clerk/ecms/#/caseinfo/2016/1863>

## OPTIONS FOR LP LITIGATION

**Georgia** - The scheme for access definitely protects incumbent parties by creating access petition requirements for every single office and limiting party status to 20% for Governor or President. The 11th Circuit has re-affirmed a lower court decision that minor parties only need 7,500 for president, and SCOTUS has already ruled twice that a state can't require more for smaller offices than for a larger office. Today we are recognized for statewide candidates only. Georgia's scheme is set to create different barriers to entry for each level. Statewide candidate must receive 1% of the vote in order to maintain statewide access. County-level access based on countywide races. It is extremely difficult to qualify candidates for US House. No "minor" party or independent has been on the ballot for US House since the law went into effect in 1943.

**Tennessee** - In early March, LPTN asked the TN Secretary of State for recognition as a minor party based on Johnson's electoral results. Ohio law suggests that a party's candidate does not need a party label in order to gain party status from the outcome of an election for governor or president. We are waiting on a response from the TN SoS. Meanwhile, LP Tennessee has been lobbying in Nashville for a better law, and has also been collecting signatures on a volunteer basis.

**Washington** - The Washington Secretary of State played math games with the 2016 election results by counting all write-ins count toward the vote test, not just votes cast for registered (valid) write-in candidates, to keep us under 5%. In 2012, Washington did not to count write-in votes, unless the number of write-ins exceeded the margin between the winner and the runner-up. At this time, no legal action has been taken.

## LEGISLATIVE ACTION

**Nebraska** - Libertarian State Senator Laura Ebke successfully pushed a bill to ease ballot access in Nebraska. A party retains access by having 10,000 registered voters. LPNE currently has 11,000+ registered voters.

**Tennessee** - The LPTN has been pushing a bill to reduce the number of required signatures for a party petition to 5,000 valid signatures. It made it through the committees in the state house, but the state senate decided to stall on 4/4/17. Currently the number of signatures required is a percentage of the number of votes cast in a previous election, and the number required currently is 33,844 valid signatures.

**Maine** - We are waiting on the Maine legislature to pass a bill as a result of our lawsuit. See: [http://legislature.maine.gov/legis/bills/display\\_ps.asp?paper=HP0228&PID=undefined&snum=128#](http://legislature.maine.gov/legis/bills/display_ps.asp?paper=HP0228&PID=undefined&snum=128#) There's another bill that is more complex to allow to keep minor party status if registration over 5,000 and under 50,000, can nominate by convention. This alternative bill is drafted, but has not yet been introduced.

**Oklahoma** - A bill is being considered to change the vote test to be 2.5% for any statewide office, and change the period of retention to 4 years. This bill is  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way to being passed.

## RETENTION BASED ON VOTER REGISTRATION

**Maine** - To get ballot access in 2016, we collected over 5,000 new voter registrations for the Libertarian Party. We have ballot access through the general election in 2018. To secure access, we need to boost voter registration. If we need to collect 5,000 more registrations, this would likely cost approximately \$35,000, but should keep us with ballot access for a long time. We are waiting for new legislation to pass or fail before taking action.

**Nevada** - To retain through 2020, a candidate must obtain 1% all votes cast in US House races, or reach 1% voter registration as of 1/1/18. Currently, registration is at 0.97% as of 07/17. To safely reach 1%, we would need to add approximately 1,000 registrations, at an estimated cost of \$9,000. We are currently trending toward 1% without action, but it might be wise to put money into securing permanent access.

## RICHARD WINGER, BALLOT ACCESS EXPERT

In Richard's "Ballot Access News", an effort is underway to repeal Top-Two in California. This measure is sponsored by Republicans, but we may wish to jump onboard if a petition drive starts in earnest.

<http://ballot-access.org/2017/08/16/thomas-palzer-and-his-organization-file-proposed-california-constitutional-initiative-to-restore-semi-closed-primaries/>

# STATE-BY-STATE ANALYSIS

## How to read this part of the report

Each report is formatted similarly:

## State Name

### Summary

A summary of the state drive, when available and applicable.

Links to important information

Ballot Access details

Litigation (if applicable)

Pending legislation (if applicable)

### Statewide Access Summary

Petition start date

Petition end date

Number of signatures required

Number of signatures collected

Estimated cost

LNC Budget

Threshold for retention

Last time retained

# Alabama

## Summary

Multiple candidates would like to run for office in Alabama. LP Alabama retained statewide ballot access in 2000. With that access, almost 60 candidates ran as Libertarians all up and down the ballot in 2002, and it could have been many more if the state party executive director had time to review all of the applications.

If LP Alabama were to receive 20% in any statewide race in 2018, they would retain party access for 2020. In 2014, the candidate for State Treasurer ran unopposed, and a Libertarian candidate would have likely reached the 20% threshold.

LP Alabama currently appears to be pursuing local access.

Elections: <http://www.alabamavotes.gov/>  
Minor Party Info: <http://www.alabamavotes.gov/downloads/election/2016/mpp-info-2016.pdf>  
Presidential: <http://www.alabamavotes.gov/downloads/election/2016/pba-2016.pdf>  
Independent: <http://www.alabamavotes.gov/downloads/election/2016/ic-info-2016.pdf>  
Election Law: <http://www.alabamavotes.gov/electionLaw.aspx?sm=voters> (title 17)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect signatures equal to 3% of those who voted in the most recent race for Governor (2014: 1,180,413; 3% = 35,413), and the signatures must be filed by the date of the primary election (2018: June 5th). Can start petitioning any time after previous election for next general election (§17-6-22).
- Retention: statewide candidate must get 20% (§17-13-40). If a county-wide candidate receives 20%, county gets party status.
- If party not recognized, candidates can run as Ind. Must collect signatures equal to 3% of those who voted in the most recent race for Gov in the jurisdiction running. Sigs are due the date of the primary election (§17-9-3(a)(3)).
- Primary election held on the first Tuesday in June, except in Presidential years, the primary is held on the first Tuesday in March (§17-13-3).

## Statewide Access Summary

Petition start date: Immediately

Petition end date: June 6th, 2018 (deadline)

Number of signatures required: 35,413

Number of signatures collected: Unknown

Estimated cost: \$110,000 (at \$2/signature)

LNC Budget: N/A

Threshold for retention: 20% for any statewide candidate

Last time retained: 2000; the candidate for *Supreme Ct. Justice, Pl. 2* received 20.16%

# Arkansas

## Summary

The Arkansas drive began March 27, 2017. 15,108 signatures were collected in 80 days, and validity was 84.4%. The pay rate was \$2 per signature, with our standard requirement for validity. The drive was being managed by state chair Michael Pakko. Arkansas is now on the ballot through the general election in 2018.

Elections: <http://www.sosweb.state.ar.us/elections.html>  
New Political Party: [http://www.sos.arkansas.gov/elections/Documents/New\\_political\\_party\\_2012.pdf](http://www.sos.arkansas.gov/elections/Documents/New_political_party_2012.pdf)  
Running For Office (2012): [http://www.arkansas.gov/sbec/pdfs/2012\\_Running\\_for\\_Public\\_Office.pdf](http://www.arkansas.gov/sbec/pdfs/2012_Running_for_Public_Office.pdf)  
Election Law: <http://www.lexisnexis.com/hottopics/arcod/Default.asp>

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect 10,000 signatures within a 90-day period. Signatures must be filed at least 60 days prior to the end of the filing period (March 1, 2016), which is December 31, 2015 (§ 7-7-205(a)).
- The preferential primary election is on the Tuesday 3 weeks prior to the general primary election (2016: May 24), which is held on the second Tuesday in June of the year of the general election (2016: June 14), (§ 7-7-203(a)(b)).
- Retention: candidate for Governor or President must get 3% (§ 7-1-101.21).
- Can run as an Independent candidate for Congress by collecting signatures (statewide 10,000; US House 2,000; or 3% of the registered voters in the district in which the candidate is running, whichever is less).
- Cannot start collecting until 90 days prior to the deadline, which is noon on March 1 of the election year (§ 7-7-103).
- Can have a candidate for President on the ballot if party isn't recognized, by collecting 1,000 signatures, due by noon on the first Monday in August (2016: August 2) (§ 7-8-302(6)).
- Presidential electors due 2 days after the state convention. Presidential paperwork due Sept 15 of the year of the election (§ 7-8-302(1)).

## Statewide Access Summary

Petition start date: March 27, 2017  
Petition end date: June 25th, 2017 (deadline 90 days after start)  
Number of valid signatures required: 10,000  
Number of raw signatures collected: 15,108  
Estimated cost: \$30,000 (at \$2/signature)  
LNC Budget: \$30,000  
Actual LNC cost: \$22,500 (approximate)  
Validity rate: 84.4%  
Threshold for retention: 3% for Governor  
Last time retained: N/A



# Connecticut

## Summary

To gain full party access for 2020, would need petition of 7,500 signatures to place governor on the ballot in 2018, and candidate for governor needs 20% result, or party needs 20% voter registration. We have ballot access to certain races in the state, based on electoral results.

Elections: <http://www.sots.ct.gov/sots/cwp/view.asp?a=3172&q=525432>

Nominating Petition: [http://www.sots.ct.gov/sots/lib/sots/electionservices/nominating\\_petitions\\_info/frequently\\_asked\\_questions\\_nominating\\_petition.pdf](http://www.sots.ct.gov/sots/lib/sots/electionservices/nominating_petitions_info/frequently_asked_questions_nominating_petition.pdf)

Election Law: <http://www.ct.gov/seec/cwp/view.asp?a=3571&Q=425444&PM=1> (title 9)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, candidate for Governor in the most recent general election must get 20%, or have at least 20% of the party registered voters at the time of the gubernatorial election (§ 9-372(5)).
- If party is not recognized, candidates must obtain signatures equal to at least 1% of the amount of votes for that office in the last general election, or 7,500, whichever is less. Signatures must be from those eligible to vote for the candidate(s) listed on the petition (§ 9-453(d)).
- Can run for same office w/o having to petition if 1% of vote total was received for that race (§ 9-372(6)), (§ 9-379).
- Cannot start to petition until the first business day in January of the election year (§ 9-453(b)), and are due 90 days prior to the general election @ 4 pm (2018: August 8) (§ 9-453(i)).
- If party can run a candidate in a race as a minor party candidate (e.g. 2016 US Senate & US House 2<sup>nd</sup>), candidate must be nominated 62 days prior to the general election (2018: September 5) (§ 9-452).
- Can substitute (§ 9-460).

## Statewide Access Summary

Petition start date: January 2, 2018

Petition end date: August 7th, 2018 (deadline)

Number of valid signatures required: 7,500 (Governor only)

Number of raw signatures collected: N/A

Estimated cost: \$28,125

LNC Budget: N/A

Threshold for retention: 20% for Governor, or 20% registration

Last time retained: N/A

# Illinois

## Summary

The 2018 candidates guide has not yet been released by the SBOE, but we can assume the same start date (around the 29th of March and lasting 90 days) and signature requirement (25,000). A challenge will be more likely since it is not a presidential election year, so 40,000 is the minimum and 50,000 is the goal. LP Illinois is preparing a full slate, and working with potential candidates for 2018. That ticket would include Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, and Comptroller. This drive in 2018 is estimated to cost between \$75,000 and \$125,000, with \$100,000 being a realistic estimate. To retain full access for 2020, the candidate for governor would need to reach 5% in 2018. To get access to statewide races, any statewide candidate would need to reach 5%; the LP accomplished this in 1994.

Elections: <http://www.elections.illinois.gov/>

Candidate Information: <http://www.elections.illinois.gov/Downloads/ElectionInformation/PDF/2016CanGuide.pdf>

Election Law: <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=170&ChapterID=3>.

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party and for retention, candidate for Governor must get more than 5%.
- If a statewide non-gubernatorial candidate in a general election gets 5%, can run statewide candidates. 5% for any candidate for the US House allows ballot access for that specific seat.
- If the party is not recognized, can run candidates by collecting signatures equal to 1% of those who voted in the last general election, or 25,000, whichever is less. Must also run a full slate of statewide candidates.
- Can also run a congressional candidate by collecting signatures equal to 5% of the votes cast in that district in the preceding general election, or 25,000 signatures, whichever is less. For a general election following a census, 5,000 signatures (10 ILCS 5/10-2).
- Signatures must be collected in a 90-day period prior to the date for candidates to file (2016: March 22) (10 ILCS 5/10-4), and are due between 134 and 141 days prior to general election (2016: June 20-27) (10 ILCS 5/10-6)).
- A Recognized party must collect signatures (statewide 5,000; US House 0.5% of the votes cast in the preceding general election in that district), due between 106 and 113 days prior to the primary (10 ILCS 5/7-12(1)), which is held on the 3rd Tuesday in March (5/2A-1.1(a)). Can't start petitioning more than 90 days prior to the filing deadline.

### Statewide Access Summary

Petition start date: March 29th, 2018 (estimated)

Petition end date: June 27th, 2018 (deadline, estimated)

Number of valid signatures required: 25,000

Number of raw signatures collected: N/A

Estimated cost: \$120,000

LNC Budget: N/A

Threshold for retention: 5% for Governor

Last time retained: N/A

# Maine

## Summary

We now have ballot access in Maine through 2018. We need to boost voter registration by election day 2018 to remain a party. We need to boost registrations, approximately 5,000 more are needed.

Elections: <http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/index.html>

Candidate Info: <http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/2014/guide14.doc>

Election Law: <http://legislature.maine.gov/legis/statutes/21-A/title21-Ach0sec0.html>

### Ballot Access (old rules):

- To become a recognized party, must enroll 5,000 voters between December 1 of an even-numbered year and December 1 of the following year.
- Must file Declaration of Intent to form a party between Dec. 1 and Dec. 30 prior to enrolling new voters (§21A.303).
- Can also become a political party if candidate for Governor or President gets 5% (§21A.302).
- Retention: must have at least 10,000 party-registered voters participate in next general election, and hold a caucus in each of the 16 counties and a state convention each primary election year.
- Retention lasts for 2 general election cycles (§21A.301).
- To run a candidate for statewide office, must collect 4,000 - 6,000 signatures; US House 2,000 – 3,000. Cannot start before January 1 of the election year (§21A.354.5,6). Will be listed on ballot as “Libertarian” (§21A.354.1).
- No substitution (§21A.354.1.B).
- Presidential petitions due August 1 of the election year with the SOS, and must be checked by the registrar by July 25. Other candidate petitions due June 1 of the election year, and must be checked by the registrar by May 25 (§21A.354.7, 8-A).

Current number of registrations: 5,495 (as of 7/13/17)

Number of registrations required to retain access: 10,000

Estimated cost: \$35,000

# Minnesota

## Summary

Party ballot access petition would require approximately 150,000 valid signatures, or 225,000 raw signatures. The cost is estimated to be between \$450,000 and \$675,000, with a realistic number being \$600,000. Alternate mechanisms need to be considered; we can put individual candidates on with fewer signatures per candidate. In order to retain, a statewide candidate in 2018 would need over 5%, or LPMN must have at least 45 candidates for state representative, 23 candidates for state senate, 4 candidates for the US House, and candidates for all statewide offices. Retains major party status for 2 general elections. We may have legal options based on signature requirement. We should look to support LPMN with running candidates for Governor, Attorney General, Auditor, Secretary of State, and US Senate in 2018, as any candidate reaching 5% in any of those races will retain access for the party. Candidate petition signatures must be collected in a 2-week window.

Elections: <http://www.sos.state.mn.us/index.aspx?page=4>  
Candidate Information <http://www.sos.state.mn.us/index.aspx?page=1783>  
Election Law: <http://www.sos.state.mn.us/index.aspx?page=588#Statutes>

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect signatures equal to 5% of votes cast in the last general election, which must be filed before the close of the primary ballot period (2016: May 31) (2014: 1,973,872 = 98,693), or...
- must have a statewide candidate in the most recent general election receive 5%, or...
- must have at least 45 candidates for state representative, 23 candidates for state senate, 4 candidates for the US House, and candidates for all statewide offices. Retains major party status for 2 general elections. (§ 200.02.sub 7).
- Primary elections held on the second Tuesday in August (2016: August 9) (204D.03).
- If party is not recognized, can run non-Presidential candidates by collecting signatures 144 days prior to the primary (2016: March 18), and must be submitted between 70 and 84 days prior to the primary election (2014: May 17 to May 31) (statewide 2,000; US House 1,000) (204B.08, .09).
- Can collect equal number of signatures in lieu of the filing fee (204B.11.sub 2).
- Can run for president by gathering 2,000 petition signatures between start of primary filing period and 77 days prior to general election (2016: May 18 to August 23) (204B.09(c)).

## Statewide Access Summary

Petition start date:  
Petition end date:  
Number of signatures required: 150,000  
Number of signatures collected: N/A  
Estimated cost: \$600,000  
LNC Budget: N/A  
Threshold for retention: 5% or lots of candidates.  
Last time retained: N/A

# New Jersey

## Summary

There is no mechanism for statewide petition access in New Jersey. In 2017, all legislative seats will be up for election, and ballot access is incumbent on all Libertarian candidates for General Assembly receiving 10% of all votes cast statewide for General Assembly. The New Jersey party is in the process of placing a candidate for governor on the ballot in New Jersey. This requires 800 signatures, and they plan to collect and submit approximately 1,600 signatures. According to Ballot Access News, there are 5 candidates for General Assembly seats in 2017.

Elections: <http://www.state.nj.us/state/elections/index.html>

Candidate Information (2015): <http://www.state.nj.us/state/elections/candidate-petitions.html>

Election Law: [http://lis.njleg.state.nj.us/cgi-bin/om\\_isapi.dll?clientID=2155086&depth=2&expandheadings=off&headingswithhits=on&infobase=statutes.nfo&softpage=TOC\\_Frame\\_Pg42](http://lis.njleg.state.nj.us/cgi-bin/om_isapi.dll?clientID=2155086&depth=2&expandheadings=off&headingswithhits=on&infobase=statutes.nfo&softpage=TOC_Frame_Pg42) (title 19)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party and for retention, candidates must get 10% of the votes cast for the General Assembly (§ 19:1-1).
- Candidates can get on the ballot by collecting signatures (statewide 800, US House 100) (§ 19:13-5).
- Can have party label on the ballot (§ 19:13-4).
- Can substitute – new candidate must meet signature requirements. Petitions due 64 days prior to general election (§ 19:13-19).
- Primary elections are held on the Tuesday after the first Monday in June (2016: June 7) (19:2-1).
- Signatures for non-Presidential candidates due the day of the primary election at 4 pm.
- Presidential signatures and paperwork due 99 days prior to the general election (2016: August 1) (§ 19:13-9).

Current status: Per Ballot Access News, New Jersey has 5 candidates for General Assembly, but it is very unlikely that the number of votes cast for Libertarians in these races will be adequate to secure ballot access.

# New York

## Summary

In 2018, LPNY will run candidates for Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General and Comptroller. The four statewide positions can be combined on a single petition form and at least 15,000 valid signatures must be submitted at that time to achieve ballot access for 2018. Once again, LPNY will seek to obtain 25-30,000 raw signatures to withstand any potential challenges. Automatic ballot access will be achieved and maintained for four years only if the Gubernatorial candidate obtains at least 50,000 votes on the Libertarian line. That has never happened in past years. This drive will cost between \$50,000 and \$75,000, with a reasonable estimate being approximately \$60,000. Drive cannot start until 2018. There is an ongoing lawsuit on the use of out-of-state petitioners. Signatures must be collected in a 6-week window.

Elections: <http://www.elections.ny.gov/>  
Running For Office (2014): <http://www.elections.ny.gov/NYSBOE/download/law/2014RunningForElectiveOffice.pdf>  
Election Law: <http://www.elections.ny.gov/NYSBOE/download/law/2013NYElectionLaw.pdf>  
New federal calendar (2016): <http://www.elections.ny.gov/NYSBOE/law/2016FEDERAL-STATEcombinedlegalCALrev2.pdf>

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party and for retention, candidate for Governor must get 50,000 votes (§ 1-104.3).
- If party not recognized, candidates must run as Independents. Statewide offices require signatures of 15,000 or 5% of the reg voters, whichever is less (voter reg > 10,000,000 @ 11/10). US House races require 3,500 valid sigs.
- A minimum of 100 signatures must come from at least half of the congressional districts (§ 6-142).
- Circulators must be in-state registered voters. Party registration is irrelevant for independent petitions..
- Only voters registered as the candidate's party can sign a petition for a recognized party candidate (§ 6-140.1.b).
- Signatures must be filed 11 weeks prior to the general election (2016: August 23) (§ 6-158.9), and cannot begin collecting until 6 weeks prior to the filing deadline (July 12) [state candidates only] (§ 6-138.4).
- Federal candidates started petitioning June 21, and completed petitions were due August 2.

Litigation: Challenge to out-of-state circulator ban ongoing.

## Statewide Access Summary

Petition start date: 2018 (bill might change exact start date)  
Petition end date: 6 weeks after start date  
Number of valid signatures required: 15,000  
Number of raw signatures collected: N/A  
Estimated cost: \$60,000  
LNC Budget: N/A  
Threshold for retention: 50,000 votes for Governor on Libertarian line  
Last time retained: N/A

# Ohio

## Summary

In 2014, LP Ohio lost ballot access due to shenanigans orchestrated by the Republican Party and allies of Governor John Kasich. Various cases have been litigated in both state and federal courts, and the courts have not provided relief. The ballot access drive began on 2/6/17 and there are approximately 45,000 signatures collected at this time. Validation efforts are consuming significantly more volunteer time than was originally expected. This drive was originally estimated to cost between \$159,000 and \$238,500, with \$200,000 being the number used to determine the current budget; however, we currently estimate \$225,000 to complete this drive successfully. The LPO's 2018 candidate for governor would need 3% to retain through 2022. In 2014, gubernatorial candidate Charles Earl was polling at 6% prior to being bounced from the ballot.

Elections: <http://www.sos.state.oh.us/SOS/elections.aspx>

Election Law: <http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/35> (title 35)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect signatures equal to 1% of the votes cast for either Governor or President in the most recent general election (2014: 3,001,794; 1% = 30,056).
- At least 500 signatures must come from half of the congressional districts.
- Party petitions must be filed more than 125 days before the general election (2016: July 6).
- Retention: candidate for Governor or President must get 3%. Party is recognized for 2 general election cycles (§ 3517.01(A) (1)).
- The primary is held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in May, except in Presidential election years held on the second Tuesday after the first Monday in March (2016: March 15) (§ 3501.01(E)(1)(2)).
- Can run Independent candidates for statewide office by collecting 5,000 signatures (15,000 maximum). Independent Presidential candidate must file 90 days prior to the general election (2016: August 10); non-Presidential candidates must file by 4 pm the day prior to the primary election (§ 3513.257).
- Presidential paperwork due 90 days prior to the general election (2016: August 10) (§ 3505.10).

Litigation: <https://supremecourt.ohio.gov/clerk/ecms/#/caseinfo/2016/1863>

## Statewide Access Summary

Petition start date: 2/6/17

Petition end date: June 2018 (deadline)

Number of valid signatures required: 55,000 (approx)

Target number of signatures: 64,750 valid (97,050 raw)

Number of raw signatures collected: 44,504 (in hand on 8/17/17)

Estimated cost: \$225,000 (originally estimated at \$200,000)

LNC Budget: \$100,000 (\$85,319.76 spent, \$14,680.24 remaining)

Threshold for retention: 3% for Governor or President

Last time retained: 2012

Estimates on the cost of the drive are heading back toward the originally-estimated \$200,000 (from as high as \$250,000 to \$225,000) based on volunteer signatures, the petitioners that are currently working producing high-validity work, and an LNC contract that has a 75% validity guarantee. However, production must be increased which means hiring petitioners that won't have the highest validity rates.

LPO is now leading the drive and the LNC portion is spinning down. Transition of operations to LPO is mostly completed. LNC and LPO are working together to complete this drive successfully.

# Rhode Island

## Summary

A full party ballot access petition for 2018 requires 23,208 valid signatures. That should cost between \$70,000 and \$140,000, with a likely cost of \$120,000 to complete. We can place a Gubernatorial candidate on the ballot with only 1,000 signatures. We can't start until 2018. The candidate for Governor would need to receive 5% to retain access through 2020. The Moderate Party currently has access in RI. LP has never run for Governor in RI in the past, due to bad state laws. New laws make this far easier.

Elections: <http://www.elections.ri.gov/>  
Running For Office (2014): <http://sos.ri.gov/documents/elections/RunForOffice2014.pdf>  
Election Law: <http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/TITLE17/INDEX.HTM> (title 17)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party and for retention, candidate for Governor or President must get 5%, or must collect signatures equal to 5% of the votes cast for either Governor or President in the most recent general election (2014: 322,324; 5% = 16,116).
- If party wishes to nominate candidates by primary, signatures must be filed by June 1; to nominate by convention, due by August 1 (§ 17-1-2(9)).
- All candidates must collect signatures for office (Independent President, Governor and US Senate 1,000; US House 500) (§ 17-14-7).
- Signatures are due at 4 pm 60 days prior to primary election (2016: July 15), except for Independent Presidential candidates (see below) (§ 17-14-11).
- Can run an Independent Presidential candidate; must have up to 4 electors file by the last Mo/Tu/We in June (2016: June 27-29), and must collect 1,000 signatures 60 days prior to the general election (2016: September 9).
- Independent candidates can get a party label on the ballot (§ 17-19-9.1).
- Independent Presidential elector nomination papers issued within 4 days of the close for filing Declarations of Candidacy (2016: July 4) (§ 17-14-4).

## Statewide Access Summary

Petition start date: 2018  
Petition end date:  
Number of valid signatures required: 23,208 (or 1,000)  
Number of raw signatures collected:  
Estimated cost:  
LNC Budget:  
Threshold for retention: 5% for Governor  
Last time retained: N/A



# Tennessee

## Summary

Under current law, a party petition in Tennessee requires 33,844 signatures, meaning the cost would be between \$101,532 and \$152,298, with a realistic estimate of \$140,000. LP Tennessee has asked the Secretary of State to recognize Johnson's electoral result and make them a recognized minor party. Simultaneously, they have been lobbying for a new law which would reduce the number of required signatures to 5,000. This law made it through the State House committees, but the State Senate has postponed the bill until 2018. LP Tennessee has also begun a volunteer petition drive.

Elections: <http://www.state.tn.us/sos/election/>

Election Law: <http://www.lexisnexis.com/hottopics/tncode/> (title 2)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, must collect signatures equal to 2.5% of the votes cast for Governor in the most recent gubernatorial election (2014: 1,343,936; 2.5% = 33,599) (§ 2-1-104(24)).
- If party wishes to participate in primary election, must submit petitions on the third Thursday 3 months prior to the primary at noon (2016: April 21). To participate only in the general election, petitions must be submitted on the third Thursday 3 months prior to the general election at noon (2016: July 21) (§ 2-13-107(c)).
- Retention; statewide candidate within last 4 years must get 5% of the votes cast for Governor in the most recent gubernatorial election (§ 2-1-104(31)(a)).
- Can run as Independent candidates, by collecting 25 signatures per electoral district. 275 signatures minimum for Presidential candidate, with 25 signatures from each electoral district (§ 2-5-101(b)(1)).
- Non-Presidential signatures due at noon on the first Thursday in April (2016: April 7) (§ 2-5-101(a)(1)).
- Cannot start collecting signatures until 90 days prior to the filing deadline (non-Pres: January 8, 2016; Presidential: May 20, 2016) (§ 2-5-102(b)(5)).
- Presidential sigs and paperwork due the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 3 months prior to the election, noon (2016: August 18) (§ 2-5-101(a)).
- State and fed primaries are held the first Thursday in August of an even-numbered year (2016: August 4) (§ 2-1-104(26)).
- No substitution (§ 2-5-102(b)(1)).

## Statewide Access Summary

Petition start date: Immediately

Petition end date: August 2018 (deadline)

Number of signatures required: 33,844

Number of signatures collected: Approx 6,000 volunteer signatures per LPTN

Estimated cost: \$125,000

LNC Budget: N/A

Threshold for retention: 5% of the votes cast for governor in race for any statewide office.

Last time retained: N/A

One major advantage in Tennessee over some other states is the ability to turn-in as the drive goes. This allows the state party to get "immediate" feedback on validity and will prevent the need for significant over-production. The reality is that this drive might need less than \$140,000. Current validity is running above 70%, and the overall cost is estimated to be \$125,000 at 70%. One major disadvantage is that the state legislature has reduced the number of years retained to 2 years for all parties.

# Virginia

## Summary

To gain access for 2018 and 2020, a statewide candidate must obtain 10% in 2017. The candidates must petition separately, each with 10,000 signatures and a distribution requirement of at least 400 per Congressional District. Virginia has never had ballot access, because there is no party petition in Virginia, and the LPVA has never earned 10% of the vote in a statewide election. In 2017, there will be elections for Governor, Lt. Governor (which is not a ticket) and Attorney General. Each office would require a separate petition, with 10,000 valid sigs needed for each petition. All 100 seats in the Virginia House of Delegates will be up in 2017. In 2018, there will be a US Senate election and US House elections.

Elections: <http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/>

Election Law: <http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?000+cod+TOC2402000> (title 24.2)

### Ballot Access:

- To become a recognized party, statewide candidate must get 10% in either of the last 2 statewide general elections in which a statewide office was on the ballot.
- Party must have a state central committee and chair for 6 months prior to the filing of any nominee for office (§ 24.2-101).
- If the party is not recognized, can run candidates by collecting signatures: statewide 10,000, with 400 from each congressional district; US House 1,000.
- Can start collecting on Jan 1st of year of election for Presidential candidates, Jan 2nd for all other candidates (§ 24.2-506).
- Signatures are due the second Tuesday in June (2016: June 14) (§ 24.2-507).
- If party is not recognized, candidates can have an "L" by their name on the ballot by having the state recognize the party's existence 6 months preceding the filing for office (§ 24.2-613).
- Can run a candidate for President by collecting 5,000 signatures, with 200 from each congressional district, due by noon 74 days prior to the general election. Can get full party label on ballot, as long as party has a state central committee, bylaws, and officers within 6 months of the petition filing (§ 24.2-543).
- Presidential paperwork and signatures are due by noon 74 days before the general election (2016: August 26) (§ 24.2-542).

## Statewide Access Summary

Petition start date: April 1, 2017

Petition end date: June 13, 2017 (deadline)

Number of signatures required: 10,000 (per statewide office)

Number of signatures collected:

Estimated cost: \$37,500

LNC Budget: \$25,000 loan to state party (Not Used)

Threshold for retention: 10% for any statewide office

Last time retained: N/A

# MEETING MINUTES

The Ballot Access Committee is charged with ensuring successful ballot access drives. As such, some content is redacted because it is sensitive in nature, either from a strategic or legal perspective. Those sections have been removed and replaced with **[REDACTED]**.

## MEETING - MAY 10TH at 6:00PM ET

### On the call

Moellman, Redpath, Marsh, Frankel, Winger

Axinn announced absence; Thrasher resigned

### Previous minutes approved without objection

### State Update

VA – Hyra nominated; about 8,000 raw in hand; all CDs good except 1, 5, 6 and 9; Pankin, Lynch, Bonner, Matthews, Lukins, a couple of part timers working. Not using loan. A donor would like to contribute \$20k. Hyra also self-funding. Looking to redirect 10k of the 20k offer to Ohio. June 13 deadline, 10k valid sig needed.

OH – Validity issue; overall is about 63%. Continuing to work on validation on the weekends. Congressional district box does not have to be filled in – new info from SOS. will go to 20% rather than 100% validation. About 20k raised by the state party. No commissions on that since that was a direct solicitation of a major donor. About 4-5k raised by commission fundraiser, who will keep half of that. Plan is to have petitioners go back to OH after VA, AR. SOS claims sigs only good for one year, which would move deadline back to February.

AR – About 10k raw sig so far; need 10k valid, about 15k raw. Probably done by about the end of May or very early June. Issue with petitioners being bounced out of DMVs. Need cease and desist letter to DMV and possibly a lawsuit. Redpath moves for motion to recommend engaging Oliver Hall for this purpose. Passes without objection.

AL – Special election in December. Petition deadline in August. Legal question over how many signatures we need for the special election. Winger motion to have Oliver Hall communicate with AL officials to come to a fair resolution in the AL special election. Passes without objection. Project about 51k needed by August to do special election. General election deadline in June. Would need probably another \$76k for the general if we can keep price at \$2.00.

TN – Like AL, would need budget adjustment. TN has been volunteer petitioning, fighting legal and legislative battles as well. TN legal case is stronger than Ohio's. Likely lose in state court, then go federal. About 5k raw volunteer sigs collected so far. Needs 33k+ valid. About 9% done, deadline not til Aug 2018. TN makes sense to do in winter, after finishing OH. There is also hope for relief from 6<sup>th</sup> Circuit. Legislation still pending, but will not be considered until January.

LNC 2018 budget meeting Dec 9-10 in New Orleans. At this point discussing about most likely waiting til January to start TN rather than doing a budget adjustment.

NM SOS claiming we needed 1/3 of 1% of regs in Jan 2016. This is a new interpretation that differs from how it has been interpreted before. Several precedents from LP, GP.

Top 2 in FL, AK. Alaska has LP effort to testify against it. Need LP members in FL to mobilize against it. Was discussed at FL convention. Next meeting not yet scheduled. Adjourned without objection.

## **MEETING - JULY 25TH at 6:00PM ET**

On the call: Moellman, Frankel, Marsh, Redpath, Pettigrew, Sprankle

Marsh moves to approve minutes. Redpath seconds - approved without objection.

### **Current States**

#### **Ohio**

LNC contract ends July 31st. Transferring over to LPOH.

Dustin has suggested contracts ready. Authorizing 20k to start. Tricia: contract is ready to go. One person already working on it.

LNC has spent 75k so far.

Volunteers: 800 in hand; 500 valid  
Others have claimed 1,200 collected.  
Possibly another 1,000 from state fairs?  
Redpath's signatures included in above counted  
250 from Franklin co fair are the only other ones in hand

Redpath: need to collect sigs from volunteers

19,123 paid valid sigs in hand - about 1/3 done. 7,300 valid expected in next week or two.

100k each planned from LNC and LPOH. 10-40k more needed from either LPOH or LNC.

50k raised so far by LPOH.

**[REDACTED]** is calling outside Ohio. Others offering to fundraise. **[REDACTED]** expects fundraising to ramp up.

One fundraising contractor for LPOH did not fulfill contract.

Redpath volunteers to write fundraising letter for Ohio to be mailed to Ohio addresses.

Ohio is very exacting about definition of valid signature. Document with exact definitions is available.

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1r0yZLDeQN2rTLZycwzaORZSI-VfSOuyRisZZrQANO\\_g/edit?ts=59655440](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1r0yZLDeQN2rTLZycwzaORZSI-VfSOuyRisZZrQANO_g/edit?ts=59655440)

\$1,553 loss between two contractors. **[REDACTED]** and **[REDACTED]**. Recommending not hiring again. Bill recommends either hiring **[REDACTED]** again and reconciling it that way or asking for a refund. **[REDACTED]** are disputing validity and demanding more money and are not likely to have the money to pay back even if they agreed that they owe it.

SMI Contract - Guaranteed 5k raw at 75% valid, will cost 12.5k, projecting 2 weeks. First batch expected today.

#### **Arkansas**

Completed successfully

84.4% valid, completed successfully and certified, only used 21-22k of 30k allocated.

## **Virginia**

Hyra made ballot. 77-78% validity. Drive went smoothly. Did not take LNC loan. Hyra loaned his campaign money. 25k, 5.5k paid back so far.

LaBeaume is campaign director.

## **Other states**

### **Alabama**

Working on legislative races volunteer.

### **Tennessee**

Marsh: over 5k sig in hand, looking at fairs in August and September.

Close to 35k valid needed,

Fundraisers - Ed Marsh will let Tom Arnold know they are interested

Redpath suggests getting individual petition quantity pledges from volunteers

## **Current status of budget**

About \$100k of \$130 budget spent  
Arkansas used approximately \$22k  
Ohio at approximately \$75k of \$100k  
\$10-40k additional needed

## **MEETING - AUGUST 1ST at 6:30PM ET**

### **On the call**

Ken Moellman, Richard Winger, Paul Frankel, Ed Marsh, Chris Silver, Bill Redpath, Tom Arnold

### **Approval of previous minutes**

Marsh moves, Winger seconds, approved without objection

## **Old Business**

### **Update from Mr. Winger**

Alaska legislature did not approve. Sponsor says she will do an initiative.

Florida - 30 people speaking up at constitutional convention meetings. More hearings in a few months. No comments indicating it is at the top of constitution convention agenda.

## Tennessee

County petition versus statewide petition

Arnold: priority is still the statewide petition, county petition is just a fallback measure

Turn in as we go is OK - some turned in already. Some counties dragging feet on checking.

33844 valid needed, roughly 56,000 raw to be safe

Rate - \$2.50/sig out-of-state, In state \$2.00

Volunteer signatures - over 5k sig in hand, looking at fairs in August and September.

Redpath: Pledges of personal responsibility for signatures, contribution equal to gathering that number or combination

TN to come up with half in terms of combined fundraising and signatures - half equals \$70k or 28k sig ?

Validity rate so far: 2993 valid, 1159 invalid = 72% valid, about 1000 turned in but not checked yet, 1700 collected but not turned in yet.

53.2k sigs would be needed at that validity rate.

Americans Elect did not have enough valid

Elections office double checking validity

Estimating another 3-4 k volunteer sigs in the next couple of months plus local candidates can get some additional as a flip to their local petitions

Tried calling Johnson supporters - a lot of contributors to the candidate who do not support the LP as a whole

Silver estimates 10k or more volunteer sigs by end of year

TN would then need about \$35k on top of that

Will try to network with affinity groups

Arnold: Current LPTN 10-12 k budget, not allocated to ballot access at this time but some may be shifted to ballot access

LPTN believes they can come up with their half; will need commitments and specific plan to present to LNC at KC meeting in 3 weeks.

Looking for Tom Arnold or other LPTN member(s) to attend LNC meeting.

Bill still working its way thru legislature on ballot access reform.

5% for gov needed to retain

## Ohio

Current estimate \$248k (of \$200k budgeted)

Based on current validity and production we will go over budget, working with Ohio to get it down -hoping for 209k vs 248k

**Committee recommendation on amendment of 2017 BA budget?**

130k - Ohio spent 80k already, Arkansas 20k of 30k projected; but Ohio will go at least 10k over. Redpath will write fundraising letter for Ohio.

May be best to present options rather than making a formal recommendation at this time.

### **New Mexico Party Status**

Problem has been solved

### **Adjourn**

## **MEETING - AUGUST 17TH at 5:30PM ET**

### **On the call**

Frankel, Moellman, Winger, Redpath, Axinn, Marsh

### **Approval of previous minutes**

approved without objection

### **Ohio**

Ohio needs 5700 sig/month if they drag it out for 10 months; may need extra time for litigation as well. Nader was bounced off that way.

Currently producing 1200 per week. 3200 volunteer sig so far including Redpath.

LNC has spent 85k, Ohio starting to spend its money and raising more - about 60k raised by state party so far - 45k after commissions - Ken projects they make it to 80k of 100k goal. Underspend in Arkansas not as big as previously thought, 7.5k rather than 10k.

### **Committee recommendation on amendment of 2017 BA budget?**

Axinn moved to increase by 40k. Redpath 2nd. No objection.

### **Ohio latest cost estimates**

Was: \$249k (of \$200k) Now: \$223,500

### **Tennessee**

TN asking for 50/50 match. Will pitch at the meeting. TN has 6k volunteer, 3k have been submitted. Hoping for another 1-2k in next week or two.

TN is asking for 70k from LNC, they can go into 2018 but asking for the money for 2017. Ohio wants to go through June 2018, so idea of waiting to potentially start TN until OH ends is scrapped. (However Ken continues to encourage OH to speed things up.)

Ballot Access Committee takes no position at this time on TN proposal until hearing their report/proposal.

### **Committee Report**

Notes will be added tonight

**Adjourn**



See the following 10 pages for the Historical Preservation Committee Report



# T LIBERTARIAN

PARTY HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

## *Report*

### *Libertarian National Committee August 19-20, 2017*

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#### Committee Members

Caryn Ann Harlos (Chair)

Dr. Joe Buchman

Joe Dehn

Ed Fochler

James Gholson

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## Committee Overview

The purpose of the Libertarian Party Historical Preservation Committee (hereinafter "Committee" or "LPHPC") as per the LNC-creation mandate is to oversee the preservation and publication of Libertarian Party historical documents and to manage the LPedia site. The Committee was created on January 23, 2017 and the members appointed on February 20, 2017.

The scope of this work will last well into several years and LPedia will need to be maintained for the time of its existence. It is the hope of the Committee members that the LNC would establish a permanent Historical Preservation Committee to complete and maintain this work.

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## Meetings and Communications

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The Committee is committed to transparency and conducts open meetings every two weeks (or as close as practicable) via Go To Meeting. Committee discussion is also conducted via email with a read-only subscription option available to all Party members by sending a message to [lphpc-request@lists.dehnbase.net](mailto:lphpc-request@lists.dehnbase.net) with "subscribe" in the subject line. Regular news updates are also sent to potential volunteers and history enthusiasts. The minutes and other records from its proceedings are preserved on LPedia: [http://lpedia.org/Historical\\_Preservation\\_Committee](http://lpedia.org/Historical_Preservation_Committee)

Meetings conducted since the last report:

April 19, 2017

May 10, 2017

May 24, 2017

June 7, 2017

June 21, 2017

June 25, 2017

July 12, 2017

July 26, 2017

August 16, 2017 (scheduled)

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## Motions Considered

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*Move that the LPHPC authorize up to \$3,200 plus shipping for scanning the LP News at 300dpi.*

Passed with no objections.

(Modifying prior motion, moved by James Gholston and seconded by Joe Dehn) *Move that the LPHPC authorize up to \$3,500 in scanning the LP News archive plus shipping and hard drive.*

Passed with no objections.

*Move that Caryn Ann Harlos be authorized to purchase up to ten cases of bankers boxes from Amazon for up to \$350.00.*

Passed with no objections.

# Status of Document Preservation

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## Storage Unit

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The Committee Chair and a volunteer (Sarah Ellsworth) have committed nearly every Saturday to sorting and organizing the records in the storage unit. This has been a monumental task. Some records were very neatly organized and others were basically thrown into the boxes as the equivalent of "junk drawers." Also due to age, some labels, rubber bands, and other materials had crumbled which are need to be re-done. The sorting process comprises making an initial pass through all the documents and sorting into broad accessible categories such as "LNC Minutes," "Conventions," "Training Guides," and the like. After this first phase is done (anticipated in about one month), the broad categories will be broken down and organized. The documents are being placed into fresh bankers' boxes or file cabinets which were donated to the Committee to supplement the several which were part of the original shipment.

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## Digitization

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The Committee is prioritizing items for digitization by focusing first on items of most general Party membership interest which have been determined to comprise newsletters such as Liberty Pledge and LP News. All of the Liberty Pledges<sup>1</sup> have been scanned in high-resolution tiff files and posted on LPedia ([http://lpedia.org/Liberty\\_Pledge](http://lpedia.org/Liberty_Pledge)). Additionally, all of the LP News have been organized, inventoried, and labeled and are presently being digitized.<sup>2</sup> Richard Winger kindly provided his notes on LP elections from the beginning of the Party which have been scanned and posted ([http://lpedia.org/Richard\\_Winger\\_Vote\\_Total\\_Archive](http://lpedia.org/Richard_Winger_Vote_Total_Archive)).

The next digitization priority to be sent for outside handling will be other newsletters and other items that are not feasible to scan with volunteers (over-sized newsprint, single copies that cannot be disassembled, or other special handling). Standard-sized documents are being farmed out to volunteers, a project that will accelerate when the initial sorting is completed. This is a project with many moving parts. A full box of Press Releases has been completed ([http://lpedia.org/National\\_Press\\_Releases](http://lpedia.org/National_Press_Releases)).

### *DETAILS OF LP NEWS DIGITIZATION*

Multiple vendors were sought to solicit bids and some sample scans were obtained with unsatisfactory results. A suitable vendor in Texas was located with a competitive price and quality, but in the interim a cultural preservation consortium (Lyrasis) was located offering more specific archiving services.<sup>3</sup> Lyrasis is a membership organization but upon hearing of our project, they agreed to do one project for us (with preferred rates) without membership, and we could consider whether the savings and quality, and our budget, warranted and allowed for a paid membership. This project is about 45 days out from anticipated completion at which point all of the LP News will be put onto LPedia. Some of the older issues are already uploaded ([http://lpedia.org/LP\\_News](http://lpedia.org/LP_News)).

### **REQUEST FOR AUTHORITY**

Lyrasis has asked for permission to put down the Libertarian Party as one as one of its participants in the digital collaborative. The Lyrasis site and project can be viewed at [lyrasis.org](http://lyrasis.org).

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<sup>1</sup> All that were in our initial possession. That project resulted in a list of missing issues some of which have been collected and need to be scanned.

<sup>2</sup> Similar circumstances exist as with Liberty Pledge.

<sup>3</sup> The Lyrasis vendor offered more formats (PDF, JPEG 2000, and TIFF) and at a higher resolution (400 DPI) as well as special handling to prevent bleed through. OCR was included in the services.

*Move that the LNC grant permission to Lyrasis to list the Libertarian Party as a participant in its digital preservation collaborative.*

### **AUDIO/VIDEO/ELECTRONIC DATA MATERIALS**

There are voluminous audio/video/electronic data materials on multiple formats spanning the gamut of technology from 1970s forward including: 2 inch quadruplex broadcast reels, audio cassettes, audio reels, Betacam tapes, VHS tapes, U-matic cartridges, 5 ¼ inch discs, 3 ½ inch discs, and ZIP drive disks. A great deal of this can be digitized/converted by volunteers and arrangements are being made for the audio cassettes, Betacam tapes, audio reels, and 3 ½ inch discs. Quotes and potentials for preservation of the 1970s broadcast reels are being explored. It is hoped that if any can be successfully retrieved that this provide a possibility for a short clip of interest at the 2018 National Convention.

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## **Acquisitions**

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As word of this project spreads, opportunities have arisen to supplement the institutional memory and acquire important early documents.

### **DAVID NOLAN ARCHIVE**

David Nolan's widow agreed to deliver his archives to Committee member Dr. Buchman, and this took place last month. The pertinent records will be kept with the Party archives, and the Committee will attempt to find a University archive for the items that are orthogonal. Dr. Buchman will be personally scanning these items and providing a copy of the archive to Elizabeth Nolan.

### **ORIGINAL DRAFT OF STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES WITH HOSPERS' NOTES**

An extraordinary convergence took place in a random EBay check for historical items and to gauge potential market value of any extra items in the Party's possession. At that time Committee Chair Harlos noted that the original copy of the "Preamble" (later re-named the Statement of Principles) with notes of John Hospers (and a coffee stain) was for sale. The document was unquestionably genuine as the Committee had an old poor-quality scan of this item in order to compare the handwritten notes. A Party member, Lellius Rose, purchased this item and wishes to donate it to the Party for display at Headquarters. It will require archival preservation and framing. A high-resolution scan has been taken for LPedia. In an effort to document the travels of this document, inquiry was made with the seller of how it came into her possession, and this is the response received:

*"I'm more than happy to tell you about it. My mom, Shirley Gottlieb, ran the libertarian party office out of her home in the 1970's. My mom and dad had many meetings at their home and came to personally know Dr. John Hospers. I remember being in high school and coming home to a house full of people in the living room. My mom recruited me to go to downtown Los Angeles to help count votes when the party was trying to obtain ballot status. I didn't know that my parents even had it. I've been going thru the house after my dad's passing in March, (I lost my mom in 2005), and came across a picture frame containing a black and white photocopy of Ayn Rand. It seemed odd to me because it wasn't even a photo. More like a photocopy and I couldn't understand why they would have framed it. When I took it apart I found the document you now have!!"*

# Status of LPedia

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## Background

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LPedia is a collaborative history wiki of the Libertarian Party started in February 2005 by Shane Cory as a replacement for the older archive.lp.org. The site had gotten into maintenance trouble in June 2013 when new account creation was disabled and had fallen into technical disrepair as the MediaWiki engine went through version upgrades which were not installed on LPedia primarily due to the fact that there simply was not enough staff time to keep the site updated and the account creation was leading to potential security risks as it was installed on the same server as the main LP.org website. For those same reasons volunteers were not given access to update. During the IT infrastructure cleanup, LPedia was moved to a fully hosted wiki-farm host; however, the database was bloated with over 20 gigabytes of spam and required serious cleaning in addition to the desperately needed updates to the Wikimedia software. Volunteer Bonnie Scott (Vermont) spent dozens of hours over the course of over a month doing this cleanup work which was successfully transferred to the new host. LPedia was re-opened for general account creation and restoration to its purpose as a crowd-sourced collaborative effort on March 31, 2017. A good response of new users and returning former users has resulted with article creation and editing proceeding which is a satisfactory results of several months of hard work.

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## Completed and Ongoing Projects

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In order to keep LPedia functional and useful (as well as easier to maintain for successive custodians) a great deal of infrastructure work has been done with much more to come. Following is a bullet-list of project with explanatory notes as needed.

- Home page upgrades
  - A facelift was needed for the page while still maintaining a distinctive “wiki” look. The colours were refreshed and the logo was re-composited. The sidebar was improved with easier access to commonly used menus, and the overall text blurbs were tightened and clarified.
- Policies
  - A policies page was created to cover best practices and community guidelines. Contained therein were instructions on standard naming conventions to manage the internal files.
- Document Namespace
  - LPedia is not Wikipedia. Unlike Wikipedia, which is based on the model of an encyclopedia, LPedia is more like a library and collaborative center for historical research. LPedia includes encyclopedia-style articles, including articles based on or describing historical documents, but it also includes the historical documents themselves. To facilitate this structure a separate namespace was created to contain wikitext representations of such documents (in contrast to "file" formats like PDF, which are also supported). This namespace is contrasted by a purple background. Some documents are being made available in more than one format. Good examples are found of this in the entries for governing documents, for example see the 1985 National Party Bylaws ([http://lpedia.org/Document:National\\_Bylaws\\_and\\_Convention\\_Rules\\_1985](http://lpedia.org/Document:National_Bylaws_and_Convention_Rules_1985)) in which the text is presented in wikitext with “other formats” referencing the scan of the original document.
- Secure log-in
  - HTTPS was added to secure user log-in information.
- Licensing
  - Licensing templates were created and further work is being planned to place this in the footer of each page on a per-page licensing scheme.

- Database maintenance
  - Over one million spam accounts were deleted along with any accompanying spam pages. Each account now is manually approved to keep this from recurring.
- Categories
  - The former categorization system suffered from over-specificity and unwieldiness. The Committee is in the process of a long re-categorization project.
- Templates and Extensions
  - Templates were refreshed and are being changed to comport with the new categorization plan.
  - Extensions will be kept to a minimum (less to break) but several key extensions were installed.

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## User Statistics

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1,829 Articles / 1,162 Uploads / 19 Active Contributors

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## Volunteer Investment

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At least 300-350 volunteer hours have already been expended accomplishing all related tasks not including committee meeting times.

# Document Maintenance

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## Inventory and Management

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As boxes are sorted, basic inventories are being created. The final inventory will identify what items are preserved on LPedia with a location coding system so that they can be easily retrieved from the physical archives. Standard naming conventions will also make them easily retrievable in the electronic archives. Duplicates are being noted and culling recommendations made.

### REQUEST FOR AUTHORITY

*Move to authorize the LPHPC to retain up to three copies of any issues of LP News with any remainder being disposed of at the LPHPC's discretion with any proceeds to be credited to the LPHPC budget.*

- Possible uses for excess will be to contact any university repositories, LSLA, sell on eBay or similar, use for fundraising at NOLA, or giveaway at NOLA.

*Move that the LPHPC can dispose of any software-related disks for legacy and unused software and any related instruction manuals.*

*Move that the LPHPC can dispose of any utility/rent/ or related bills dating 2001 or earlier.*

A general inventory will be kept of disposed items.

---

## Data Back-Ups

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The LPHPC has instituted a regular back-up regimen. For a description, please see Exhibit A to this report.



## Budget Expenditures and Fundraising

LNC funding for Committee projects came from two separate motions, the first for the records preservation portion (\$5,000) and the second for the records relocation (\$5,000) for a total of \$10,000.00 that potentially would have come from the general budget. However, fundraising efforts were undertaken to voluntarily fund all expenses. Fundraising exceeded minimum raising a total of \$10,955.00. Following are the current expenditures:

**Total Expenses Booked: 4,722.64**

**Total In Kind (Amazon): 199.69**

**Total Including In-Kind; 4,922.33**

**Total Revenue: 10,955**

View: <span>First/Latest/Greatest</span>		<input type="checkbox"/> Exclude largest gift		<input type="checkbox"/> Exclude smallest gift	
	Date	Amount	Type	Constituent	
First	1/17/2017	\$25.00	Cash	[REDACTED]	
Latest	7/26/2017	\$10.00	Cash	[REDACTED]	
Greatest	5/1/2017	\$1,500.00	Cash	Caryn Ann Harlos	
Average: \$91.29		Total gifts: 120		Mode: \$25.00	
Median: \$25.00		Total donors: 107			
<b>Goal:</b>	Total committed:	\$10,955.00	Over (under):	\$10,955.00	
	Overall goal:	\$0.00	Percent of goal:	0.00%	

## Recurring Expenses

- MyWikis hosting and maintenance: \$350/year
  - This is a fully supported option. The host installs all upgrades and resolved trouble tickets.
- Amazon server: up to \$25/month
  - Some files are too large to upload directly to the wiki host (audios, videos, large graphics) and are hosted on a separate server. The Amazon server also hosts LPedia database backups.
- Dropbox: \$100/year
  - This is the portal for volunteers to upload and retrieve documents for assignments by the LPHPC. It also contains backups of other maintenance documentation and a redundant copy of the database backups.

## Press Mentions

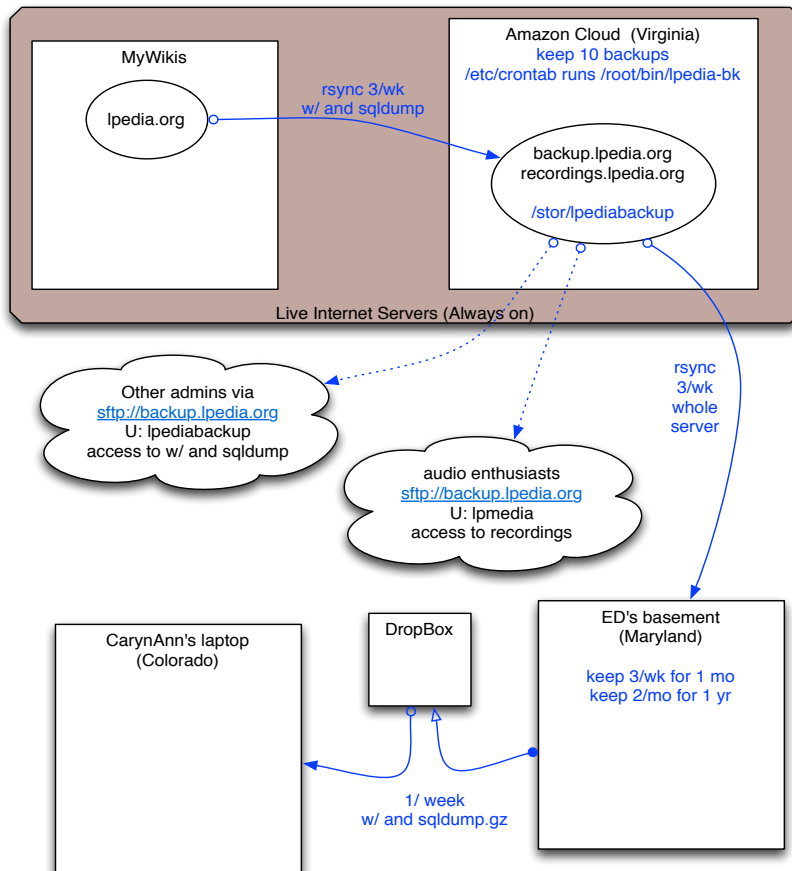
The LPHPC was mentioned in the *Washington Times* and Committee Chair Harlos was interviewed and appeared in the *Colorado Independent* and on *Colorado Matters (Colorado Public Radio)*.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED, *Caryn Ann Harlos*, Committee Chair

It has truly been an honour and a pleasure to work on this project.

EXHIBIT 1 TO LPHPC REPORT AUGUST 19-20, 2017

As of August 2017, this is the backup strategy for lpedia.org.



lpedia.org is run on mediawiki. MyWiki's provides support and implements a competent and professional wiki service for lpedia.org, but we do not have full control over that server and they are a small company. Backups and the ability to restore from scratch if MyWikis disappears completely compels the design of a robust backup methodology.

To mitigate the size of the data managed by mediawiki, larger files (audio or video recordings) are hosted on a separate server, recordings.lpedia.org. In order to preserve the entirety of the site, both must be backed up.

For cost effectiveness, [backup.lpedia.org](http://backup.lpedia.org) and [recordings.lpedia.org](http://recordings.lpedia.org) are both hosted on the same server. [backup.lpedia.org](http://backup.lpedia.org) is a fresh Amazon Web Services image of a mediawiki server created by bitnami. The apache service is then additionally configured to host the separate recordings site if the machine is accessed by that name through a VirtualHost entry in `/opt/bitnami/apache2/conf/httpd.conf`. Configuration notes and restore recipes are stored along with the backups, some under `/root/docs/`

Backup of [lpedia.org](http://lpedia.org) to [backup.lpedia.org](http://backup.lpedia.org) occurs 3 times per week, MWF. This is initiated on [backup.lpedia.org](http://backup.lpedia.org) by `/etc/crontab`, calling `/root/bin/lpedia-bk.bash`. This script in turns specifies backup policy and calls `/root/bin/backup.bash`, a sophisticated rsync-based backup utility to write date-stamped backups and maintain a limited number of distinct backups.

Backup of [backup.lpedia.org](http://backup.lpedia.org) (and [recordings.lpedia.org](http://recordings.lpedia.org)) occurs 3 times per week, MWF. This is done with full admin ssh access to [backup.lpedia.org](http://backup.lpedia.org) by a private server in ED Fochler's basement. Backups can also be gathered through sftp access to the backup space as `lpediabackup` and to the recordings space as `lpedia`. This would afford enough of a backup that one could restore the entire [lpedia.org](http://lpedia.org) site from scratch. This backup is weekly sync'd over dropbox with CarynAnn.

`/root/docs/restoreLP.txt` has the following recipe for a restore of [lpedia.org](http://lpedia.org) to a fresh mediawiki install such as [backup.lpedia.org](http://backup.lpedia.org):

```
cd /root/lpBackups/ &&
zcat lpedia-sql.gz.mostrecent | mysql bitnami_mediawiki -p ;
# enter the DB password here, for bitnami it is the bitnami pwd
cd /root/lpBackups/lpedia-bk.mostrecent &&
rsync -PHOhavix w/images/ /opt/bitnami/apps/mediawiki/htdocs/
images/ ;
# Things like the default $wgLogo image must be set in
LocalSettings.php
```

## Social Media Process Review Committee Recommendations August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Purpose: The “Social Media Process Review Committee”, which will now be referred to simply as the SMPRC, is an ad-hoc committee created for the purpose of reviewing the social media process from creation to publication and to review the management structure and policy manual of the Libertarian Party's growing social media assets, to create suggestions on streamlining and fine tuning these structures and processes, and present a final report of actionable suggestions to present to the Libertarian National Committee at the next meeting on August 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> in Kansas City, MI.

Summary: The social media assets of the Libertarian Party have not evolved with the growth of the party to meet the demands of a highly professional organization. The social media teams, while highly skilled and specialized, lack a leadership structure and clear leadership. The current state of social media is in a state of fractionated disarray with a holographic management structure that has sprung up naturally rather than a clear hierarchical structure. What is needed is clear policy, strong leadership, and a unified structure that can work synergistically, and play off each member's individual strengths to be as effective and professional as possible at propagating the Libertarian Party's unique message. We recommend appointing team leaders to act as ultimate arbiters and policy creators, reviewing the areas of opportunity and critical control points in this report to design clear policy, and to create an on-boarding process that identifies clearly the responsibilities, and delegates titles to volunteers. The social media of the Libertarian Party is one of this bodies greatest assets and tools for outreach and branding, the significance of this asset must not be understated.

Research Methods: Our committee was invited to join and observe all the Libertarian Party Facebook page groups to view the process of content creation to publishing. We had all administrative rights needed to complete our work. Our committee interviewed a myriad of volunteers and people of strategic importance at various levels to inquire on practices, policies and suggestions. Many thoughts and suggestions were consistent with most those whom we interviewed, echoing similar sentiments and suggestions that appeared obvious and glaring to those volunteers. In addition, our committee elicited feedback, suggestions, and ideas from Libertarian Party members through an event conference call. We discussed and dissected areas of opportunity observed from the social media pages, as well as the information from our interviews and conference call, to format our own notes to be combined into a final report for the LNC to review.

### Areas of Opportunity:

- No on-boarding process for new volunteers
- No official guidelines or policy for posting
- No expectations for new volunteers or official responsibilities nor titles
- No official policy on replying to inbox messages or responding to negative posts or posts made to entice negativity
- No managerial hierarchy or team leadership

- No final arbiter for posting or immediate corrective action in the incident of a rogue or potentially damaging post
- No clear unified messaging strategy to act in accordance with Libertarian Party political or organizational goals
- No disciplinary guidelines or members assigned an HR role
- Holographic management structure versus a hierarchical management structure.

Action Items:

1) The LNC is recommended to commission the creation of an on-boarding process for all new volunteers with clear titles, responsibilities and goals attached to that position. Current positions for Facebook, for instance, are the creative team as well as the publishing team.

2) The LNC is recommended to select a point person whose duty it is to create a management hierarchy within the social media team(s) with a clear structure with specific duties, authority and responsibilities.

3) The LNC is recommended to appoint an ultimate arbiter for social media decisions which would also include pulling content that could be rogue or potentially damaging. We recommend the Press Secretary should fill this position.

4) The LNC is recommended to create, or appoint a point person or group, to create clear guidelines for replying to user comments and private messages.

5) The LNC is recommended to create, or appoint a point person or group, to create clear policy for handling HR related concerns.

6) The LNC is recommended to create, or appoint a point person or group, to create team leaders who will oversee setting the direction of the social media marketing strategies which are in line with current Libertarian Party outreach and political goals.

7) The LNC is recommended to create, or appoint a point person or group to create, a three-step process for publishing of social media content. Comprised of teams. Separate leadership for each group. Reproduce for all social media.

A: People that create – do their thing

B: People that approve – (Approve and/or send back)

C: People that publish/post

8) The LNC is recommended to create, or appoint a point person or group to create, a pipeline with state affiliates for onboarding new social media volunteers. This will create a pool of possible new volunteers with ties to their state affiliates, and help create unity/buy-in with state affiliates and national LP. Ideally, this would help recruit volunteers that are already vetted and recommended by their state affiliates. The pipeline would be two-way, and talent could also move from national to an affiliate.

9) It is recommended that the LNC, staff, and volunteers create and foster a culture for our social media outreach teams that prevents missteps prior to their occurrence. This may include manuals, reminders, videos, and other internal cultural strategies to create and maintain such culture. This may also be a step in the onboarding process in the form of a video, manual, mentorship, etc.

## Credentials Committee Election Details

### Nominees for Credentials Committee

Benjamin Arnold	James Harrison	Tom Maciejewski	Lee Santos
Ben Bachrach	Susan Hogarth	Brendan O'Sullivan	Paul Stanton
Norman Burden	Mike Kane	John Pierce	David Stewart
Shane Burton	Boyd Kendall	James Pruden	Joseph Wendt
Maurice Dunn	Lucia Lietsch	Kameron Richards	Howard Wetsman
Aaron Fansler	Steven Linnabary	Roland Riemers	
Richard Fast	James Logan	Carlos Saavedra	
Terry Frost	Robert Lorrach	Emily Salvette	

### Round 1 – Signed Ballot Details

Voter	Arnold	Bachrach	Dunn	Fast	Harrison	Hogarth	Kane	Kendall	Lietsch	Linnabary	Logan	Lorrach	Maciejewski	Pierce	Pruden	Richards	Riemers	Saavedra	Salvette	Santos	Stanton	Stewart	Wendt	Wetsman
Bilyeu		X				X				X	X	X							X			X	X	X
Bittner		X				X				X									X					
Goldstein		X				X				X									X					
Hagan		X				X	X			X				X		X			X			X		X
Harlos				X		X				X		X	X						X			X		
Hayes		X				X													X	X				X
Katz	X	X	X								X		X	X	X			X				X		X
Lark		X			X	X	X			X							X		X			X		X
Marsh		X					X												X		X		X	
Mattson		X			X				X													X		
Sharpe		X		X		X			X			X	X						X		X		X	
Redpath		X				X	X										X		X					
Sarwark		X				X				X							X		X					
Starchild		X		X		X	X	X		X	X						X			X	X	X		
Vohra		X		X		X	X			X		X	X						X				X	
<b>Totals</b>	1	14	1	4	2	12	6	1	2	9	3	4	4	2	1	1	4	1	12	2	3	7	4	5

APPENDIX K  
CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE ELECTION DETAILS

Round 2 – Signed Ballot Details

Voter	Dunn	Fast	Kane	Kendall	Lietsch	Linnabary	Logan	Maciejewski	Pierce	Pruden	Riemers	Saavedra	Santos	Stanton	Stewart	Wendt	Weisman
Bilyeu															X		
Bittner																	X
Demarest											X						
Goldstein																	X
Hagan			X														
Harlos		X						X							X		
Hayes																	X
Hewitt															X		
Katz	X						X	X	X	X		X			X		X
Lark			X												X		
Marsh			X														
Mattson								X							X		X
Sharpe			X		X			X								X	X
Redpath			X														
Sarwark			X												X		
Starchild		X	X	X			X				X		X	X	X		
Vohra			X			X					X				X		
<b>Totals</b>	1	2	8	1	1	1	2	4	1	1	3	1	1	1	9	1	6



This policy proposal for APRC review is intended to:

1. Ensure LP publications are compliant with the party's bylaws, platform and Policy Manual.
2. Provide a mechanism for oversight by the APRC.
3. Allow for the fact that LP publications are often time-sensitive for a variety of reasons, and
4. Minimize unnecessary steps that reduce staff productivity.

Definitions:

Violation = statement within an LP publication that contravenes the party's bylaws, platform or Policy Manual.

Publication = LP written public statement including news releases, house letters, prospecting letters, literature, blog entries, Facebook posts, tweets (Twitter), postings to other websites in the party's name, emails sent to the news media, emails sent to the party's General email list, and emails sent to another constituency list, e.g. lists acquired from events such as Paul Fest, lists generated from an online petition. It includes other LP.org website pages that contain copy of substance, but not content used for administrative purposes such as membership sign-up forms or that serve as reference material such as event listings, candidate listings, election results (vote totals), approved LNC minutes, etc.

Copy – the text of the publication plus any images that may be viewed as controversial or potentially containing a violation. This does not include other images that serve for illustrative purposes only, e.g., a candidate's headshot or a picture of an IRS form to go with a publication about taxes. It does not include copy changes of a trivial nature such as typographical corrections or other editing designed solely to improve readability or navigation.

Objection – phone call or email communication from an APRC member citing a violation in the copy.

Approval – statement of APRC member indicating copy is devoid of violations.

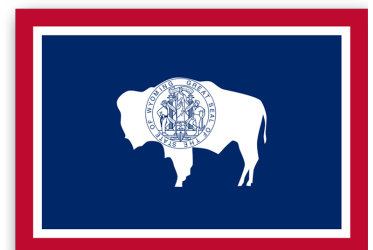
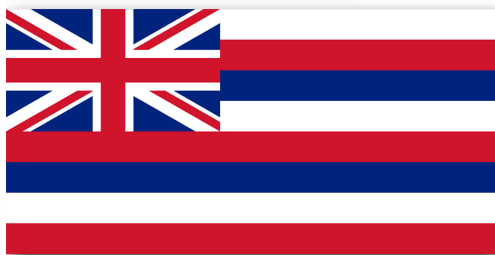
For print publications, staff will transmit copy to APRC for review at least 24 hours before final approval of publication for printing. Barring any objections, it is approved.

For electronic publications, staff will transmit copy to APRC no later than time of publication and will endeavor to transmit copy at least 2 hours before publishing except where staff believes there is a nontrivial downside to delaying publication. Barring any objections, it is approved. However if staff believes the copy may contain a violation, regardless of the need for immediacy, staff will either (1) obtain the approval of at least 3 APRC members prior to publication or (2) will transmit copy to APRC at least 4 hours in advance of publication outside of the hours between midnight and 9:00 A.M. Eastern Time. Barring any objections, it is approved.

If an APRC member cites an objection, staff will either correct the citation to the member's satisfaction or seek and obtain the approval of copy without correction from at least three APRC members or from the Chair before publication. If the copy has already been published and can be pulled (from the web site, Facebook page, or any medium where it is possible to take the copy down), copy will be taken offline until it is approved.

See the following 61 pages for the Region 1 Report

## *Region I Report*



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*Regional Report for Region I  
Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Hawaii, Kansas,  
Montana, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming*

*Libertarian National Committee Meeting  
August 19-20, 2017*

---

### Region 1 Representative

Ms. Caryn Ann Harlos, Colorado  
Libertarian National Committee

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### Region 1 Alternate

Mr. Steven Nielson, Washington  
Libertarian National Committee

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## *Region I Overview*

The nine affiliates that comprise Region 1 are: Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Hawaii, Kansas, Montana, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Due to the geographical nature of this region, spanning five time zones and extending from 19 to 71 degrees north latitude (some 3,000 x 3,000 miles), in-person contact between the Regional and the Alternate Representative and the individual affiliates will be infrequent. The Regional Representative will attempt to attend as many affiliate conventions in 2017 as possible and so far has attended Arizona, Montana, and Colorado with Washington and Alaska planned. Hawaii and Wyoming have not yet scheduled their conventions and Utah and Kansas were on the same day as Washington; therefore, those states might need to be on the 2018 visiting schedule. Regular contact is maintained with the affiliates and members through email, phone, a dedicated Facebook discussion group, and informational website. Plans are being made for a regional teleconference to hear from members. Further, the Regional Representative has requested notice of affiliate Board meetings and will remotely attend as many as possible as well as having an ongoing request to be added to any electronic mailings.

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## National Memberships

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### YEAR OVER YEAR TRENDS

### July 2016 National Membership Summary

	Total Sustaining Members	Sustaining Membership Rank
ALASKA	68	42
ARIZONA	363	15
COLORADO	484	11
HAWAII	74	39
KANSAS	161	29
MONTANA	59	43
UTAH	128	35
WASHINGTON	471	13
WYOMING	36	51

ALASKA MEMBERSHIP UP 27.6%  
ARIZONA MEMBERSHIP DOWN 6.7%  
COLORADO MEMBERSHIP UP 7.8%  
HAWAII MEMBERSHIP DOWN 12.1 %  
KANSAS MEMBERSHIP DOWN 11 %  
MONTANA MEMBERSHIP UP 20.2%  
UTAH MEMBERSHIP DOWN 14%  
WASHINGTON MEMBERSHIP UP 10.1%  
WYOMING MEMBERSHIP DOWN 28.5%

### July 2017 National Membership Summary<sup>1</sup>

	Total Sustaining Members	Sustaining Membership Rank
ALASKA	94	37
ARIZONA	340	16
COLORADO	525	10
HAWAII	62	43
KANSAS	145	34
MONTANA	74	41
UTAH	112	35
WASHINGTON	524	11
WYOMING	35	50

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<sup>1</sup> The following Region 1 states earned automatic appointments to the Platform Committee based on their BSM numbers: Alaska, Colorado, and Washington

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## State Party Memberships

---

### States with Partisan Libertarian Registration

	Total Registrations	Registered Voters	Percentage Libertarian	Growth Since 2/17 Report
ALASKA <sup>2</sup>	9,392	487,575	1.9%	+19%
ARIZONA <sup>3</sup>	31,886	3,636,504	.87%	-.95%
COLORADO	44,484	3,732,949	1.19%	+1.8%
KANSAS	15,463	1,776,703	.87%	Same #s
UTAH <sup>4</sup>	13,527	1,537,622	.87%	+1.8%
WYOMING <sup>5</sup>	2,389	262,756	.90%	Same

### States without Partisan Libertarian Registration

	Total Members	How Determined	Growth Since 4/15/17 Report
HAWAII	74	Nat'l BSM	-2.7%
MONTANA <sup>6</sup>	77	Nat's BSM	-12.1%
WASHINGTON <sup>7</sup>	558	Nat'l BSM	-17.9%

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<sup>2</sup> The AKLP Bylaws defines members as registered voters who pay dues (there is an ambiguity as to ether the registration must be Libertarian registration).

<sup>3</sup> Percentage of active registered voters. The AZLP Constitution defines 3 classes of membership: registered Libertarians, county precinct committeemen, and state committeemen that are all defined statutorily. Only the committeemen have voting rights at the state convention.

<sup>4</sup> The LPUT Constitution defines membership differently as including dues-payers and pledgers but not requiring partisan Libertarian registration.

<sup>5</sup> The WYLP Bylaws provides for three classes of voting membership: statutory committeemen, partisan Libertarian candidate in the past two years, or dues-paying registered voters. This membership was only a handful at the time of this report.

<sup>6</sup> The MTLP is re-organizing and has a larger voluntary membership than the BSM numbers.

<sup>7</sup> The LPWA has about 385 dues-paying state party members.

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## Key Election Percentages

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### November 2016 Races

	Gary Johnson	US Senate	Other Statewide or Qualifying	Highest Any Race
ALASKA	5.77%	29.39%	10.14%	29.39%
ARIZONA	4.16%	N/A	N/A	31%
COLORADO	5.07%	2.55%	N/A	31.09%
HAWAII <sup>8</sup>	3.7%	1.6%	3.2%	22.2%
KANSAS	5%	6%	8%	29%
MONTANA	5.7%	N/A	3% <sup>9</sup>	14.97%
UTAH	3.5%	N/A <sup>10</sup>	6.73%	23.86%
WASHINGTON	~5.2%	Pending	Pending	Pending
WYOMING <sup>11</sup>	5.3%	N/A	3.6%	3.6%

Colorado and Kansas candidates both had candidates with top US House vote percentages. Utah had a top gubernatorial candidate, and Washington had a top statewide non-gubernatorial candidate. In two-way state legislature races, Kansas, Hawaii, Colorado, Utah, and Montana candidates had top vote percentages.

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## Ballot Access Requirements and Retention

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### Alaska

In order to be a recognized political party, Alaska requires that the gubernatorial candidate receive at least 3% of the total votes cast or whose number of registered voters is equal to at least 3% of the total votes cast for governor. If the race for governor is not on the ballot, the race for US Senator is used to calculate the 3%, and if neither the governor nor the US Senate is on the ballot, the race for US Representative is used.

US Senate candidate Joe Miller achieved over 3% (he received 29.39%) thereby securing continued ballot access.

### Arizona

There is no vote test needed. The AZLP needs to maintain .67% of registered voters (partisan) with the number currently at .87%.

### Colorado

There is no vote test needed. The LPCO needs to maintain 1,000 registered Libertarians; the number is presently close to 30K in active voters and well over 30K if inactive voters are included.

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<sup>8</sup> Some percentages differ from the Hawaii Elections site as their percentages include "blank ballots" which are not counted towards their ballot access percentages.

<sup>9</sup> There were three statewide races that all achieved 3%: Rick Breckenridge (US Representative), Roger Roots (Secretary of State), and Ted Dunlap (Governor).

<sup>10</sup> There was a gubernatorial race which garnered 3.08%.

<sup>11</sup> Wyoming had one additional candidate, Lawrence Struempf for US Representative.

## **Hawaii**

The vote test requirement is 10% in a statewide race or US House, or alternatively, 4% of all votes cast for state Senate, 4% of all votes cast for State House, or 2% of all votes cast for state Senate and state House combined. Adopting a strategy of attempting the lowest threshold (4% of votes cast in a US Senate races), the total votes for the five candidates in qualifying races was 8,293 out of 135,298 votes across eight races for a percentage of 6.1, enough to retain ballot access for an additional five election cycles, i.e. the next ten years.

## **Kansas**

The vote test requirement is 1% of a statewide race, including the presidential race. The LPKS has had access since 1992, and report that between the US Senate and presidential races. This threshold has been met across several races.

## **Montana**

The vote test requirement averages out to be 2.8% which can be met by any statewide candidate in about seven races. In this cycle, it turned out to be 12,542 votes needed. Three statewide candidates (Rick Breckenridge-US Representative, Roger Roots-Secretary of State, and Ted Dunlap-Governor) met this burden.

## **Utah**

The vote test requirement is 2% of any statewide race. This was met by gubernatorial candidate Brian Kamerath (3.08%) and Attorney General candidate Andrew McCullough (6.73%).

## **Washington**

1,000 signatures need. The LPWA will become ballot-qualified party if 5% in presidential vote is achieved.

## **Wyoming**

The vote test requirement this race is 2% in a US House race which was met by US Representative candidate Lawrence Struempf (3.6%).

The vote test is limited in presidential years to just US House which must be achieved in order to remain on the ballot. If 10% is achieved, primary status would be retained, otherwise, nominations by convention would resume. In mid-term years, three offices count: US House, Governor, and Secretary of State.

## **Note on Major/Minor Party Designation**

As per Richard Winger, there are 16 two-tier states and the other 34 states just have one category of qualified party. The two-tier states are Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Texas, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

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## State Conventions

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### **Alaska**

The 2017 Convention date took place May 6, 2017. I was in attendance.

### **Arizona**

The 2017 Convention took place on January 21, 2017. I was in attendance.

### **Colorado**

The 2017 Convention took place on March 24-26, 2017. I was in attendance.

### **Hawaii**

The 2017 Convention date(s) have not yet been set but it will likely be in early Fall.

### **Kansas**

The 2017 Convention took place on April 21-23, 2017. The 2018 LPKS State Convention is slated to be held in the spring in Wichita, Kansas.

### **Montana**

The 2017 Convention took place on March 11, 2017. I was in attendance. An additional Convention is tentatively scheduled for September 9, 2017.

### **Utah**

The 2017 Convention took place April 22-23, 2017. I was not able to attend as I was in Washington.

### **Washington**

The 2017 Convention was first set for April 21-23, 2017 but did not achieve quorum. I was in attendance. The Convention successfully re-convened on July 8, 2017.

### **Wyoming**

The Convention is set for September 23, 2017. I plan on attending.

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## Membership Growth

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I have been obtaining the lists of Regional lapsed members for Region 1 and making calls to encourage renewal. I also have been promoting National memberships at the state conventions and have personally signed up about 100 new members between in-person and on-line renewals.

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## Other

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Google alerts have been set up in order to monitor the Web for news and information about each affiliate and key candidates (when appropriate) in Region 1 as well as a feed to monitor the regional Facebook content.

# Alaska Libertarian Party



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## State Organization

### Party Leadership Structure

#### *ELECTED POSITIONS*

Chair: Jon Watts, [jon.watts@alaskan.com](mailto:jon.watts@alaskan.com)

Vice Chair: Randy Stevens, [randywild@gci.net](mailto:randywild@gci.net)

Treasurer: Vacant/Cean Stevens, [mermaidcean@yahoo.com](mailto:mermaidcean@yahoo.com)

Secretary: Cean Stevens, [mermaidcean@yahoo.com](mailto:mermaidcean@yahoo.com)

Membership: Stephanie Shaeffer, [kgendeavors@gmail.com](mailto:kgendeavors@gmail.com)

Communications: Joel Hadley, [joelhadley@hotmail.com](mailto:joelhadley@hotmail.com)

Website: <http://www.alaskalibertarian.com> - new website will be <http://www.alaskalp.org>

### Office Space

The AKLP has office space available to them on a donated basis when needed.

### Paid Staff/Contractors

None at this time.

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## At a Glance Statistics



Number of Libertarians	9,392. This represents 1.9% of the registered voters (535,621) which is up .5% since the 2/17 Region 1 report—the second time there was such an increase.
Method of Membership Determination	The AKLP Bylaws defines members as registered voters who pay dues (there is an ambiguity as to whether the registration must be Libertarian registration).
Partisan Registration?	Yes.
Ballot Access Status/Requirement/Retention	The AKLP has ballot access. Access is obtained through nomination from state-recognized political party. <sup>12</sup> 2016 US Senate candidate Joe Miller received 29.39% of the vote.
Method of Determining Candidates	At convention or committee vote as per 2016 Bylaws. The prior Bylaws called for participation in the open primary.
Number of Candidates 2014/2016	4 / 3 for statewide races.
Estimated Budget	\$5K/yearly.
Website / Facebook Current?	They are revamping their website with a fresh look and innovative approach which should be launched soon. They have standardized their name as Alaska Libertarian Party rather than the Libertarian Party of Alaska. Facebook continues to improve with 3,961 likes and is now ranked at number 28.
Newsletter?	The last newsletter was sent 2/16. This is a work in progress.
Database?	This is an area that they need to work on but they are relying on Excel spreadsheets and the National data dump.
BSM Members	94. This places Alaska at 37 <sup>th</sup> in the affiliate rankings. This is up three rankings since my last report and up 27.6% over a one-year period. Alaska has qualified for Platform Committee appointment and notified National of its choice.

<sup>12</sup> A recognized political party in Alaska is an organized group of voters whose candidate for governor received at least 3% of the total votes cast in the preceding general election or whose number of registered voters is equal to at least 3% of the total votes cast for governor. In non-gubernatorial years, the US Senate (and then the US House of Representatives) race is used.

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## Board Meetings

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The current Board is scattered over a large geographic area so that meetings are attended in person in Anchorage by those who can and by teleconferencing for those who live further away. Meetings have been quarterly, but the affiliate is looking at moving to bi-monthly meetings. I have requested to be on the distribution list.

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## State Convention

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The 2017 Convention took place May 6, 2017. I attended as a keynote speaker

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## State Level Membership

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The AKLP Bylaws defines members as registered voters who pay dues (there is an ambiguity as to whether the registration must be Libertarian registration).

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## Sub-Affiliates

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The state is broken down into burrows. Fairbanks (the Libertarian Party of Interior Alaska) has begun and others are getting online. This is a featured part of their new website.

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## Elections

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### Past Election Cycle (2016)

The AKLP ran two statewide candidates in addition to the Libertarian Presidential ticket as follows:

Gary Johnson/Bill Weld (Presidential/Vice-President): 5.77%

Joe Miller (US Senate): 29.39%

Jim McDermott (US House): 10.14%

Jon Watts ran in a contested primary against Jim McDermott. Also, Libertarian Mark Fish is the first Libertarian to serve on the Alaska Public Offices Commission, and a second Libertarian will be appointed in 2017.<sup>13</sup>

### Current and Upcoming Election Cycle (2017-2018)

Tasha Hotch ran for the Anchorage School Board which is a non-partisan race but did not win that race.

There are two elected Libertarians: Richard Robb of the Bethel City Council (mayor) and Ken Jones on the Cordova City Council. Libertarians Rob Clift and Adam Schwemley were confirmed this spring to serve on the Alaska Public Offices Commission (APOC).

They have a few candidates on deck for 2018 but this is a focus of the new website.

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<sup>13</sup> <http://amandacoynne.com/politics/unintended-consequences-libertarian-will-be-joining-the-apoc-commission/>

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## Ballot Access and Party Status

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In order to be a recognized political party, Alaska requires that the gubernatorial candidate receive at least 3% of the total votes cast or whose number of registered voters is equal to at least 3% of the total votes cast for governor. If the race for governor is not on the ballot, the race for US Senator is used to calculate the 3%, and if neither the governor nor the US Senate is on the ballot, the race for US Representative is used.

US Senate candidate Joe Miller achieved over 3% (he received 29.39%) thereby securing continued ballot access.

### **PRIMARIES:**

Alaska is a blanket primary state.<sup>14</sup>

### **MAJOR/MINOR PARTY:**

Alaska does not have this distinction but has recognized political parties and registered political groups.

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<sup>14</sup> From Richard Winger: A blanket primary puts all candidates on the same primary ballot. Then the top vote-getter from each party goes to the November ballot.

Washington state invented the blanket primary in 1934, and used it until it was declared unconstitutional in 2002. Washington state voters liked the blanket primary. After it was taken away from them by the courts, that set up a bad situation in which the top-two got a foothold. Washington voters passed the top-two initiative in 2004, because they resented that they had lost their blanket primary.

California had a blanket primary in 1998 and 2000. California voters had passed Prop. 198 for a blanket primary in 1996. It passed easily. Unlike Washington state's blanket primary, the California blanket primary did not include independent candidates. They did not participate in the blanket primary and petitioned for a place on the November ballot.

The California Dem, Rep, Libt and Peace & Freedom Parties filed a lawsuit in early 1997 to fight the blanket primary. We lost in US District Court and in the 9th circuit. But we won in the US Supreme Court. The decision, *Calif. Dem Party v Jones*, was 7-2. Scalia wrote it. He said the freedom of association part of the First Amendment protects political parties from having to let members of other parties help determine their nominees. His decision came out in June 2000. So California switched starting in 2002 to a semi-closed primary.

Although we were very happy with this decision at the time, in retrospect it has done more harm than good. Because of that decision, the top-two movement began. After Washington state passed the initiative for top-two in 2004, the US District Court struck it down, and the 9th circuit agreed. But then in March 2008, in a decision by Clarence Thomas, the US Supreme Court said that the top-two primary was not unconstitutional on its face, at least as to freedom of association. So then California top-two people saw their chance and got the California legislature to put it on the ballot in June 2010. That US Supreme Court decision of 2008 was called *Washington State Grange v Washington State Republican Party*.

Meanwhile, Alaska had a blanket primary, which survived, because the parties in Alaska liked it. The law permits a blanket primary if the parties agree to it. In Alaska, the Libertarian, Green, Alaskan Independence, and Democratic Parties all liked it. But the Republican Party doesn't like it. So Alaska has two primary ballots. One has the candidates of the Democratic Party and all the qualified minor parties. The other ballot just has Republican candidates. The Green Party is no longer qualified in Alaska, so currently the blanket primary ballot just has Libertarians, Democrats, and Alaskan Independence Party members. The Alaska LP likes the blanket primary because (a) there are virtually never two Libertarians running against each other for a single nomination so it really doesn't change anything for us; (b) it is easier to get people to register Libertarian because they are still free to vote for Democrats in the blanket primary. We need lots of registrations in Alaska to remain on the ballot, because we can't count on meeting the alternate vote test. Although we did pass the vote test in both 2014 and 2016.

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## Activities

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Focus is presently on local affiliate building and candidate recruiting. The affiliate has also opted to participate in the Re-Register campaign.

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## Finances & Fundraising

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This has been progressing and the affiliate is in healthy shape.

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## Media Coverage

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None came across my newsfeed. I request that Chair Watts send me any that might be escaping my filters.

I suggested that a Press Release be issued on the mayor appointment of Richard Robb.

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## Other

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As noted in my past reports, tension and rivalries between social conservatives and social liberals has been a source of dissension within the affiliate.

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## Statement from the Chair

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The Libertarian Party was founded on January 31, 1972. The Alaska Libertarian Party began it's journey toward a future of freedom and individual self-determination on December 17, 2002. The Alaska Libertarian Party (ALP) has been steadfastly supported from these beginnings to today by many members, board officials, and elected leaders. At the state level, Dick Randolph was elected to the House in 1978 and re-elected in 1980, Ken Fanning was also elected to the House in 1980, and Andre Marrou was elected to the House in 1984. In the 2010 elections, Scott Kohlhaas received 30% of the vote in a two-way race for state House. At the local level, Sara Chambers was elected to the Juneau city assembly in 2006, and Richard Robb currently serves on the as Mayor in Bethel, winning his election in 2009 and Ken Jones on the Cordova City Council in 2017.

We are now in transition. We have had some successes, but face many challenges. The current group of Libertarians in Alaska have large shoes to fill. Our first order of business is to expand the Libertarian message across Alaska, to gain seats at all levels of office, that we may one day "Take over Alaska, and leave everyone alone".

At both the state and national level, there are comings and goings of various candidates and personalities, some very charismatic, seeking a level of political success where that is most possible, wherever that can be had. We Libertarians can be a demanding group, standing by our understanding of Libertarian principles fervently. What we should now consider going forward is the roots of Libertarianism, and its evolution our through our various state and national platforms. The principles outlined in these documents are sound. A future built upon them is certain.

Some underestimate us, but make no mistake, this is nothing short of a worldwide political renaissance. It is based on the idea of individualism - that no person or group outside of ourselves has a higher claim on your life than you do. This is the antithesis of all forms of collectivism - where the group is higher in importance than each one of us.

We instead see a future where Alaskans are empowered, the individual is respected, and our Libertarian principles provide the light that guides us into a new way of life. We're glad to have you along!

Jon Briggs Watts, Chair

# Arizona Libertarian Party



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## State Organization

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### Party Leadership Structure

#### *ELECTED POSITIONS*

Chair: John Buttrick, [chairman@azlp.org](mailto:chairman@azlp.org)

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair: Jonathan Winder

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair: Vacant

Treasurer: Robert Allen Pepiton

Assistant Treasurer: Laila Aussie

Secretary: Mike Shipley

Assistant Secretary: Kim Ruff

The AZLP has three statutory officers and four non-statutory officers and exists primarily to interface with the State of Arizona with the majority of the Party work being done at the County Affiliate level.

Website: <https://www.azlp.org>

### Office Space

No.

### Paid Staff/Contractors

No.

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## At a Glance Statistics

Number of Libertarians	31,886. This represents .87% of the registered voters (3,636,504) which is down .95% since my last report.
Method of Membership Determination	Registered voters. <sup>15</sup>
Partisan Registration?	Yes.
Ballot Access Status/Requirement	The AZLP has ballot access.  .67% of active registered voters (2/3 of 1%).  Currently has .87% of the registered voters.
Number of Candidates 2014/2016	18 / 26 (2 non-partisan)
Estimated Budget	\$1K year typical.
Website / Facebook Current?	Website is up and current but needs current news and blogs. Facebook page likes are at 5,502. This would place Arizona about 18 <sup>th</sup> in the affiliate rankings which is down one rank since my last report. I suggested linking their community group with their Facebook page.
Newsletter?	No.
Database?	No. Arizona has strict laws governing online storage of voter registration data which limit the AZLP's ability to have an online database.
BSM Members	340. This places Arizona at 16 <sup>th</sup> in the affiliate rankings which up one rank since my last report and a 6.7% decrease over a one-year period.

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## Board Meetings

The AZLP acts mostly as a "shell" to fulfill statutory requirements of the State of Arizona with the bulk of the Party work being done at the county level (see below). They meet only to the extent needed to fulfill this role and meet statutory

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<sup>15</sup> The AZLP Constitution defines 3 classes of membership: registered Libertarians, county precinct committeemen, and state committeemen that are all defined statutorily. Only the committeemen have voting rights at the state convention.

requirements. Chair Buttrick hopes to see this happen more regularly and will include me on the distribution list for future meetings.

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## State Convention

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The 2017 Convention was held on January 21, 2017, and I was in attendance as a featured speaker. New officers were elected, and a new Platform was adopted. They are required to have their next convention in January 2018 in Tucson.

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## State Level Membership

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The AZLP Constitution defines 3 classes of membership: registered Libertarians, County Precinct Committeemen, and State Committeemen that are all defined statutorily. Only the Committeemen have voting rights at the State Convention.

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## Sub-Affiliates

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Arizona comprises 15 counties, and there are county level affiliates. Ballot access is not granted on a statewide basis across the board; individual counties also have to make the threshold of .67% of active registered voters within that county in addition to having an active county party.

The most active sub-affiliate is the Maricopa County Libertarian Party which meets monthly (<https://www.lpmaricopa.org>). 60-65% of the population of Arizona resides in this county.

In addition to Maricopa County, there are three other counties of note. Yuma County has an active affiliate and ballot access but needs to increase its number by October 2017 to avoid a petition drive (presently have around 520 voters but need 600 to avoid). Pima County has a somewhat active affiliate and has ballot access. Coconino County has qualified with the percentages but does not have an active affiliate. Efforts are starting up in Gila, Pinal, and Mohave Counties.

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## Elections

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### Past Election Cycle (2016)

Gary Johnson/Bill Weld (Presidential/Vice-President): 4.16%

One other candidate made it past the primaries, Greg Kelly, candidate for Highlands Justice of the Peace, who garnered 31% of the vote in a two-way race.

Arizona's election laws very much intrude into the functioning of the AZLP. Their officers must be selected from amongst County Precinct Committeemen who then choose State Committeemen. Only these persons can vote at the State Convention though all Arizona registered Libertarians are members. These County Precinct Committeemen are elected by registered Libertarians in their precincts and are required to gather nominating petition signatures, but this number is small due to the small area and the fact that only registered libertarians are included in calculating the number of the signatures required, unlike the following issues that other candidates are facing.

The largest voting bloc in Arizona is independents/undeclared which outnumber the Republicans.

### Current and Upcoming Election Cycle (2017-2018)



The affiliate will be starting on petitions for the 2018 cycle early and plan to have a Libertarian on every single ballot access line. While the ballot access laws are oppressive, they have to work with them the best that they can.

Declared candidates so far:

Barry Hess (Governor)

Merissa Hamilton (Governor)

Michael Kielsky (Attorney General)

Doug Marks (US Senate)

Jim Iannuzo (County)

Robert A. Pepiton (State House, District 27)

There are three elected Libertarians as follows: Jeff Daniels (re-elected to Christopher Kohl's Fire District Board); Ruth E. Bennett (re-elected to Continental Elementary School District Board); and, Levi Tappan (elected to Page City Council).

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## Ballot Access and Party Status

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The first hurdle in Arizona ballot access is having registered Libertarians comprise .67% of active registered voters. Right now, they have .87% of the active registered voters. In addition, in order to be on the Primary ballot (either printed or added as a write-in), candidates have to obtain a certain number of signed Nominating Petitions. This is particularly critical as the County Precinct Committeemen are included that are the pool from which the Party officers will be chosen. An open Primary would effectively be allowing non-Libertarians to choose the eventual Party officers. If the State Party ever fall off, they must petition and obtain about 21,000 valid signatures as any Party that loses qualification cannot get back on via registrations.

The issue of the Nominating Petitions is currently the subject of a lawsuit as Arizona has changed the requirements in a way that is calculated to deny access to minor parties. Previously, the Nominating Petition requirement was .5 % of the registered Libertarians in the candidate's district (or statewide). However, the new requirements cut the percentage in half to .25% but expanded the total pool from which the calculation is determined to include both Libertarians and independents/undeclared which are the most numerous voting bloc in the state. For example, using 2016 statewide figures (rounded for simplicity) of 25,000 Libertarians and 1,180,000 "others," the former rule would have required 125 signatures, while this new requirement totals 3,012 signatures. As a counter-example, using the statewide figures for Republicans of 1,125,000, and the same number of independents/undeclared, the former rule would have required 5,625 signatures, and the new one would require 5,762 signatures, a negligible difference. With this in mind, if a candidate does not obtain the required nominating signatures, they can be put in as a write-in candidate but still have to meet the same burden in write-in votes which puts the AZLP in a conundrum since their Primary is closed, yet the figures that the write-ins have to meet include independents/undeclared. In some areas, it would be mathematically impossible for the write-in to obtain the required number of votes from the pool of registered Libertarians.

The AZLP has lost this case in the US District Court and is expected to appeal.

Another issue effecting ballot access (as far as signature collection) is that petitioners must now be paid by the hour rather than by the signature as per a new Arizona law. This was passed somewhat in response to the minimum wage law that was passed.

### **PRIMARIES:**

The AZLP has the choice of a closed or semi-closed primary and has chosen a closed primary.<sup>16</sup>

### **MAJOR/MINOR PARTY:**

Arizona does not have that distinction, but only has “recognized political party.”

### **OTHER:**

From Ballot Access News: SB 1307 eases the June deadline for a party to file presidential elector candidates. The bill sets the deadline in late August. Although an early deadline to file the presidential electors may seem a trivial barrier, it has been a problem in the past.

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## **Activities**

The majority of the party activities are conducted at the county level, particularly the population center of Maricopa County. Petition-gathering events are planned.

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## **Finances & Fundraising**

The AZLP gets an average of \$1,000 year from a truly voluntary state income-tax return check off in which taxpayers can voluntarily fund a political party that then increases or reduces the amount of taxes owed.

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## **Media Coverage**

Significant press mentions include:

<https://www.usnews.com/news/best-states/arizona/articles/2017-07-10/law-libertarians-contends-targets-their-candidates-upheld>

<https://www.verdenews.com/news/2017/jul/11/judge-upholds-law-stifling-libertarian-ballot-pres/>

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## **Other**

The marijuana bill did not pass, and it will take another two years to get something else on the ballot. Many Libertarians opposed the bill due to the regulatory burdens imposed.

In March of 2017, the Arizona legislature passed a bill that sets the financial bar for initiatives and referendums higher than ever before (from the Refer2404 website). Arizona activist Mike Shipley has been spearheading involvement with a ballot

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<sup>16</sup> A semi-closed primary is one in which registered Democrats must choose a Democratic primary ballot, ditto for Republican, but independents can choose whichever primary ballot they want. In an open primary, each party has its own primary and its own nominees, but on primary day any voter can choose any party's primary ballot. Generally open primary states' voter registration forms don't ask about political party choice. The question is missing. There are 19 open primary states. Most southern states are open primary states.

initiative to repeal this bill and gathering signatures to get it on the ballot. The deadline for this is August 8, 2017. This has been a grassroots movement involving citizens from all political spectrums and has garnered good will and publicity.

Former Chair Kielsky had to resign suddenly in order to pursue a court seat which was considered an application that required no involvement in the leadership of any political party. The new chair, John Buttrick, is a retired Superior Court judge.

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## Statement from the Chair

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The Arizona Libertarian Party Executive Board met on July 23, 2017 and reviewed the following notable matters.

First, the Board recognized that former Chair Michael Kielsky resigned during the past month in order to pursue a Maricopa County Superior Court judgeship. The rules of the selection process mandate that any applicant not hold any office in any political party. As First Vice Chair, John Buttrick was according to the bylaws installed as Chair for the remainder of Kielsky's term which extends through January 2019.

Second, the party's lawsuit against the State of Arizona regarding the onerous candidate signature requirements recently established by the state legislature has reached a crossroads. The United States District Court for the District of Arizona has held that the legislation is constitutional. The Board voted to appeal that ruling to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco. The attorneys from the Center for Competitive Democracy who are litigating the matter were so notified on July 24, 2017.

Third, upon the recommendation of the Technical Committee, The Board agreed to upgrade our website and affiliated software by purchasing Nationbuilder for that purpose.

Finally, because of the new candidate signature requirements and the uncertain outcome of the litigation, it was noted that 2018 candidates for all partisan offices should be made aware of those requirements and plan accordingly. In particular, strategies for obtaining signatures from registered voters who are Independents need to be devised and implemented on an expedited basis.

-John Buttrick, Chair

# *Libertarian Party of Colorado*



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## State Organization

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### Party Leadership Structure

#### *ELECTED POSITIONS*

Chair: Wayne Harlos (chair@lpcolorador.org)

Vice Chair: Richard Longstreth (vicechair@lpcolorador.org)

Treasurer: John Hjersman (treasurer@lpcolorador.org)

Records: Mike Spalding (recordsdirector@lpcolorador.org)

Membership: Steve Gallant (membershipdirector@lpcolorador.org)

Communications: Caryn Ann Harlos (communicationsdirector@lpcolorador.org)

Outreach: Kevin Gulbranson (outreachdirector@lpcolorador.org)

Regions: Daniel Lutz (regionsdirector@lpcolorador.org)

Campaigns: Kim Tavendale (campaignsdirector@lpcolorador.org)

Legislative: Michael Stapleton (legislative@lpcolorador.org)

Fundraising: Eric Mulder (fundraisingdirector@lpcolorador.org)

Website: <http://www.lpcolorado.org/>

### Office Space

No. Meeting space is provided monthly by The Independence Institute.

### Paid Staff/Contractors

No though this is something the affiliate is interested in.

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## At a Glance Statistics

Number of Libertarians	44,484. This represents 1.19% of the registered voters (3,732,949) and is up 1.8% from the last Region 1 report.
Method of Membership Determination	Registered voters.
Partisan Registration?	Yes.
Ballot Access Status/Requirement	The LPCO has ballot access. The access requirement is 1,000 registered Libertarian voters.
Number of Candidates 2014/2016	46 / 26
Estimated Budget	\$10K yearly
Website / Facebook Current?	Page likes are at 24,274. This would place Colorado about 4 <sup>th</sup> in the affiliate rankings. The affiliate has a dedicated social media volunteer team and just started an Instagram account.
Newsletter?	No. Mail blasts are sent regularly. A regular newsletter is being planned with the election of a Membership Director and change to the affiliate Bylaws.
Database?	Yes through NationBuilder.
BSM Members	525. This places Colorado at 10 <sup>th</sup> in the affiliate rankings which is unchanged since my last report, and an increase of 7.8 % over a one-year period. Colorado earned an automatic Platform Committee appointment but still has to make that appointment.

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## Board Meetings

The Board meets monthly at space offered by The Independence Institute. The meetings are open and streamed live for public viewing. Board reports and documents are available online in an effort to move towards greater transparency and interface with the membership.

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## State Convention

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The 2017 Convention was held for March 24-26, 2017. Officer elections and governing document amendments took place. The Convention was a smashing success with outstanding ticket sales and fundraising.

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## State Level Membership

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State party members are the registered Libertarians. There is no separate membership structure. However the Libertarian registrations have grown at a pace outpacing both old parties.

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## Sub-Affiliates

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There are 64 counties in Colorado, and a structure of county affiliates and a “pre-affiliate” phase of development group. The LPCO is attempting to have development groups in every county that does not have an affiliate. Affiliates are currently established in Arapahoe, Boulder, Delta, Douglas and El Paso counties. There are approximately nine Development Groups. This is a focus of the newly elected Regions Director.

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## Elections

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### Last Election Cycle (2016)

Twenty-six Libertarian candidates appeared on the ballot as follows, many of whom broke prior Libertarian records:

Gary Johnson/Bill Weld (Presidential/Vice-President): 5.09%

John Hjersman (State House District 16): 28.03% in a two-way race

Susan Quilleash (State House District 17): 9.08%

Norman “Paotie” Dawson (State House District 18): 7.43%

Judith Darcy (State House District 20): 5.79%

Mike Seebeck (State House District 21): 31.09% in a two-way race

Matthew Hess (State House District 28): 8.29%

Kim Tavendale (State House District 33): 6.04%

Roy Daktroub (State House District 50): 5.20%

Gilbert Fuller (State House District 54): 22.79% in a two-way race

Kevin Gulbranson (State House District 16): 4.11%

Glenn Ingalls (State House District 60): 6.38%

Joe Johnson (State House District 68): 8.26%

Manuel Quintel (State Senate District 12): 24.44% in a two-way race

Hans Romer (State Senate District 19): 6.13%

Michelle Poague (State Senate District 29): 6.37%

William Stuart Bartley (State Senate District 35): 3.97%

Darrell Dinges (US House District 1): 3.98%

Richard Longstreth (US House District 2): 5.86%

Gaylon Kent (US House District 3): 4.86%

Bruce Griffith (US House District 4): 4.73%

Mike McRedmond (US House District 5): 6.83%

Norm Olsen (US House District 6): 4.94%

Martin Buchanan (US House District 7): 4.68%

Lily Tang Williams (US Senate): 2.55%

Colorado was one of the state in which Gary Johnson's vote totals exceeded the margin between Trump and Clinton. Libertarians also had over 80% electoral participation.

Current officeholders include:

Mike Spalding-Ken-Caryl Water and Sanitation Board

Beau Woodcock-Miliken Mayor

Dyn Lewis-Silt Town Trustee

## **Current Upcoming Election Cycle (2017-2018)**

The affiliate is currently seeking interested and motivated individuals to run for office in 2017. These races are mostly non-partisan, local races for roles such as city council, mayor, county commissioner, etc. I

There are three candidates interested in running in 2017:

o Michael Stapleton–Pueblo City Council

o John Keil–Loveland City Council

o Jeff Wilson–Aurora City Council (Ward 2)

.The Libertarian Party of Colorado is currently seeking interested and motivated individuals to run for office in 2018. These races include everything from the local level up to United States Congress. If you or someone you know is interested, please have them get in contact with the Campaigns Director.

The following have shown interest in running in 2018:

o John Kinkaid, a former Moffat County Commissioner is interested in running for federal office, possibly for US Congress

o Austin Brown of Greeley has interest in standing as Congressperson – will clarify with him whether for state or US congress

o Brian Caplan of Denver has also expressed interest in standing for US Congress

o Karen Wray Schneider of Denver has expressed interest in running as a Senator – will clarify as to US or state seat

- o Sarah Cannon has expressed interest in running for Senate
- o David Cannone of Colorado Springs is interested in running for Senate
- o US HD 4 – both Bruce Griffith & Richard Longstreth have indicated an interest in this seat
- o USHD5–Ryan Pyner
- o SD3–Michael Stapleton may be interested depending on the outcome of his City Council campaign in 2017
- o SD13–Richard Longstreth is a possible candidate
- o SD16–Chris Jenkins
- o HD6–Kat Martin
- o HD13–Daniel Lutz
- o HD33 – Kim Tavendale
- o HD36–Eric Mulder
- o HD48–Caleb Bolander
- o HD50–Richard Longstreth is a possible candidate
- o HD56–Kevin Gulbranson
- o HD57–John Kinkaid may also be interested in this seat
- o CU Regent–James Treibart may run depending on whether he will be permitted to do so as an employee of the university. There are three open seats for CU Regent – districts 3, 5, and statewide At-Large.
- As yet, they have no prospective candidates declared for the State Board of Education. Open seats in districts 2 and 4.
- As yet, they have no prospective candidates for Regional Transport District. Open seats include district B, C, J, K, L, N, and O.
- As yet, no one has formally declared an interest in running for Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Attorney General, or Governor or Lt. Governor in 2018.

The affiliate Chair was part of a successful petitioning drive to get an option for the Town of Castle Rock to elect its mayor rather than have him/her appointed by the Town Council.

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## Ballot Access and Party Status

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Ballot access is secured with Colorado having the easiest ballot access laws in the country.

### **PRIMARIES:**

With the passage of Propositions 107 and 108 creating semi-closed primaries, the LPCO, as a minor party, can easily opt out though a primary is required when multiple candidates for a single office have significant support at convention.

### **MAJOR/MINOR PARTY:**



The LPCO is a recognized minor political party. Major party recognition requires 10% of the vote in the gubernatorial race.

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## Activities

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The LPCO will continue to be very active at Outreach events. Former Libertarian Presidential candidate Steve Kerbel is working on a "Stop the Shakedowns" initiative with is being supported by the LPCO. This would require funds from fines to be given to charitable organizations rather than the state. Regular Op-Eds are being submitted by the Media Action Committee led by Jay Stooksberry. His efforts lead to the publication of an Op-Ed in the Denver Post: <http://www.denverpost.com/2017/04/28/amendment-71-is-still-wrong-for-colorado/>

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## Finances & Fundraising

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A former program of mailers to newly registered Libertarians is on the agenda for future implementation. The LPCO was without an active Fundraising Director for a lengthy period of time and is attempting to fire back up an active donor solicitation program.

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## Media Coverage

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Significant media coverage included:

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<http://www.gnews.com/news/local/next/why-dont-more-coloradans-identify-as-libertarians/430907850>

<https://northdenvernews.com/amendment-71-to-face-legal-challenge/>

<https://www.coloradostatesman.com/castle-rock-mayor-election-movement-touts-new-community-survey-results/>

<http://www.coloradoindependent.com/165618/libertarian-party-archives-colorado>

[http://www.chieftain.com/news/politics/army-vet-businessman-seeks-pueblo-city-council-dist-seat/article\\_42fc7e4d-447c-5bc8-86b9-2b313d3e78bc.html](http://www.chieftain.com/news/politics/army-vet-businessman-seeks-pueblo-city-council-dist-seat/article_42fc7e4d-447c-5bc8-86b9-2b313d3e78bc.html)

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<http://www.cpr.org/news/story/libertarian-party-historical-preservation-project>

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## Other

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Internal affiliate procedural building was given a mandate at Convention with the development of a Style Guide and Policy Manual.

Also, in November a measure was passed which makes it more difficult for initiatives that amend the Constitution to make it on the ballot, requiring signatures from every state senate district and a 55% yes vote. The affiliate strongly opposed this measure. There is a possibility that this may be the subject of an effort to overturn.

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## Statement from the Chair

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In Colorado we have had some great movement. We have gotten some traction on getting some progress removing some bad legislation.

We are really struggling with the lack of transparency from the LNC-appointed Convention Committee(s).

The LSLA has chosen Colorado as the host of the yearly meeting in conjunction with the Colorado Convention.

Our Platform and Bylaws committees have been started.

-Wayne Harlos, Chair

# *Libertarian Party of Hawaii*



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## State Organization

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### Party Leadership Structure

#### *ELECTED POSITIONS*

Chair: Tracy Ryan, [tracyar@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:tracyar@hawaiiantel.net)

Vice Chair and Big Island Chair: Gregory Arianoff, [info@arianoff.us](mailto:info@arianoff.us)

Treasurer: Kyle Varner, [kylevarner@gmail.com](mailto:kylevarner@gmail.com)

Secretary: Joe Kent, [joe\\_kent@hotmail.com](mailto:joe_kent@hotmail.com)

At Large: Pat Brock (Maui Chair), Eric Weinert ([ericdraheweinert@gmail.com](mailto:ericdraheweinert@gmail.com)), Anthony Higa (Oahu Chair, [anthony.higa.hawaii@gmail.com](mailto:anthony.higa.hawaii@gmail.com))

International Ambassador of Liberty & Goodwill: Ken Schoolland, [ken.schoolland@gmail.com](mailto:ken.schoolland@gmail.com)

Website: <http://www.libertarianpartyofhawaii.org>

### Office Space

No.

### Paid Staff/Contractors

No.

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## At a Glance Statistics

Number of Libertarians	62 (BSM members).
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Method of Membership Determination	National Membership BSM.
Partisan Registration?	No.
Ballot Access Status/Requirement	The LPHI has ballot access.  Hawaii has a unique system. It requires 10% in a statewide race or US House or ~ 750 signatures ( 1/10 <sup>th</sup> of 1% of the number of registered voters), or alternatively, if the Libertarian candidates bring in at least 4% of all the votes cast for state Senate, 4% for state House, or 2% of the votes for state Senate and state House combined. After a party has either met the vote test or petitioned for three elections in a row, then they are automatically on for the next five elections.
Number of Candidates 2014/2016	17 /12
Estimated Budget	\$2-3K in odd years, and \$8-10K in even years.
Website / Facebook Current?	The website is current and professionally done. There was one outdated page that I brought to the attention of Chair Ryan. Facebook page likes are at 5,750. This would place Hawaii about 19th in the affiliate rankings which is down 1 place since my last report.
Newsletter?	No.
Database?	Yes, but scattered over several locations and formats.
BSM Members	62. This places Hawaii at 43 <sup>rd</sup> in the affiliate rankings which is a drop in two rankings since my last report, and a 19.3% decrease over a one year period.

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## Board Meetings

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The geography of an island state makes travel for in-person attendance difficult. The Executive Committee meets about 6 times a year with some members meeting in person at Chair Ryan's home in Honolulu and the rest appearing by Skype.

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## State Convention

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The 2017 Convention date(s) have not yet been set but it will likely be in early Fall. Because they are an island state, they are considering having two conventions teleconferenced in together. If possible, I will be attending. The affiliate recently did a major Platform and Bylaws overhaul and does not anticipate needing a great deal of time in an off-year.

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## State Level Membership

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The LPHI has state level membership for dues-payers and life members (\$20/year for renewals; \$25/year for new members, and \$1,000 for life members). There are about 50 members combined in those categories, but they have several hundred lapsed that get back involved periodically. In addition there are 66 BSM members.

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## Sub-Affiliates

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The Libertarian Party of Big Island (Hawaii County) is an active sub-affiliate. Maui County had an active affiliate, but it fell apart, and they are working on getting that going again. They are striving to be competitive in Hilo (settlement in Hawaii County) and Kona (district in Hawaii County).

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## Elections

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### Past Election Cycle (2016)

The affiliate provided a comprehensive update to LP News which is included, in part, here.

Several candidates did better than projected, led by Anthony Higa (State Representative, District 19). His 12.9% result in a three-way race was 5 points better than the pre-election projection of 8%. He has now run twice, both times being undermined by the presence of token Republicans in his race. Overcoming the public's entrenched bias to treat Republicans as legitimate challengers and Libertarians as irrelevant has been difficult. With news reporters continuing to promote Republicans as the legitimate opponents of Democrats, even in races where the Libertarian spends more time and money campaigning is a problem that the party must overcome. A similar situation affected first-time candidate Michelle Tippens (8.4%) in the 24<sup>th</sup> State House race. The candidate with the highest percentage of votes was Mike Last (22.2%) in the 5<sup>th</sup> State House district. His budget was under \$100. Only two candidates spent over \$10,000: Higa (12.9%), and Arnold Phillips (16.3%) in the 10<sup>th</sup> State Senate district (in a two-way race).

The party laments the defeat of Republican Sam Slom in his bid for a sixth term in the State Senate. Slom was an active LP member because deciding to join the GOP to help him get into office. Another libertarian-leaning Republican, John Carroll, was defeated in his attempt to become a U.S. Senator; Mike Kokoski, the Libertarian candidate in that race, got just 1.6%.

Anthony Higa (12.9%) and Michelle Tippens (8.4%) both were winners of some of the top state vote percentages in the entire country in races with both Republican and Democrat opponents.

### Current Upcoming Election Cycle (2017-2018)

The affiliate wishes to start early recruiting candidates for 2018 and get a jumpstart on fundraising but that is not yet happening. Representative Beth Fukumoto switched from Republican to Democrat rather than to Libertarian as some hoped.

### Open Primaries

This came out of Justia in the case of the Democratic Party of Hawaii v. Nago: Civil Rights. The panel affirmed the district court's summary judgment in favor of Scott Nago, in his official capacity as Chief Election Officer of the State of Hawaii, in an action brought by the Democratic Party of Hawaii challenging Hawaii's open primary system on the grounds that allowing registered voters to participate in any party's primary without formally joining or declaring support for that party,

severely burdens the Democratic Party's First Amendment associational rights. The panel first noted that the extent to which Hawaii's open primary system burdens the Democratic Party's associational rights is a factual question on which the Party bore the burden of proof. The panel held that the Party had not developed any evidence to meet this burden. The Party provided no evidence showing a clear and present danger that adherents of opposing parties determine the Democratic Party's nominees. Nor had the Party shown that Hawaii's open primary system causes Democratic candidates to moderate their policy stances. The panel concluded that absent evidence that Hawaii's system affects the Party's ability to select its nominees, the Party's facial challenge failed.

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## Ballot Access and Party Status

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The vote test requirement is 10% in a statewide race or US House, or alternatively, 4% of all votes cast for state Senate, 4% of all votes cast for State House, or 2% of all votes cast for state Senate and state House combined. Adopting a strategy of attempting the lowest threshold (4% of votes cast in a US Senate races), the total votes for the five candidates in qualifying races was 8,293 out of 135,298 votes across eight races for a percentage of 6.1, enough to retain ballot access for an additional five election cycles, i.e. the next ten years. The affiliate, however, wishes to qualify each time as it grants even greater credibility to the Party.

Hawaii has mandatory open primaries.

### *PRIMARIES:*

Hawaii has a mandatory open primary that the LPHI must participate in.

### *MAJOR/MINOR PARTY:*

Hawaii does not have this distinction but rather simply has recognized political parties.

### *OTHER:*

SB 824 to used ranked choice voting for all partisan elections is pending the Senate Judiciary and Labor Committees. In Hawaii, bills that don't receive hearings before the year's session ends are still alive when taken back up at the beginning of the next year.

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## Activities

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They do hold two general meetings per year in different locations to facilitate attendance. A large conference is upcoming with speakers to tackle drug decriminalization issues and dispelling the human trafficking myth.

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## Finances & Fundraising

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The affiliate will be ramping up for 2018 fundraising near the close of the year.

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## Media Coverage

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Chair Ryan has been getting good coverage from her advocacy for the prostitution legalization measure and has been interviewed by all the major TV stations in Honolulu, including KITV, Hawaii News Now, and KHON 2 TV. This is from the LPHI website:

**Hawaii House Bill 1533 relating to Prostitution**

Libertarian Party of Hawaii Chair, Tracy Ryan, has drafted and had introduced into the ongoing session of Hawaii's legislature a bill to decriminalize prostitution. The bill is supported by a coalition of local advocates. Other supporters are coming on board as the actual bill drafted language is made available to them. In addition to the Libertarian Party and libertarians everywhere, supporters of the decriminalization of prostitution include Amnesty International, The Global Alliance Against Trafficking in Women, The United Nations, the ACLU, and numerous sex worker lead organizations around the world.

HB 1533 would eliminate penalties in Hawaii laws for adult consensual sex work. This applies to sex worker, client, and manager. It does not apply to the offense of sex trafficking which is defined in Hawaii law to include various abuses of sex workers by "managers" who are little more than criminals and to laws criminalizing those who manage underage persons doing sex work. HB 1533 leaves in place the current legal violation for minors themselves who do sex work. They would remain under the jurisdiction of the Family Court as they are now.

Some negative feedback has been received concerning the part of the bill that overturns a law prohibiting police officers from having sex with someone in pursuance of making a criminal arrest. This was deleted on the basis that the whole question would be moot if sex worker would no longer be subject to arrest to begin with. To be clear supporters of the bill do not believe the police should have the legal right to have sex with a sex worker and then arrest her based on that act. It is only because the entire law was being repealed that repeal of this clause was included in the bill.

Persons wishing to look up the current laws or to read the text of this or any other bill can visit the Hawaii legislative website at [www.capitol.hawaii.gov](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov). This bill is pending a hearing before the House Judiciary Committee.

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## Other

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Hawaii leans very Democrat, but not because the people support Democrats, but because they oppose Republicans. The demographic is primarily Asian-American with a solid history of voting Democrat but with views of being socially liberal and fiscally conservative that obviously track libertarian in philosophy. The Green Party is popular but is not doing anything of significance.

The key issues in Hawaii are marijuana legalization and unfunded liabilities that now run in the neighborhood of 19 billion dollars. The marijuana legalization issue deeply affects their agricultural economy and is supported by 70% of the population. Other concerns include campaign matching funds (the LPHI wishes to move to a voluntary system), adding NOTA to unopposed candidates, homelessness (a large problem but the LPHI has not reached policy consensus), a proposed rail project (the LPHI has not reached policy consensus), and the Jones Act which puts tremendous economic burdens on the people of Hawaii through rank protectionism which would be ridiculous if applied to passenger air travel.<sup>17</sup>

Chair Ryan in particular wants to see the drug war stopped and particularly focuses on the decriminalization of hard drugs, though to be truly effective, this needs to be done on both the buyer and seller sides.

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## Statement from the Chair

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Our efforts have decreased this year from 2016 due to it being an off-year but there will be an uptick in 2018 with expected legislation and candidates.

-Tracy Ryan, Chair

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<sup>17</sup> See [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Merchant\\_Marine\\_Act\\_of\\_1920](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Merchant_Marine_Act_of_1920) for more information.

# *Libertarian Party of Kansas*



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## State Organization

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### Party Leadership Structure

#### *ELECTED POSITIONS*

Chair: Kris Logan, [chair@lpks.org](mailto:chair@lpks.org)

Vice Chair: Sharon DuBois, [vice-chair@lpks.org](mailto:vice-chair@lpks.org)

Treasurer: Ric Koehn, [treasurer@lpks.org](mailto:treasurer@lpks.org)

Secretary: Mike Kerner, [secretary@lpks.org](mailto:secretary@lpks.org)

1st District Coordinator: Joey Frazier, [dist1@lpks.org](mailto:dist1@lpks.org)

1st District Deputy Coordinator: Mike Wilson, [dist1@lpks.org](mailto:dist1@lpks.org)

2<sup>nd</sup> District Coordinator: Heather Toot, [dist2@lpks.org](mailto:dist2@lpks.org)

2<sup>nd</sup> District Deputy Coordinator: Vacant, [dist2@lpks.org](mailto:dist2@lpks.org)

3<sup>rd</sup> District Coordinator: Jeff Caldwell, [dist3@lpks.org](mailto:dist3@lpks.org)

3<sup>rd</sup> District Deputy Coordinator: Vacant, [dist3@lpks.org](mailto:dist3@lpks.org)

4<sup>th</sup> District Coordinator: Victoria French, [dist4@lpks.org](mailto:dist4@lpks.org)

4<sup>th</sup> District Deputy Coordinators: Steven Rosile and Maria Church, [dist4@lpks.org](mailto:dist4@lpks.org)

website: <http://www.lpks.org>

### Office Space

No.

### Paid Staff/Contractors

No.



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## At a Glance Statistics

Number of Libertarians	Approximately 15,463. This represents .87% of the registered voters (1,776,703). There have not been new numbers since the last report.
Method of Membership Determination	Registered voters.
Partisan Registration?	Yes.
Ballot Access Status/Requirement	The LPKS has ballot access.  The access requirement is 1% of statewide race including president (the Secretary of State has ignored precedent and intent in this interpretation). This threshold was met this year over several races.
Number of Candidates 2014/2016	10 / 14
Estimated Budget	\$6K yearly
Website / Facebook Current?	Website is current. Facebook pages likes are at 3,093. This would place it about 35 <sup>th</sup> in the affiliate rankings which is down one rank since my last report.
Newsletter?	No.
Database?	Yes, Nationbuilder.
BSM Members	145. This places Kansas at 34 <sup>th</sup> in the affiliate rankings. This is down one ranking since my last report and down 11% over a one year period.

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## Board Meetings

The Board has quarterly in-person meetings and monthly teleconferences.

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## State Convention

The 2017 Convention took place April 21-23, 2017 and a new Chair was elected. I was not able to attend, but David Demarest was there in my absence. Party leadership is predominantly female for the first time since inception with the election of the first ever female LPKS State Chair, Kris Logan (Lansing), Victoria French (Wichita) as 4<sup>th</sup> District Coordinator, and Heather Toot (Leavenworth) as 2<sup>nd</sup> District Coordinator. The 2018 LPKS State Convention is slated to be held in the spring in Wichita, Kansas.

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## State Level Membership

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There is no dues-paying structure. The interest level has stabilized and remains high with new prospect. A lot of new persons are attending the Ex-Comm meeting.

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## Sub-Affiliates

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There are four congressional districts , each of which has executive committees. There are 105 counties in Kansas, which are unevenly divided between the districts. The 3<sup>rd</sup> District is very active , and there are about eight active county groups. They are working on developing the Libertarians of Northern Kansas (LNK pronounced L-Neck) which is the area that contains the capital city so it is important they are active there.

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## Elections

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### Past Election Cycle (2016)

The candidate tallies are as follows:

Gary Johnson/Bill Weld (Presidential/Vice-President): 4.7%

Robert D. Garrard (US Senate): 6%

Kerry Burt (US Representative): 7%

James Houston Bales (US House): 6.4%

Gorden J. Bakken (US House): 3%

Jason Conley (State Senate): 29%

Michael Kerner (State Senate): 7.2%

Patrick McMurray (State Senate): 24%

John Taube (State House): 6%

Frederick Caleb Christopher (State House): 7%

Joey Frazier (State House): 13%

James Pruden (State House): 8%

### Current and Upcoming Election Cycle (2017-2018)

Candidates have been recruited for local city council-level races in 2017, and the larger races in 2018 some of which are announced on the affiliate website including Patrick McMurray (HD9), John Taube (HD19), Frederick Caleb Christopher (HD38), Joey Frazier (HD71)

US House Representative Pompeo joined the Trump team as CIA Director causing a Special Election in the 4<sup>th</sup> District for which the LPKS nominated Chris Rockhold. This election will take place on April 11, 2017 with Rockhold garnering 1.72%

of the vote which is better than the registered Libertarian percentage of the vote which was .85%. 23% of registered Libertarians turned out.

There is an elected Libertarian (Nick Schlossmacher) on the Mission City Council Ward 2.

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## Ballot Access and Party Status

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The LPKS has had access since 1992, and between the US Senate and presidential races. This threshold was met this year over several races.

In order to obtain major party status, the LPKS needs to obtain 5% in the gubernatorial election.

### *PRIMARIES:*

There is no Libertarian primary unless they obtain major party status, and at that point, it would be the Party's choice to have an open or closed primary.

### *MAJOR/MINOR PARTY:*

Major party status is achieved by obtaining 5% vote in gubernatorial race.

### *OTHER:*

From Ballot Access News: HB 2017 (signed into law) eases ballot access for Special US House elections. The old law required a petition of 4% of the registered voters for an independent in a special US House election (about 14,000 signatures in the typical district), even though in a regular election an independent needs exactly 5,000.

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## Activities

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The Kansas State Fair (10 days) is a regular event in September. Old Settlers Day (3<sup>rd</sup> District) is coming up in September and the Leavenworth County Fair is set for July.

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## Finances & Fundraising

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A fundraising campaign of "You Might be a Libertarian if..." is being started. Graphics are being developed.

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## Media Coverage

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Significant media coverage included broad coverage of the US House District 4 Special Election.

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## Other

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Chair Logan's focus is on laying down a great operations infrastructure to have a good return-on-investment for efforts and funds and to have a network of collaboration tools. The LPKS has worked with marijuana advocacy group Bleeding Kanas and are getting behind an ACLU effort to have convictions required in civil asset forfeiture cases. An additional area that they will focus on is the fact that Kansas has the highest tax budget per citizen. As reported in LP News, a legislative hearing to repeal the death penalty in Kansas was held on Feb. 13. Long-time death penalty opponent and former LPKS Chair Al Terwelp submitted written testimony in favor of the bill on behalf of the LPKS. Unfortunately, the bill was tabled for the rest of the session.

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## Statement from the Chair

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LPKS is actively developing operational infrastructure & recruiting key operations team members to more effectively engage voters & support Libertarian candidate campaigns at the state and local level.

-Kris Logan, Chair

# Montana Libertarian Party



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## State Organization

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### Party Leadership Structure

#### *ELECTED POSITIONS*

- Chair: Elinor Swanson, [elinor.swanson@mtlp.org](mailto:elinor.swanson@mtlp.org)
- Vice-Chair: Rick Breckenridge, [rick.breckenridge@mtlp.org](mailto:rick.breckenridge@mtlp.org)
- Second Vice-Chair: Joe Leavengood, [joe.leavengood@mtlp.org](mailto:joe.leavengood@mtlp.org)
- Treasurer: Michael Fucci, [micheal.fucci@mtlp.org](mailto:micheal.fucci@mtlp.org)
- Assistant Treasurer: Francis Wendt, [francis.wendt@mtlp.org](mailto:francis.wendt@mtlp.org)
- Secretary: Connor Burns, [connor.burns@mtlp.org](mailto:connor.burns@mtlp.org)
- Assistant Secretary: Cindy Dyson, [cindy.dyson@mtlp.org](mailto:cindy.dyson@mtlp.org)

Website: <http://www.mtlp.org>

### Office Space

No.

### Paid Staff/Contractors

No.

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## At a Glance Statistics

Number of Libertarians	74 plus about 160.
Method of Membership Determination	National Membership BSM and sign-up (with voluntary dues).

Partisan Registration?	No.
Ballot Access Status/Requirement	The vote test requirement averages out to be 2.8% which can be met by any statewide candidate in about seven races. In this cycle, it turned out to be 12,542 votes needed. Three statewide candidates (Rick Breckenridge-US House Representative, Roger Roots-Secretary of State, and Ted Dunlap-Governor) met this burden.  Montana has mandatory open primaries.
Number of Candidates 2014/2016	7/9
Estimated Budget	About \$1,500/year.
Website / Facebook Current?	Website is modern and current due to recent efforts- a few pages that could be updated were discussed (updated Wicks campaign information, minutes, and Bylaws). Facebook is presently at 1,242 likes and ranks 45 <sup>th</sup> in the nation and is close to catching up to Idaho. We discussed the need for a regular posting schedule.
Newsletter?	The affiliate is working on instituting an email or other regular electronic updates.
Database?	Yes through a cloud-based service.
BSM Members	74. This places Montana at 41 <sup>st</sup> in the affiliate rankings. This remains the same rank from my last report and up 20.2% over a one-year period.

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## Board Meetings

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Electronically every two weeks. I have requested to be added to the potential attendance list and have attended one so far.

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## State Convention

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The 2017 Convention was on March 11, 2017, and I was in attendance. This was their first convention in about twenty years and by any metric was a success. About 50 enthusiastic members attended (including seasoned and new members). An additional Convention is tentatively scheduled for September 9, 2017.

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## State Level Membership

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The MTLP Bylaws provide for free memberships to those who certify in writing that they oppose the initiation of force to achieve social or political goals, dues are optional.

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## Sub-Affiliates

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Chapters are established/starting in these counties: Broadwater, Cascade, Flathead, Gallatin, Highline (tri-county), Lake, Lewis and Clark, Missoula, Park, Pondera, Powell, Ravalli, Sanders, Silver Bow, Stillwater, and Yellowstone. Published meetings were found for Flathead, Gallatin, Lewis & Clark, and Missoula.

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## Elections

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### Past Election Cycle (2016)

Montana has a very low legislative filing fee (\$15). The following candidates ran and obtained these results:

Gary Johnson/Bill Weld (Presidential/Vice-President): 5.7%

Rick Breckenridge (US House): 3%<sup>18</sup>

Ted Dunlap (Governor): 3.3%

Roger Roots (Secretary of State): 3%

Ian Wheeler (House District 6): 5%

Andrew Forcier (House District 57): 14.97%

Josh Daniels (House District 43): 7.28%

Dick Motta (Senate District 39): 7.02%

Francis Wendt (House District 61): 4.07%

Pual Bonar (House District 84): 3.54%

### Current and Upcoming Election Cycle (2017-2018)

They are working on soliciting candidate for the open US House and US Senate seats coming up in 2018.

Mark Wicks secured 6% in the Special Election to replace US House Representative Ryan Zinke who was appointed as Trump's Secretary of the Interior. He ran a very active and visible campaign and received \$5,000 in funding from the LNC.

Please note that Michael Schoenike, Libertarian serves as Mayor of Red Lodge. This is a non-partisan office, and he was elected by the City Council when the previous Mayor resigned.

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## Ballot Access and Party Status

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The vote test requirement averages out to be 2.8% which can be met by any statewide candidate in about seven races. In this cycle, it turned out to be 12,542 votes needed. Three statewide candidates (Rick Breckenridge-US House Representative, Roger Roots-Secretary of State, and Ted Dunlap-Governor) met this burden.

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<sup>18</sup> Replaced Mike Fellows after his passing.

### **PRIMARIES:**

Montana has a mandatory open primary that the MTLP must participate in.

### **MAJOR/MINOR PARTY:**

Montana does not have that distinction but only qualified political parties.

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## **Activities**

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For the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday, volunteers went to fireworks booths and passed out 6,000 copies of the Constitution with the Declaration of Independence and encourage people to be sure to read them (in partnership with The Heritage Foundation). There is also a large BBQ gathering with speakers and training scheduled in Bozeman for the end of July as well as the Montana State Fair.

The affiliate is creating new Bylaws that will serve their needs better to be considered at the next Convention.

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## **Finances & Fundraising**

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The affiliate is still in re-organization mode and is working on a fundraising base. We spoke about some success with targeted emails for specific amounts and specific projects.

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## **Media Coverage**

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Significant press mentions happened that are more than I can list for the Wicks campaign, but here are some notable mentions:

<http://www.greatfalls Tribune.com/story/news/2017/05/12/libertarian-mark-wicks-sees-shot-winning/101567184/>

<http://www.ktvh.com/2017/05/libertarian-mark-wicks-the-work-truck-candidate-for-u-s-house>

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2017/04/20/greg-gianforte-rob-quist-and-mark-wicks-see-ryan-zinke-seat/100690150/>

<http://newstalkkgvo.com/montana-special-election-makes-tough-campaigning-for-libertarian-candidate/>

<http://independentpoliticalreport.com/2017/05/video-libertarian-mark-wicks-in-2017-montana-u-s-house-special-election-debate/>

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/greg-gianforte-vs-rob-quist-nonpartisan-candidate\\_us\\_58ff9d63e4b0631b8fc9c528](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/greg-gianforte-vs-rob-quist-nonpartisan-candidate_us_58ff9d63e4b0631b8fc9c528)

[http://www.bozemandailychronicle.com/news/politics/libertarian-mark-wicks-on-the-issues/article\\_aof31c79-e001-528b-a62c-7cea76b962db.html](http://www.bozemandailychronicle.com/news/politics/libertarian-mark-wicks-on-the-issues/article_aof31c79-e001-528b-a62c-7cea76b962db.html)

[http://helenair.com/news/local/libertarians-pick-rancher-mark-wicks-to-run-for-us-house/article\\_28cbade0-80b1-5089-b3a5-7d9ff351565b.html](http://helenair.com/news/local/libertarians-pick-rancher-mark-wicks-to-run-for-us-house/article_28cbade0-80b1-5089-b3a5-7d9ff351565b.html)

<http://www.dailyinterlake.com/article/20170513/ARTICLE/170519921>

<http://www.montana-mint.com/2017/04/17/mark-wicks-one-man-montana-campaign/>

<http://reason.com/blog/2017/05/27/montana-libertarian-mark-wicks-who-got-6>



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## Statement from the Chair

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The Montana Libertarian Party ("MTLP") is busy getting organized and assembled. All but one of the current MTLP Officers hold interim positions, but I am certain that many of us will continue to devote volunteer time to the MTLP in the future in various roles. Officer elections will occur later this summer at the State Committee Convention (tentatively slated for Saturday, September 9, 2017, in Bozeman). Our Judicial Committee is busy working on a new proposed set of MTLP Bylaws, and those will hopefully be adopted at the Convention, as well. (The currently-operative Bylaws are attached - please note that the Bylaws were adopted but the Constitution was not.) We now have a master list of state-wide and county MTLP leaders, and our County Director has organized MTLP members by county and disseminated those lists to the appropriate county leaders. We have had a lot of growth in membership, and there are a lot of enthusiastic, hard-working, and excited volunteers.

Elinor Swanson, Chair

# Libertarian Party of Utah



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## State Organization

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### Party Leadership Structure

#### *ELECTED POSITIONS*

Chair: Joseph Buchman, [chair@libertarianutah.org](mailto:chair@libertarianutah.org)

Vice Chair: Barry Short

Treasurer: Caryn Terres

Secretary: Brian Kamerath

Website: <http://www.libertarianutah.org>

### Office Space

They do not have physical office space but are looking at a virtual office company or perhaps a PO Box as they will no longer be using the office of prior Chair McCullough.

### Paid Staff/Contractors

Scott Linsley is a volunteer who has been acting as Executive Director but is not paid.

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## At a Glance Statistics

Number of Libertarians	13,527. This represents .87% of the registered voters.
Method of Membership Determination	The LPUT Constitution defines membership as including dues-payers and pledgers to its Statement of Principles, but does not require partisan registration.
Partisan Registration?	Yes.
Ballot Access Status/Requirement	The vote test requirement is 2% of any statewide race. This was met by gubernatorial candidate Brian Kamerath (3.08%) and Attorney General candidate Andrew McCullough (6.73%).

Number of Candidates 2014/2016	11 / 11
Estimated Budget	\$10-12K per year
Website / Facebook Current?	The website is current and professionally done. Facebook page likes are at 2,622. This would place Utah 38 <sup>th</sup> in the affiliate rankings, done one ranking since my last report. Mentoring was offered to assist in their page growth. They are within range of Iowa and Maryland.
Newsletter?	No but they are working on it.
Database?	Chair Buchman is working on getting this together and will update me next report.
BSM Members	112. This places Utah at 35 <sup>th</sup> in the affiliate rankings. This remains unchanged since my last report, and is down 14% over a one-year period.

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## Board Meetings

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There are monthly open meetings. Chair Buchman is working on organizing a Central Committee to meet quarterly.

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## State Convention

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The 2017 Convention took place April 22-23, 2017. I was not able to attend as I was in Washington.

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## State Level Membership

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Yes. They have two operational classes of membership: pledged (to their Statement of Principles) dues-payers; and pledgers only. Only pledged dues-payers are eligible to vote in internal Party business at their convention but pledged members can vote on candidate selection. Chair Buchman will let me know membership numbers.

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## Sub-Affiliates

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There are a few active groups and several County Chairs (Davis, Utah, and Weber). Chair Buchman also has plans for a Southern Utah multi-county group.

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## Elections

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### Past Election Cycle (2016)

Eleven Libertarian candidates appeared on the ballot as follows:

Gary Johnson/Bill Weld (Presidential/Vice-President): 3.50%

Brian Kamerath/Barry Evan Short (Governor/Lt. Governor): 3.08%

Andrew McCullough (Attorney General): 6.73%

Craig Bowden (US House, District 1): 5.87%

Jim Dexter (State Senate, District 6): 6.61%

Joe Buchman (State Senate, District 14): 9.4%

Lee Anne Walker (State House, District 46): 23.86%

Chelsea Travis (State House, District 35): 9.44%

Brent Zimmerman (State House, District 16): 8.45%

Chair McCullough broke previous records in his Attorney General run.

## Current and Upcoming Election Cycle (2017-2018)

Joe Buchman is running in the only Federal election in the nation for Utah 3<sup>rd</sup> District for US House and scored a victory by being asked to the Americans for Prosperity after initially being denied. There are some candidates lined up for 2018. Andrew McCullough will likely run for Attorney General and Chair Buchman will be running for re-election after his win this year. Barry Short and Rob Latham are also likely to run.

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## Ballot Access and Party Status

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The vote test requirement is 2% of any statewide race. This was met by gubernatorial candidate Brian Kamerath (3.08%) and Attorney General candidate Andrew McCullough (6.73%).

### *PRIMARIES:*

The LPUT does not participate in the primary system although they could opt in, but rather they nominate through convention, and primaries only become relevant when two candidates get 35% of the vote in a party endorsements meeting.

### *MAJOR/MINOR PARTY:*

Utah does not have these distinctions but rather has registered political parties and qualified political parties.

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## Activities

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The 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the LPUT is in October and a special event is planned.

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## Finances & Fundraising

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In the Utah state tax laws, taxpayers are offered the opportunity to have a part of their taxes “refunded” in the form of a \$2 donation to a political party of their choice. The LPUT receives up to \$10K a year through this benefit, but the old parties receive a huge windfall. This public funding works very much like the Federal system in that selecting this option does not

increase or decrease the amount of taxes owed. Chair Buchman mentioned that in the past they advertised that they would refund this money to anyone who came by their office and asked and that this earned some media attention.

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## Media Coverage

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Significant media included (and more about the campaign of Joe Buchman):

<http://independentpoliticalreport.com/2017/05/utah-lp-to-hold-special-convention-on-saturday-june-10th/>

<https://www.facebook.com/KUTV2News/videos/10155696826819406/>

<http://kutv.com/news/local/3rd-district-candidates-try-to-break-out-of-the-pack-at-debate-in-provo>

<http://fox13now.com/2017/07/11/candidates-for-chaffetz-replacement-debate-in-provo/>

<http://www.deseretnews.com/article/865684627/Few-differences-emerge-among-Republicans-in-first-debate-in-race-of-Chaffetz-seat.html>

<http://www.sltrib.com/home/5476330-155/a-platform-republican-a-principled-conservative>

[http://www.heraldextra.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/third-congressional-district-candidates-debate-for-first-time-as-gop/article\\_22ff08f9-9079-5bb7-99df-248dafoe3c85.html](http://www.heraldextra.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/third-congressional-district-candidates-debate-for-first-time-as-gop/article_22ff08f9-9079-5bb7-99df-248dafoe3c85.html)

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2017/jul/12/health-care-debated-as-candidates-vie-to-replace-c/>

<http://kutv.com/news/local/curtis-in-the-lead-for-chaffetz-seat-but-half-of-voters-are-undecided-poll-shows>

<https://www.ksl.com/?nid=1388&a=11898&showid=2016&n=The%20Doug%20Wright%20Show#>

<http://www.deseretnews.com/article/865678766/Op-ed-Holding-the-political-elites-accountable.html>

<http://www.sltrib.com/home/5335858-155/chaffetz-exit-leaves-22-so?page=2>

<https://www.scribd.com/document/351407830/Candidate-Responses>

<http://www.deseretnews.com/article/865680875/Get-to-know-the-3rd-Congressional-District-candidates.html>

<https://www.ksl.com/?nid=1388&a=11898&showid=2016&n=The%20Doug%20Wright%20Show#>

<http://tunein.com/radio/The-Doug-Wright-Show-p26191/>

<https://www.cityweekly.net/BuzzBlog/archives/2017/06/12/chaffetz-o-meter-bonus-round>

<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2017/06/09/chaffetz-replacement-who-are-utah-congressional-candidates.html>

<http://www.sltrib.com/home/5523179-155/ted-cruz-in-utah-maybe-to>

<https://objectivenewsreport.com/utah-special-election-candidates-who-they-are-what-they-stand-for/>

<http://universe.byu.edu/2017/08/03/curtis-ainge-and-herrod-vie-for-special-election-republican-slot1/>

<http://www.sltrib.com/news/politics/2017/08/03/jim-bennett-hopes-to-make-up-lost-time-in-house-race-now-that-hes-finally-clinched-a-spot-on-the-ballotbr/>

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## Other

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Utah still has straight ticket voting which failed in a repeal effort last year. Medical marijuana will be an area of key focus for LPUT as it will likely be a ballot initiative in 2018.

Chair Buchman attended the conventions of the Green and Constitution Parties and will work with them on common issue items.

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## Statement from the Chair

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It's been a busy first three months as chair. After our state party convention on 22 April 2017, Vice Chair Barry Short, past-chair Rob Latham and I held a meet-up event in St. George UT (about four hours south). The following day the Deseret News published an Op-Ed I submitted titled, "Hold the political elites accountable and give Utah a choice." At the time this was published it appeared the Governor of Utah was about to appoint a replacement for Congressman Chaffetz who had just resigned his Third District US House seat. (The Utah Constitution is silent on the process for mid-term replacement of a Representative to the US Congress.) Some cite this Op-Ed as influencing the Governor to announce a Special Election rather than the appointment of a replacement. See: <http://www.deseretnews.com/article/865678766/Op-ed-Holding-the-political-elites-accountable.html>.

The party has had a presence at the Innocence Project breakfast, Pride Festival, TRUCE (Together for Responsible Use and Cannabis Education), Halloween in July and other events. After an apparent four year absence, we have begun keeping minutes and requiring treasurer's reports at our monthly executive committee meetings. County party affiliates have been established in four counties, and a resumption of state Central Committee meetings is expected later this year.

On 10 June I accepted the nomination at our Special Election Nominating Convention to run for the US House in the Special Election. We also passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS Utah families have discovered the therapeutic benefits of cannabis to alleviate pain and suffering.

WHEREAS members of the Utah Libertarian Party subscribe to a Statement of Principles.

WHEREAS in fidelity to those principles, Libertarians affirm that:

- every one of us has an inherent right to our life and liberty – this is the principle of self-ownership;
- none of us has the right to initiate force against another person, nor to aggress against another's property – this is the non-aggression principle;
- all of us are entitled to exercise our right of agency, and to choose our own lifestyle so long as one does not forcibly interfere with the equal right of others to live their lives; and
- the voluntary exchange of goods and services is also one's fundamental right.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Utah Libertarian Party reaffirms its support for all Utahns to have unfettered access to therapeutic cannabis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Utah Libertarian Party encourages its members to support the initiative to increase the ability of Utahns to access therapeutic cannabis by gathering petition signatures, making financial contributions,

voting in favor of the initiative on the ballot, and engaging in other means of peaceful persuasion for positive social change.

On Tuesday 11 July 2017, following education and persuasion by Rob Latham, Oliver Hall and LNC Chair Nicholas Sarwark, as well as calls from the Green Party of Utah for my inclusion, I received a last-minute invitation from Americans for Prosperity to debate three Republicans running in a primary (15 August) and one other general election candidate (7 November). The democratic party candidate declined the invitation. The debate has now been viewed over 32,000 times on various media sites. Other coverage has included interviews on KSL, candidates.vote, The Salt Lake Tribune and City Weekly as well as a one-hour interview on the national broadcast of Coast-to-Coast AM on Friday 29 July 2017.

Our future plans include a continued upgrade of our website, a move of our offices from the current space above a Dr. John's lingerie store to a new location, recruitment and training of candidates for the 2018 election cycle, establishment of student libertarian organizations on each of Utah's eight major college campuses, expansion of our county party affiliates, reestablishment of a monthly newsletter, recovery and preservation of our history, a 45th anniversary party in October, reestablishment of the Karl Bray fundraising dinner and award, recruitment of a party social media and communications director, and continued daily "performance art" earned-media activism to demand inclusion of our candidates in polls, debates, and media coverage of same.

-Dr. Joseph G. Buchman, Chair

# Libertarian Party of Washington



# LIBERTARIAN Party of Washington

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## State Organization

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### Party Leadership Structure

#### *ELECTED POSITIONS*

Chair: Randy McGlenn, [chair@lpwa.org](mailto:chair@lpwa.org).

Vice Chair: Tiffany Diaz De Leon, [ladyliberty@lpwa.org](mailto:ladyliberty@lpwa.org)

Treasurer: Charles Schaefer, [charlesschaefer@lpwa.org](mailto:charlesschaefer@lpwa.org)

Secretary: Daniel Hodun, [danielhodun@lpwa.org](mailto:danielhodun@lpwa.org)

The LPWA also has eight Regional Directors (Jacob Lamont, David Malekar, Robert Parker, James Blair, Joshua Smith, Rory Leckland) and the following divisions: Political, Communications, IT, Outreach, Events, and General Volunteering – this is being re-organized.

Website: [www.lpwa.org](http://www.lpwa.org)

### Office Space

No.

### Paid Staff/Contractors

No.

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## At a Glance Statistics

Number of Libertarians	524 BSM members, and approximately 385 state Party dues-paying members.
Method of Membership Determination	National Membership BSM and Party Bylaws.



Partisan Registration?	No.
Ballot Access Status/Requirement	1,000 signatures. Will become ballot-qualified party if 5% in presidential vote is achieved.
Number of Candidates 2014/2016	13 /31 (their website does not yet have them all)
Estimated Budget	\$10K yearly
Website / Facebook Current?	Page likes are at 8,004. This would place Washington about 15 <sup>th</sup> in the affiliate rankings which is a decrease of one rank since my last report. The affiliate is working on assembling a dedicated social media team. The website is current and has an excellent candidates section that I will be recommending to others.
Newsletter?	No, but Chair McGlenn says this is an upcoming project – digital and a limited print format along with personal letters to members.
Database?	Yes, CiviCRM
BSM Members	524. This places Washington at 11 <sup>th</sup> in the affiliate rankings which is down one ranking since my last report and up 10.1% over a one-year period.

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## Board Meetings

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The LPWA meets quarterly in person and monthly via teleconference. I have asked to be on this distribution list.

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## State Convention

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The 2017 Convention was first set for April 21-23, 2017 but did not achieve quorum. I was in attendance. The Convention successfully re-convened on July 8, 2017.

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## State Level Membership

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Yes, as defined by the LPWA Bylaws. They have about 385 dues-paying members.

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## Sub-Affiliates

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The LPWA has eight regions (with regional directors mentioned on site) and about 12-15 recognized county parties.

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## Elections

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### Past Election Cycle (2016)

The LPWA ran 31 candidates with eleven making it out of the Top Two Primary.

The Washington Secretary of State has taken the position that Presidential vote totals are 4.89% due to write-ins, undervotes, and overvotes. The issue with this is that the write-in votes are not legitimate under Washington law, and are not being tabulated, but the number of them is being used to calculate the percentages. Without these, the Johnson ticket would be at 5.01%, and the LPWA would qualify for major party status.

### Past and Current Election Cycle (2017-2018)

The LPWA has a goal of 100 candidates to run in 2017 local non-partisan races. Michelle Darnell just made it through the top-two primary in a three-way race for State Senate (48<sup>th</sup>-LD) - They have about 50-75 soft commitments. For 2018 they have likely candidates for all of the Federal races and are working on the State races. There are candidates running in city council races this year-11 listed on the affiliate website.

There are presently 6 elected Libertarians as follows:

Ed Pace – Spokane City Counsel (he is running for re-election this year)

Bob Bromley – Sumas Mayor

Barbara Brenner – Whatcom County Council District 3 Position B

Robb Gibbs – Kelso School Director Position 3

Don Myers – Moses Lake City Council Member #3 (he is running for re-election this year)

Joshua Penner – Orting City Council Position 5 and Pierce County Charter Review Committee, District 1, Position 3

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## Ballot Access and Party Status

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Unless LPWA becomes a major party, they are required to obtain 1,000 signatures in order to petition onto the ballot.

As Richard Winger noted, Washington should consider lobbying for a lower threshold to become ballot qualified which is presently 5% in the presidential race. The median vote test of the 50 states is only 2%.

### **PRIMARIES:**

Washington is a “top-two” state in which only two candidates make it out of the primaries onto the general ballot.

### **MAJOR/MINOR PARTY:**

In order to obtain qualified party status and have automatic ballot access (as well as other benefits including higher placement on ballots), the LPWA must obtain 5% in the Presidential race. The Washington Secretary of State does not appear to use the distinction of major and minor party status though that is the common parlance. Ballot status was denied in 2016 by the Secretary of State in a shocking break with precedent by including write-in votes in the total which lowered Johnson’s vote result to under 6%; however, the write-ins were invalid votes.

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## Activities

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Chair McGlenn will be focusing on infrastructure for county parties so that they can adequately support candidates. There are a lot of local events going on but no state level events at this time. They are planning a state social event – the Madison Jamboree – for Libertarians and Libertarian-curious folks with key speakers. This may even happen at multiple sites in key population centers.

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## Finances & Fundraising

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The LPWA's primary source of funding is membership dues and voluntary donations. Chair McGlenn has a capital growth plan of 10%.

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## Media Coverage

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Significant media coverage included multiple radio appearances by candidate Michelle Darnell.

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## Other

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The LPWA does not have any specific issues they are focusing on as a party, but housing has become a critical issue for Kipsap County with a lot of moving pieces and a growing homelessness problem.

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## Statement from the Chair

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The Libertarian Party of Washington State has elected new leadership this July. My team is excited to bring some new energy and ideas into the party; with focus on membership growth, county party growth, expanded outreach to the public, and a new level of engagement at all levels of government in the state.

My leadership campaign is "United We Stand" When Libertarians work together, we turn the tides on government overreach.

Randy McGlenn, Chair

# Wyoming Libertarian Party



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## State Organization

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### Party Leadership Structure

#### *ELECTED POSITIONS*

Chair: Dee Cozzens, RCozzens@aol.com

Vice Chair/Treasurer: Kit Carson, cscoa@aol.com

Secretary: Larry Struempf, wyolibertarian@gmail.com

Website: <http://wyolibertarianparty.com/> (see below)

### Office Space

No.

### Paid Staff/Contractors

No.

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## At a Glance Statistics

Number of Libertarians	2,389 registered voters representing .90% of the voters.
Method of Membership Determination	Dues-paying registered voters. <sup>19</sup>
Partisan Registration?	Yes.

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<sup>19</sup> The WYLP Bylaws provide for three classes of voting membership: statutory committeemen, partisan Libertarian candidate in the past two years, or dues-paying registered voters. This number is just a handful.

Ballot Access Status/Requirement	<p>The WYLP has ballot access and earned major party status in 2014 when Kit Carson won over 10% in the secretary of state race.</p> <p>The access requirement is 2% of statewide race. In presidential years this test is limited to just US House. In mid-term years, three offices count towards this test: US House, governor, and secretary of state. This was met by US House Representative candidate Lawrence Struempf (3.6%).</p>
Number of Candidates 2014/2016	4 / 1
Estimated Budget	None at this time
Website / Facebook Current?	<p>Andy Burns has created a new website for the affiliate at wy.lp.org which will be live shortly. Facebook is currently being operated by one in-state volunteer and several out-of-state contributors, with page likes at 371. This would place Wyoming 49th in the affiliate ranking. The page needs a regular schedule to grow.</p>
Newsletter?	No.
Database?	No.
BSM Members	35. This places Wyoming at 50 <sup>th</sup> in the affiliate rankings which is down one rank since my last report. The net change is -1 member over a one-year period.

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## Board Meetings

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The Board meets regularly via conference call.

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## State Convention

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The 2017 Convention is set for September 23, 2017, and I plan to be in attendance.

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## State Level Membership

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The WYLP Bylaws do provide for dues-paying state level membership. They presently only have about 4 dues-paying members.

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## Sub-Affiliates

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There are 23 counties in Wyoming but the affiliate is having difficulty starting active county groups. One group has successfully started in Natrona County.

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## Elections

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### Past Election Cycle (2016)

The Wyoming primary takes place on August 16, 2016. There is mandatory participation by the Libertarian Party since earning major party status. Presently there is only one candidate, Larry Struempf, who is running against Republican Liz Cheney (of Dick Cheney fame) for US House of Representatives.

### Current and Upcoming Election Cycle (2017-2018)

They have some candidates on deck to run, including Vice Chair Kit Carson who will be running for Secretary of State.

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## Ballot Access and Party Status

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The vote test requirement this race is 2% in a US House race which was met by US House of Representatives candidate Lawrence Struempf (3.6%).

The vote test is limited in presidential years to just US House which must be achieved in order to remain on the ballot. If 10% is achieved, primary status would be retained, otherwise, nominations by convention would resume. In mid-term years, three offices count: US House, Governor, and Secretary of State.

### *PRIMARIES:*

In Wyoming, parties that receive 10% in a qualifying race receive their own primary while other qualified parties nominate by convention. This threshold was met in 2014 for Secretary of State, but was not met this year so the WYLP will be nominating by convention, which is more economical to the taxpayers and didn't really give the Party any advantage at all.

### *MAJOR/MINOR PARTY:*

The Wyoming Secretary of State lists the WYLP as a major political party but this will change as the Party did not obtain 10% for US House, Secretary of State, or Governor, which is the required threshold.

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## Activities

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There is nothing currently planned, but the affiliate is in building/re-building mode, and the Convention should give a boost.

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## Finances & Fundraising

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Finances are virtually non-existent, and the WYLP is planning on ways to attract dues-paying members. The affiliate is struggling to come back from near-extinction but has a dedicated core.

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## Media Coverage

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None.

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## Other

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The issues that are of unique concern to the WYLP surround environmental issues and government intrusion. The oil, gas, and coal industries are crucial to the economy, and they have suffered from over-regulation and intrusion. This is an area in which the WYLP is planning on garnering attention in advocating for Libertarian solutions. Wyoming has medical marijuana, but does not have legal recreational use at this time; however, hemp is likely to be the next hot issue.

The Chair indicated concern for affiliate growth due to the "open border" position of the National Party.

---

## Statement from the Chair

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We see the coming year as a record harvest year with the chaos found in our Nation's capital. The executive committee is hard at it seeking out candidates to run for federal, state, county and local offices. We plan on receiving a lot of attention with some of the ideas that Kit and Joe have.

-Dee Cozzens, Chair

## Region 2 Report

Ed Marsh  
Region 2 Rep  
423-367-7722

&

Stephen Nekaila  
Region 2 Alternate  
305-393-6412

Tennessee:

Chair Tom Arnold  
Vice Chair Cole Ebel

The Tennessee Libertarian Party is dedicated to gaining ballot access for the 2018 Elections. A total of 33844 valid signatures of registered voters (2.5% of votes cast in last election for Gov.) Is required to have all our candidates listed as Libertarian on the ballot. For more information on all happenings visit the LPTN Facebook page.

Georgia

Chair Ted Metz  
Vice Chair Doug Craig

Visit Facebook^LP Georgia for information and events

Florida

Chair Marcos Morales  
Vice Chair Omar Recuero

I have regularly participated in the Florida LP Executive committee monthly meetings also have attended a Lee County (Ft. Myers) affiliate meeting. The Florida Libertarian Party has the best state Web site I have seen. LPF.org



See the following 24 pages for the Region 3 Report

# Libertarian National Committee

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## Region 3 Report

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*Regional Report for Region 3  
Libertarian National Committee Meeting  
August 19-20, 2017  
submitted by Brett C. Bittner*

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### **Region 3 Representative**

Mr. Brett C. Bittner, Indiana  
Libertarian National Committee

T: 317.537.8344

E: [Brett.Bittner@lp.org](mailto:Brett.Bittner@lp.org)

### **Region 3 Alternate**

Mr. Ken Moellman, Kentucky  
Libertarian National Committee

T: 859.446.8308

E: <mailto:Ken.Moellman@lp.org>

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# Region 3 Overview

Region 3 maintained its member-affiliates at the 2016 Libertarian National Convention: Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, and Ohio. This Region is comprised of States with similar constituencies and similar approaches to Party growth.

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## National Membership for the Region

**YEAR OVER YEAR NATIONAL  
SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP TRENDS**

All four states in the region experienced a decline in membership numbers between July 2016 and July 2017.

### July 2016 National Membership Summary

	Total Members	Total Sustaining Members	Sustaining Membership Rank
INDIANA	3438	537	10
KENTUCKY	1260	163	32
MICHIGAN	5388	550	9
OHIO	5474	715	6

### July 2017 National Membership Summary

	Total Members	Total Sustaining Members	Sustaining Membership Rank
INDIANA	3313	425	13
KENTUCKY	1202	146	33
MICHIGAN	5257	541	9
OHIO	4970	649	6

# Libertarian Party of Indiana

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## State Organization

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### Party Leadership Structure

*ELECTED POSITIONS - SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT THE UPCOMING STATE CONVENTION*

**State Chair:** Timothy Maguire ([chair@lpin.org](mailto:chair@lpin.org))

**Vice Chair:** Rodney Benker ([vicechair@lpin.org](mailto:vicechair@lpin.org))

**Treasurer:** Michael Schultheiss ([treasurer@lpin.org](mailto:treasurer@lpin.org))

**Secretary:** Frank Rossa ([secretary@lpin.org](mailto:secretary@lpin.org))

**District 1 Rep:** Perry Sheetz

**District 2 Rep:** Nick Hamill

**District 3 Rep:** Kristi Avery

**District 4 Rep:** Dan Church

**District 5 Rep:** Greg Noland

**District 6 Rep:** Jeremiah Morrell

**District 7 Rep:** Chris Spangle

**District 8 Rep:** Lindsay Marie

**District 9 Rep:** Greg Hertzsch

### *APPOINTED POSITIONS*

**Technology Director:** Jesse Riddle

**Political Director:** Sam Goldstein

### Office Space

LPIN has office space in Indianapolis at 1111 E. 54<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 158, Indianapolis, IN 46220.

### Paid Staff/Contractors

The Libertarian Party of Indiana is an all volunteer organization at this time.

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## State Level Membership

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LPIN has 425 national and state members. Its state level membership is defined by those who contribute \$25 annually to the National LP.

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## Sub-Affiliates

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LPIN organizes its sub-affiliates by county. It currently has 16 active, affiliated county parties, and 18 inactive, affiliated county parties, and 58 unaffiliated counties.

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## Elections

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### Current Election Cycle (2016)

#### *2016 GENERAL ELECTION*

In total, 45 Libertarians appeared on the ballot in Indiana in partisan races. Hagerstown Judge Susan Bell won re-election to her fifth term. Currently, 8 Libertarians are elected to public office in Indiana.

On the Federal side, the 2016 ticket was led by Governor Gary Johnson and Governor Bill Weld for President and Vice President, respectively. Lucy Brenton represented the party in the race for United States Senate. Nine candidates represented the party for U.S. Congress in all Congressional Districts.

On the state level, the ticket was led by longtime LP activist and contractor Rex Bell for Governor and 2014 Secretary of State Candidate Karl Tatgenhorst served as his running mate for Lt. Governor. The LPIN was represented by 21 candidates for State Senate and House, per their candidate listing on LPIN.org.

You can view the complete list of candidates at <http://lpin.org/2016-candidates/>.

#### *2016 RAW ELECTION NUMBERS*

*(Numbers based on reporting the Secretary of State, updated December 2, 2016.)*

**US President:** The Johnson/Weld ticket garnered 133,993 votes. This is a 167% increase over Johnson/Gray in 2012 and 358% over Barr/Root in 2008 and a 642% increase over Badnarik/Campagna in 2004. Their percentage was at 4.9%, compared to 1.9% in 2012, Barr/Root at 1.1% in 2008, and Badnarik/Campagna at 0.7% in 2004.

**US Senate:** Lucy Brenton received 149,481 vote, just besting Andrew Horning by 2.9% who received 145,282 votes in 2012, Rebecca Sink-Burris by 58.5%.

**US House Races:** The LPIN's nine candidates combined for 165,160 votes Statewide, LP

candidates achieved 6.2% of the total US House vote.

**IN Governor:** Rex Bell, who suffered a stroke about a week before Election Day, earned 3.2% of the vote with 87,025 votes, falling short of Rupert Boneham's 101,868 in 2012. This still bests 2008's efforts by 52%.

Results over the last Decade for Libertarians:

**US Senate:**

Osborn 2006: 168,820; 12.6% (2-way)

Sink-Burris 2010: 94,562; 5.4%

Horning 2012: 144,806; 5.8%

Brenton 2016: 149,481; 5.5%

**Combined US House** (percentages include all 9 races in each year):

2006: 17,324; 1.0% (2 candidates)

2008: 47,306; 1.8% (5 candidates)

2010: 84,518; 4.8% (9 candidates)

2012: 59,088; 2.4% (5 candidates)

2014: 44,951, 3.4% (8 candidates)

2016: 165,610, 6.2% (9 candidates)

**Governor:**

Horning 2008: 57,376; 2.1%

Boneham 2012: 100,335; 4.0%

Bell 2016: 87,025, 3.2%

**President:**

Barr 2008: 29,257; 1.1%

Johnson 2012: 49,194; 1.9%

Johnson 2016: 133,993, 4.9%

**Auditor:**



Knipe 2010: 78,098; 4.6%

Schick 2014: 58,269; 4.4%

## **SOS:**

Kole 2006: 54,381; 3.3%

Wherry 2010: 100,847; 5.9%

Tatgenhorst 2014: 45,341; 3.4%

---

## **Ballot Access**

### **Recent Ballot Access Activity**

LPIN has automatic ballot access because they have surpassed 2% in the in the last Secretary of State (SOS) race. This was reaffirmed with the 2014 SOS race, run by Karl Tatgenhorst.

### **Upcoming Ballot Access Activity**

Ballot access is determined every 4 years by the SOS race results; as long as LPIN continues to reach or surpass the 2% mark it will retain ballot access for another 4 years. No problems are expected with maintaining ballot access in the near future, as LPIN hit 3.4% in the last SOS race.

---

## **Activities**

### **State Level Activities**

#### ***2017 STATE CONVENTION***

The 2017 Libertarian Party of Indiana Convention was held May 5-7, at the Tropicana Executive Conference Center in Evansville, IN.

Convention delegates elected Timothy Maguire as LPIN Chair. Many thanks were warmly imparted to Joe Hauptmann for having served his third separate stint as Chair. Delegates reelected Vice Chair Rodney Benker, Secretary Frank Rossa, and Treasurer Michael Schultheiss. And at Sunday's State Central Committee meeting, two Directors were appointed, namely Sam Goldstein as Political Director and Jesse Riddle as Technology Director.

From among the highly deserving nominees on our 2017 special recognition ballot, the delegates voted to honor the following five.

Dr. Barbara Bourland Light of Liberty Award winner Rex Bell was chosen as the person most responsible for notable growth of the LPIN and dedication to the Libertarian cause.

Susan Bell Officeholder of the Year Award winner Susan Bell was named as the current elected officeholder from the LPIN who best promoted Libertarian principles through public service.

Phil Miller Candidate of the Year winner Lucy Brenton was selected as the candidate showing significant ability to connect with voters and to further the goals of Libertarianism.

Joe Hauptmann Campaign Leadership Award winner Jeremiah Morrell was honored as the volunteer who worked in an extraordinary way to significantly advance a campaign.

Ken Bisson Outreach Award winner Rodney Benker was recognized as the member who worked exceptionally well bringing the Libertarian message to as many potential voters as possible.

Selected by outgoing Chair Joe Hauptmann as recipients of Campaign Leadership Awards for their outstanding work were Alyssa Salgado, Rodney Benker, and Rex Bell.

## **Local Level Activities**

For a non-election year, many of the local affiliates have been far more active than in previous years.

---

## **Finances & Fundraising**

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### **Current Initiatives**

#### ***TEXAS HOLD'EM TOURNAMENTS***

LPIN is able to hold Texas Hold'em tournaments through the state's charity gaming license program. It is very successful in raising money with these annual events.

#### ***1994 SOCIETY***

This is the monthly pledge program and it brings in the majority of the income for the party.

#### ***LICENSE THE STATEWIDE VOTER REGISTRATION***

LPIN licenses the Statewide Voter Registration to several data companies for a good profit.

## **Future Initiatives**

UNKNOWN

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## **Information Technology**

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LPIN's website is currently running on WordPress with a recently updated template thanks to the work of Andy Burns. There is a new Constituent Resource Management (CRM) system for data management, Wild Apricot.

---

## **Other**

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LPIN Vice Chair Rodney Benker notes, "Indiana is going to crush it in 2017 & 18."

# Libertarian Party of Kentucky

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## State Organization

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### Party Leadership Structure

State Executive Committee:

**Chair:** Harlan Compton

**Vice Chair:** Bryan Short

**Treasurer:** Ken Moellman

**Secretary:** Chris Wiest

**At-Large:** Mark Gailey

**At-Large:** Dan Hull

**District 1 Chair:** David Watson

**District 2 Chair:** Chris Dillingham

**District 3 Chair:** Chris Roberts

**District 4 Chair:** Kyle Sweeney

**District 6 Chair:** Austin Harney

### Office Space

LPKY had office space donated for 2 months in 2016, which was utilized to promote the Libertarian Party Presidential Ticket in a high-traffic area in Northern Kentucky. This was the second office space in LPKY history, the first being in Lexington, Kentucky in 2014. Campaign finance reform which took effect July 1st now allows office space to be donated by corporations, and will likely seek office space in the coming months under these new provisions.

Mail can be sent to LPKY at P.O. Box 432, Independence, KY 41051.

## **Paid Staff/Contractors**

None

---

## **State Level Membership**

---

Membership at the state level is represented by the number of people who reside in KY and pay the \$30 (or more) annual dues to the state, monthly donors who pay \$10/month to the state, 1798 Club members who pay \$17.98/month to the state. There are currently 115 dues paying members in KY. Membership requirements currently are signing Kentucky's version of the pledge, and \$30 annually. After December 31st, membership will also require registration to vote as a Libertarian, which had previously been removed at the 2014 convention and was returned as a requirement at the 2017 convention.

---

## **Sub-Affiliates**

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The State of Kentucky recognizes LPKY's affiliates that have filed with KREF. Kentucky utilizes a three-tier affiliation structure, with the State Party affiliating District Parties (Congressional Districts), and the District Parties affiliating County Parties in their jurisdiction. There are 6 congressional districts in Kentucky, 5 of which (1, 2, 3, 4, & 6) have LPKY District Parties. LPKY is organizing the one remaining District Party (5) in September. Three county organizations collapsed in January 2017, but 2 others started in mid-2017. At least three more county organizations are organizing between now and September 30th, and the party is working to organize even more counties before the end of the year.

---

## **Elections**

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### **Past Election Cycle (2016)**

#### ***PARTY STATUS CHANGES FROM "POLITICAL GROUP" TO "POLITICAL ORGANIZATION"***

The state of Kentucky defines a "political party" as a party whose candidate for president received 20% or more of the vote in KY, a "political organization" as receiving between 2% and 20%, and a "political group" as receiving less than 2%. Ballot access is granted for "political organizations" and "political parties." With the Johnson/Weld ticket earning 2.1% of the state's votes in 2016, LPKY is now recognized as a "political organization." This means that ballot access is secured through 2020's election, and future status will depend on the 2020 Presidential ticket's outcome.

#### ***ONE LIBERTARIAN ELECTED TO PARTISAN OFFICE***

Mitch Rushing – Jefferson County Commission

### **Past Election Cycle (2014)**

## **TWO LIBERTARIANS ELECTED TO PARTISAN OFFICE**

Shannon Denniston - Magistrate in Montgomery County

Tracy Roberts - Magistrate in Marshall County

## **TWO CANDIDATES BROKE 10% IN A THREE-WAY RACE**

Cristi Kendrick - Boone County Commissioner #2 earned 11.24%

Joseph Redmon - Hardin County Constable #5 earned 12.86%

## **DAVID PATTERSON - US SENATE**

David Patterson broke the record for the most votes received by a Libertarian in Kentucky. 44,231 voters chose David Patterson for US Senate.

## **Recent Ballot Access Activity**

The state of Kentucky defines a “political party” as getting 20% or more in KY the presidential race, a “political organization” as getting 2%-20%, and a “political group” as getting less than 2%.

Ballot access for the organization label is such that signature requirements have now dropped to the same levels as the R’s and D’s, reducing signature gathering time and costs, while most likely increasing the number of candidates who would be willing and able to run on the LP ticket in Kentucky. LPKY is no longer considered a “political group”, and LPKY candidates are no longer required to gather significantly more signatures to get on the ballot than their R & D counterparts. This is record breaking history for the LP in KY and is in large part due to the efforts of the KY campaign, managed by LPKY’s own Vice-Chair Bryan Short, regionally by LPKY Boone County’s own Cristi Kendrick and the outreach efforts of LPKY’s District affiliates.

---

## **Activities**

### **State Level Activities**

2017 State Convention took place in Ludlow, KY in June 2017

### **Local Level Activities**

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## **Finances & Fundraising**

### **Recent Initiatives**

## Current Initiatives

## Future Initiatives

The Fundraising Committee plans to work with the Membership Committee throughout 2017 to more than double the roster of dues paying members by January 1, 2018.

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## Media Coverage

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Nothing recent

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## Information Technology

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LPKY recently launched a fully overhauled website and moved their email to LP National's shared services. LPKY also re-launched their wiki on LP National shared services. LPKY is developing an online voting system to run their primary for the 2018 election cycle.

---

## Other

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Since the state convention, LPKY has engaged in several key initiatives. The first was increasing transparency and the return of monthly newsletters. The second was a major IT overhaul. The third was the appointment of key committees to accomplish elections. The fourth is in progress, which is the push to affiliate more county parties, and boost membership. The fifth is to prepare for and operate large-scale primary elections in 2018.

Libertarian voter registration reached over 8,000 in July 2017. Reports on registration numbers are released monthly.

## Party Leadership Structure

### *ELECTED POSITIONS*

- **Chair** – Bill Hall, [chair@michiganlp.org](mailto:chair@michiganlp.org)
- **1st Vice Chair (Affiliates)** – Tim Yow, [vcaffiliates@michiganlp.org](mailto:vcaffiliates@michiganlp.org)
- **2nd Vice Chair (Political)** - Gregory Stempfle, [vcpoliticaldirector@michiganlp.org](mailto:vcpoliticaldirector@michiganlp.org)
- **Secretary** – Emily Salvette, [secretary@michiganlp.org](mailto:secretary@michiganlp.org)
- **Treasurer** – Jason Brandenburg, [treasurer@michiganlp.org](mailto:treasurer@michiganlp.org)

### **Executive Committee Representatives (by Congressional District):**

- **District 1** - Donna Gundle-Kreig
- **District 2** - Mary Buzuma
- **District 3** - Jamie Lewis
- **District 4** - Tim Coon
- **District 5** - Mark Sanborn
- **District 6** - Wendi Parker
- **District 7** - Norman Peterson
- **District 8** - Jeff Wood
- **District 9** - Mike Saliba
- **District 10** - John Kanan
- **District 11** - Paul Connolly

- **District 12** - Lawrence W. Johnson
- **District 13** - Tiffany Hayden



- **District 14** - Ben Carr

### **Judicial Committee:**

- James Hudler, Kerry Morgan, Ken Proctor

### *APPOINTED POSITIONS*

- Webmaster – Ryan Patrosso
- Membership Coordinator – JJ McCurry
- Media Director – Bradley Hunt

### **Office Space**

LPM does not currently have any office space or plans to acquire any. Mail can be sent to LPM at P.O. Box 27065, Lansing, MI 48909

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### **State Level Membership**

---

Working on updating this information

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### **Sub-Affiliates**

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Affiliates are currently being formed by groups of neighboring counties. There are currently a total of 13 sub-affiliates:

- 4 very active
- 4 active
- 4 forming (2 of which are due to new volunteers who have offered to start a local group since the last report)
- 3 inactive

---

### **Elections**

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### **Past Election Cycle (2016)**

The Johnson/Weld ticket garnered 172,136 votes for 3.59% of the ballot. Johnson/Gray did not appear on the ballot in 2012, yet received 7,774 write-in votes for .16%. 2008's Barr/Root ticket earned 23,716 votes and .47%

votes and .47%.

LPMI ran 69 candidates from President to Township Trustee.

## ***SPECIAL ELECTION RESULTS***

LP Michigan ran 2 candidates in the 2016 special election for House District 80 and House District 82.

Arnie Davidson received 6.13% of the vote in House District 80.

Tracy Spilker received 4.86% of the vote in House District 82.

The most notable result is State Rep candidate Michael J. Perry who received 13% of the vote in a 3-way race, achieving 4,843 votes.

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## **Ballot Access**

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### **Recent Ballot Access Activity**

Major party status achieved by virtue of the 2016 Presidential ticket success.

### **Upcoming Ballot Access Activity**

See special convention below about changes to bylaws now that major party status has been attained.

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## **Activities**

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### **State Level Activities**

#### ***2017 SPECIAL CONVENTION***

The 2017 Libertarian Party of Michigan special convention took place February 4<sup>th</sup>, where bylaws were reformed. Firstly, to conform with the scheduling requirements of the State Election Law. Secondly, to enact some reforms which LPM thinks will help them be more successful going forward. Some highlights:

- The 2018 Convention will now take place in August / September as mandated by the State. Most of the candidates will be nominated by primary. Some will be done at this later Convention.

- The State LEC under the new bylaws due to party status change were elected for a 2 year term to coincide with the election cycle on July 29 in Lansing.
- The LEC is now differently constructed. 5 officers.... Chair, 2 Vice-Chairs, Treasurer, and Secretary will be elected At-Large. Each of our 14 Congressional Districts choose one representative to the Exec Committee.

- LPM will be utilizing a delegate process for choosing the voting members at the Convention. Emily Salvette has taken on the challenge of doing our first one.

### *UNAFFILIATED COUNTIES*

Unaffiliated counties were distributed into 7 regions, organizing them to help select delegates, LPM expects at least 4 of these to develop into affiliates. In the mean time, they're making a lot of ongoing contacts and building up areas long ignored, as new members continue to flow in.

## **Local Level Activities**

### *LIBERTY FEST*

Liberty Fest is an annual event in LP Michigan which is held by a different local affiliate each year. The purpose is to recognize dedicated members of LP Michigan. The event includes an award presentation for a Promoter of Liberty, a Defender of Liberty, and a Behind the Scenes Liberty Activist. This is a chance for LP Michigan leaders to congratulate and express their gratitude for the hardest working and most successful members and celebrate recent LP Michigan successes.

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## **Finances & Fundraising**

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### **Past Initiatives**

None active

### **Current Initiatives**

None active

### **Future Initiatives**

None planned currently

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## **Media Coverage**

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None listed on the website at this time

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## **Information Technology**

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LPM currently uses Wordpress as the back-end for its website.

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# Libertarian Party of Ohio

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## State Organization

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### Party Leadership Structure

#### *ELECTED POSITIONS*

Like the Republican and Democrat counterparts in Ohio, the Libertarian Party of Ohio (LPO) is managed by a state Central Committee (CentCom) which is a body of members elected through the formal election primary process.

The CentCom operates like a board of directors which elects the state Executive Committee (ExCom) which runs the day to day operations of the LPO.

- Chair: [Scott Pettigrew – scott.pettigrew@lpo.org](mailto:scott.pettigrew@lpo.org)
- Vice Chair: Dustin Nanna – [dustin.nanna@lpo.org](mailto:dustin.nanna@lpo.org)
- Secretary: Robert Coogan – [robert.coogan@lpo.org](mailto:robert.coogan@lpo.org)
- Deputy Secretary (non-voting): Kevin Knedler – [kevin.knedler@lpo.org](mailto:kevin.knedler@lpo.org)
- Treasurer: Linda Comstock – [linda.comstock@lpo.org](mailto:linda.comstock@lpo.org)
- At-Large: Ann Leech – [ann.leech@lpo.org](mailto:ann.leech@lpo.org)
- At-Large: Aarica Burwell - [aarica.burwell@lpo.org](mailto:aarica.burwell@lpo.org)
- At-Large: Tim Smyth – [tim.smyth@lpo.org](mailto:tim.smyth@lpo.org)

#### *APPOINTED POSITIONS*

The LPO bylaws specify a divisional structure for the LPO and allow for the ExCom chair to appoint division directors to lead each division. The LPO believes the divisional structure provides a strong set of leaders, each of whom is focused on an area of expertise and responsibility. With this approach, no one person needs to know or be responsible for too many different activities.

The divisions and appointed leaders are as follows:

| 21

- Communication Division – Director - Dustin Nanna, Deputy Director - John Fockler, Media Contact - Aaron Harris
- Field Development Division – Director: Tim Smyth, Deputy Director - Open, Membership Coordinator - Michelle MacCutcheon

- Finance Division – Director: Vacant
- IT Division – Director: Alon Ganon
- Political Division – Director: Tricia Sprankle, Deputy Director: Harold Thomas, Deputy Director (Legislative) - Nicholas Rodriguez

## Office Space

The LPO maintains its two-room, fully-functional office of approximately 240 sq. ft. at 2586 Tiller Lane, Suite 2K, Columbus, OH 43231-2265.

## Paid Staff/Contractors

The LPO currently has one paid contractor who is paid on a commission basis as Finance Director. The Finance Director is responsible for tracking and soliciting contributions, managing the benefits to the contributors, keeping personal contact with higher level donors, sending thank you cards, planning income-generating events and activities, etc.

---

## State Level Membership

Nothing submitted

---

## Sub-Affiliates

Nothing submitted

---

## Elections

### Past Election Cycle (2016)

Due to the ballot access issues in place in Ohio, Gary Johnson was listed as an Independent candidate for President, rather than having the Libertarian Party label. He earned 174,498 votes or 3.17% of the 5,607,641 votes cast. No other LPO candidates appeared on the ballot.

### Past Election Cycle (2014)

**Auditor of State:** Bob Bridges – 4.77%, 143363 votes

**Secretary of State:** Kevin Knedler – 4.67%, 141292 votes

**US House District 5:** Eric Eberly – 4.62%, 9344 votes

**US House District 10:** David Harlow – 3.29%, 6605 votes

**US House District 14:** David Macko – 3.72%, 7988 votes

**State House District 19:** Chad Monnin – 8.31%, 3253 votes

**State House District 24:** Mark Noble – 5.08%, 2032 votes

**State House District 31:** Queen Noble – 3.27%, 887 votes

**State House District 57:** Robert Sherwin – 5.31%, 1701 votes

**State House District 62:** Scott Pettigrew – 5.96%, 1918 votes

**State House District 97:** Nelson Roe – 25.28%, 7018 votes

---

## Ballot Access

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### Recent Ballot Access Activity

In 2014, Governor candidate Charlie Earl and Attorney General candidate Stephen Linnabary were removed from the ballot by the Secretary of State after petitioning to appear on the November general election ballot. As a result of SB 193 in Ohio, the Governor's race is the ballot test race for maintaining ballot access. Without a candidate, ballot access was not retained. SB 193 set high barriers for alternative parties to get their candidates on the ballot and to retain access once they obtain it. It also bars parties new to the ballot from holding primaries, which under Ohio law is the only way a voter may become recognized as a member of any political party. SB 193 set a threshold of 2% of the vote for governor in the 2014 election for an alternative party to retain access. In future years, that figure would rise to 3% of the vote for president in presidential years or for governor in the years in which that office is elected.

### Upcoming Ballot Access Activity

The LPO is currently petitioning for 2018 party status on the ballot. See ballot access report for greater detail on these activities.

Members of the committee that petitioned to place the Johnson/Weld ticket on the ballot filed paperwork with the office of Secretary of State Jon Husted claiming party status and ballot access for the next four years. If successful, this effort will place LPO candidates in 2017 on primary ballots for consideration by the public.

primary ballots for consideration by the public.

---

## Activities

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### State Level Activities

#### *2017 CONFERENCE SCHEDULED*

The LPO has scheduled a conference for May4-5, 2017

#### *ANNUAL LPO CONVENTION (2016)*

In August, the LPO held their 2016 convention.

#### *ANNUAL LPO PICNIC*

The LPO held its annual picnic on September 17<sup>th</sup> at the Tiller Lane complex (where its offices are located). The picnic is a family friendly event with plenty of food and drink, and typically features the always popular fundraiser, “pie in the face of your favorite LPO leader.” The LPO has also used a “dunk tank for your LPO leaders” as a new fundraiser which also proved financially successful.

### Local Level Activities

#### *COUNTY FAIRS*

The local affiliates had a presence at 5 county fairs (at least), all with very good attendance and successful outreach for new volunteers.

#### *UPCOMING TRAINING AND TEAM BUILDING*

The LPO plans to ramp up its local and regional team meetings with training and team building to continue the upward trend in county affiliate formation and local activism.

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## Finances & Fundraising

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Nothing to note

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## Media Coverage

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Nothing to note

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## Information Technology

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The LPO upgraded their website and database to the Libertas platform in 2013.

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## Other

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Nothing to note



Nothing to note

## REGION 5 REPORT

Submitted to: Libertarian National Committee, Aug. 14, 2017

Submitted by: James W. Lark, III  
Region 5 Representative, Libertarian National Committee

This report will provide information concerning activities of the Libertarian Party state affiliates in Region 5 that have occurred since the Alexandria meeting. I shall provide an updated report at the meeting in Kansas City should additional information become available.

I had the pleasure of participating in the state conventions of the Maryland Libertarian Party on Apr. 29, the Libertarian Party of North Carolina on Aug. 13, and the Libertarian Party of West Virginia on June 24. Allow me to offer my thanks to these parties and their members for the tremendous hospitality I received during my participation.

I am pleased to report that I have been able to represent the LP in various ways since the previous LNC meeting. For example, I continue to serve at least once a month as a guest on a two-hour political talk show that airs on weekdays on WINA radio (1070 AM/98.9 FM in Charlottesville, Virginia). In addition, I am pleased to report that on June 17, I received the Leonard E. Read Distinguished Alumni Award for Leadership from the Foundation for Economic Education. (The award was presented during a ceremony at the 2017 Foundation for Economic Education Conference (“FEEcon 2017”) in Atlanta, Georgia.)

### Delaware

Sean Goward ([sean.goward@yahoo.com](mailto:sean.goward@yahoo.com)) is the chair of the Libertarian Party of Delaware during the LPD convention in Dover on Mar. 25. I did not receive a report from him.

### District of Columbia

John LaBeaume ([jvlab@electiondissection.com](mailto:jvlab@electiondissection.com)) is the chair of the Libertarian Party of the District of Columbia. He indicated that he is working as campaign manager for the Cliff Hyra for Governor campaign in Virginia. He said that the LPDC is researching recruitable candidates to maintain ballot status.

### Maryland

Bob Johnston ([bob.johnston@live.com](mailto:bob.johnston@live.com)), chair of the Libertarian Party of Maryland, provided the following report:

The Maryland Libertarian Party has 20,446 registered voters as of July, 2017. This constitutes over 0.5% of the total amount of registered voters in the state.

The Maryland LP has 120 members as of the end of July, 2017.

The annual picnic, which had been scheduled for July 29, had to be rescheduled for August 26, due to poor weather.

The state party convention took place on April 29 at the restaurant Red, Hot, and Blue in Laurel, MD. Neil Franklin of LEAP (Law Enforcement Against Prohibition) was the banquet speaker.

The MDLP nominated five candidates for the 2018 elections at the state convention:

Governor:	Shawn Quinn
Lt. Governor:	Christine Smith
State Senate 30:	Christopher Wallace
State Delegate 35-B:	Thomas Parks
State Delegate 42-B:	J. D. Sandy

I expect more candidates to be nominated at the picnic on August 26.

## North Carolina

Brian Irving ([brian@libertypoint.org](mailto:brian@libertypoint.org)), chair of the Libertarian Party of North Carolina, provided the following report:

I was hoping to tell you that the NC General Assembly passed a significant ballot access reform bill. But it appears that the bill, which would lower the barrier for a "new" party to get on the ballot to about 12,000 signatures, won't be considered anytime soon. The legislature is going to be tied up with the gerrymandering.... err .... redistricting process.

The only news to report is that our State Convention is Aug. 11-13 in Lake Lure, NC. Our focus will be on preparing for the 2018 election, which will be a once-in-a-blue-moon election in NC (no top ticket races, i.e. governor, US Senate). We will also elect new officers and an executive committee.

## Pennsylvania

Drew Bingaman ([chair@susquehannavalleylp.org](mailto:chair@susquehannavalleylp.org)), chair of the Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania, provided the following report:

Beginning with my election as Chair, I strove to create an atmosphere of shared goals, especially among the rest of the Executive Committee. With changes to our Constitution/Bylaws at this year's convention we have broken the Commonwealth into three zones, each headed by a Vice Chair. So far the goal of lessening the burden on each of the Vice Chairs giving each less territory to cover seems to have paid dividends.

Our western PA contingent which in the past few years of my involvement has seen less and less representation and less and less activity, is now very much resurgent and we have reconnected with or reconstituted several county parties, with several more to come very soon. I must hand most of the success of this initiative to our new Western Vice Chair Jessica Santiago.

Jessica has been wonderful in helping the west to reorganize and reconnect to the state party. Our Central Vice Chair, Bill Sloane suffered from some fairly severe medical issues shortly after getting started, thankfully through sound communication, The Secretary, Steven Brenize and myself were able to fill in for Bill while he recovered. We are all glad Bill has now recovered and is back with the LPPA and willing to continue the fight for liberty in the Commonwealth.

The Eastern contingent has been relatively quiet on the VC front, however since the primary goal of the VC's is to foster and to help build new county affiliate parties, this is of little surprise. The eastern section of PA is the most populated with affiliate parties out of all three zones.

2017 is mostly a municipal election year for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, however there are several statewide judicial positions up for grabs this year. Unfortunately despite our best recruiting efforts, we were only successful in finding one candidate to run for any of these positions: Drew Gray Miller for Judge of Commonwealth Court.

Because this year is a municipal election year, local candidates must turn paperwork in to their local board of elections, and the statewide candidates will file with the DoS in Harrisburg. This creates the problem on not being able to stack signatures on one petition. Necessitating having 2 separate petitions (one state, and one local) for those gathering signatures.

Ultimately we were unsuccessful in the statewide drive. However we have several opportunities in major local elections (Scranton Mayoral race) and several "special" elections which will be held concurrent with the general election where we only need nominate candidates, no signature drive is necessary.

I got word that Gary St Fleur the LPPA candidate for Mayor of Scranton is having his ballot status challenged. The challengers are claiming 78 out of his 214 signatures are either invalid or illegible. As this news just came in, we are preparing a response and building a team to help Gary out. His hearing will take place Tuesday August 15 at 9:00am EST at the Lackawanna County Courthouse.

With the end of challenge period now upon us we will be gathering a comprehensive list of candidates who are on the ballot and will be sending that to national. We do have many races that are exciting. Delaware county has done an impressive job this year with their own county wide candidates and we are very excited to see them do well in November.

Drew Bingaman  
Chair, Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania

## Virginia

Bo Brown ([boebrown@yahoo.com](mailto:boebrown@yahoo.com)) is the chair of the Libertarian Party of Virginia. I have not received a report from Mr. Brown.

## West Virginia

Luke Brumfield (luke.brumfield@lpwv.org), the chair of the Libertarian Party of West Virginia, provided the following report:

The LPWV registration almost doubled since the beginning of the last election season, and we are still getting registrants every month. We are currently at 5,238 and the legacy parties have been either losing or maintaining with independents growing as well. We are well on our way to having a large slate of candidates for the house of delegates. The way people have been popping up, not just to get in touch but with interest to run, has been very encouraging.

Our governor, Jim Justice switched from being a Democrat to a Republican, but he was always a "Red" in my opinion. One US Senator and only one State level executive are D's. Since the Dems have controlled the state for generations and top level ones are switching parties, I see any semblance of principle (not even to mention the sort of "conservative" ideas we can appreciate) going out the window. The next few months and next election will be tumultuous to say the least. Every time someone says "I'm done with X party!" our checkbox is right there on the registration form.

WV likes Trump and I understand why after thinking about his visit and speech. Obama talked about people clinging to guns and religion in a disparaging fashion, and coal took a big hit under him (regardless of it was his fault directly). WV has had the 2nd highest percentage of growth in the country, and coal exports are up. I guess what I am getting at is I need to figure out how I am going to work with the reality that Trump is popular in West Virginia. I say we should be ready with "See, I told you so!" when things get better after a round of deregulation and some tax cuts, much like when cannabis started becoming legalized.

## CAMPUS ORGANIZING REPORT

Submitted to: Libertarian National Committee, Aug. 14, 2017

Submitted by: James W. Lark, III  
Region 5 Representative, Libertarian National Committee

This report will provide information concerning efforts to build and support Libertarian campus organizations. I shall provide an updated report at the LNC meeting in Kansas City should additional information become available.

- 1) I continue to respond to inquiries from people who want information about the LP campus outreach effort. My average response time has decreased during the past few months; I am usually able to respond within 24 hours. However, there is due in some measure to a reduction in the number of inquiries received (presumably due to the summer break).
  - 2) I continue to work with the Advocates for Self-Government to provide material (e.g., “Operation Politically Homeless” kits) to campus organizations.
  - 3) I continue to work with various state and local LP organizations to assist their campus outreach efforts. In particular, I work with state campus outreach coordinators to assist their programs to build campus organizations and assist campus activists.
  - 4) I continue to work closely with Students For Liberty to build libertarian groups at high schools and colleges. (I am a member of the Board of Advisors of SFL.) As part of this effort, SFL board members and I have found ways for the LP to use the services available from SFL. We must take care in the ways we work together to avoid jeopardizing SFL’s 501c(3) status.
- I am pleased to report that once again I had the honor of delivering the keynote address at the annual SFL campus coordinators retreat, which took place on June 24 at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. I anticipate addressing at least two Students For Liberty regional conferences during the fall. I am working with Wes Benedict to organize an outreach effort at LibertyCon 2018 (the 2018 SFL international conference) in Washington, D.C. next March.
- I delivered the keynote address at the first annual Hayek Sessions Lecture at the Institute for Political Studies at the Catholic University of Portugal in Lisbon on June 6. The event was sponsored by Students For Liberty Portugal. I am pleased to report that I shall address the European Students For Liberty regional conferences in Podgorica, Montenegro on Sept. 23 and London, England on Nov. 11.
- 5) I regret to report that I have not received the information I requested from the 2016 Johnson campaign concerning campus organizations and volunteers. I am continuing to make inquiries in the effort to obtain this information.
  - 6) LPHQ continues to receive inquiries by e-mail concerning internship opportunities at LP and state parties. Robert Kraus continues to respond rapidly and professionally to these inquiries. I greatly appreciate Mr. Kraus’ fine work in this matter.

7) I continue to work with Young Americans for Liberty on various projects. In particular, I delivered an address titled “Looking Back, Looking Forward: The Libertarian Movement on Campus” on July 28 at the YAL national convention in Reston, Virginia.

8) I serve as a member of the Foundation for Economic Education Faculty Network. I am interested in working with FEE to develop a couple of workshops on understanding public policy data and risk analysis.

As an aside, I am pleased to report that I received the 2017 Leonard E. Read Distinguished Alumni Award for Leadership from the Foundation. (The award, named after the founder of FEE, was presented on June 17 during the 2017 Foundation for Economic Education conference (“FEEcon 2017”) in Atlanta, Georgia.)

9) On June 19, I delivered an address to roughly 100 high school students at the American University in Washington, DC. The students were participants in the Congressional Seminar, sponsored by the Washington Workshops Foundation.

The topic of the address involved the problems faced by “third party” and independent candidates. During the address and subsequent question period, I was able to discuss the Libertarian Party and libertarian philosophy at some length. From the feedback I received, the students and Seminar staff found my address worthy of their attention.

## INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Submitted to: Libertarian National Committee, Aug. 14, 2017

Submitted by: James W. Lark, III  
Region 5 Representative, Libertarian National Committee  
International Representative, Libertarian National Committee

This report will provide information concerning my efforts as International Representative to assist the work of libertarian political parties and activists throughout the world.

1) I have not received a report recently from Geoff Neale, chair of the International Alliance of Libertarian Parties (IALP) (and former LNC chair). As far as I am aware, the organization continues to have difficulty with obtaining banking services.

I am uncertain to what extent the IALP and the LP can assist the Partido Libertario Cubano – Jose Marti (the Cuban Libertarian Party) in addition to publicizing the organization's plight. The organization was evidently founded on May 7 in Havana. Media reports, along with posts to the organization's Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/PartidoLibertarioCubano/](http://www.facebook.com/PartidoLibertarioCubano/)), indicate that the Cuban government has harassed several members of the party.

2) I delivered the keynote address at the first annual Hayek Sessions Lecture at the Institute for Political Studies at the Catholic University of Portugal in Lisbon on June 6. The event was sponsored by Students For Liberty Portugal.

3) I am pleased to report that I shall address the European Students For Liberty regional conferences in Podgorica, Montenegro on Sept. 23 and London, England on Nov. 11. I hope to meet with representatives of Libertarian and liberty-oriented parties during my visits to Europe. I may make two or three additional trips to Europe this fall if I can arrange the time to do so.

4) In the recent past I have been invited to give lectures in Australia, Brazil, and India, but was unable to accept the invitations due to schedule conflicts. I am trying to arrange my spring/summer schedules so that I can travel to at least one of the countries next year.



Please see the following 10 pages for the Region 6 Report

# Region 6 Report – August 19-20, 2017

## Kansas City LNC Meeting

Submitted August 16, 2016 by David Pratt Demarest, LNC Region 6 Representative with contributions by Sean O'Toole, LNC Region 6 Alternate

***FREEDOM, Nothing More, Nothing Less***

### 1 SUMMARY

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The big news in Region 6 is the continued rapid growth on all fronts and the changing of the guard with new leadership in Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin. We welcome the new leadership and have great expectations for their contributions as they pursue ambitious candidate slates.

Nebraskan Libertarians are celebrating State Senator Laura Ebke's success on her priority bill to add a 10,000-registered-voter threshold as an additional means of maintaining major party status. This will allow Nebraskans to focus on Laura's critical reelection bid that is of interest to all Libertarians, and other Nebraska LP priorities that include an aggressive voter registration campaign, an ambitious fund-raising program and an expanded slate of grassroots candidates in 2018.

Illinois is focused on their ballot access campaign that requires 25,000 signatures and is hoping for LNC financial support for their arduous and heroic ballot access efforts.

South Dakota held a successful state convention in July and will be working with LP officials to accomplish their goal of joining Region 6 in time for the 2018 New Orleans national LP convention in New Orleans.

North Dakota is cleaning up their bylaws and launching a new initiative to legalize recreational marijuana.

Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri and Wisconsin are going all out with their candidate recruiting, training and support programs.

## 2 ILLINOIS

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Lex Green  
Chair LPILLINOIS  
lexgreen@lpillinois.org  
309-530-7114

Because we are in-between elections in Illinois, the activity is all happening behind the scenes. The ranks of our Precinct Committeemen is growing weekly and new chapters are being added monthly. Chapters around the state are preparing for special elections so we can elect regional representatives to our new State Central Committee. The State Organizing Committee and its Board of Directors are all working together on our diverse missions and we are moving the state party into levels of effectiveness that we not seen in decades.

But there are some less than stellar things happening as well. For every new chapter, we are finding another dwindling or closing due to a lack of local leadership. We have gained and lost Chapter Development Directors several times and that puts our chapter support on hold during each transition. Plus we are losing our Legislative Director, Ron Shultis, to a Free Market think tank in another state.

We are making great progress on planning for our 2018 convention, which will feature nominations for our statewide offices. We are hoping LNC Chair Nick Sarwark will be our keynote speaker. We already have three candidates for Governor and they are actively campaigning around the state. We also have candidates for Secretary of State and Comptroller, with a lot of interest in the Treasurer and Attorney General spots.

We have a Ballot Access Shootout fundraiser planned at a Bloomington, IL shooting range and a gun has been donated for a raffle. The helps us lay the groundwork for our 2018 ballot access drive which will occur next March 27 through June 25. We must have 25,000 valid signatures to be on the ballot. We are hoping the LNC will help us financially with that effort. Recruiting for other candidates show promise until they find out how many signatures they need, and very few continue after that.

### 3 IOWA

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James Schneider  
LPIA Chair  
319-505-5550

- Over the last quarter we have fielded two candidates in special elections for the state legislature. Both seats were in very rural areas where registered Libertarians were less than 1% of registered voters. Election results were less than desirable with neither candidate getting above 5% in 4-way races.
- In both races, we nominated candidates via special nominating conventions which is now permissible with our status as a Major party. In the second race, held on August 8th, the GOP attempted to block our candidate from appearing on the ballot. They sent people to our nominating convention with hidden cameras, and filed an objection with the Secretary of State's office, stating we did not follow procedures. A hearing was held in front of a panel of the Secretary of State, Attorney General, and State Auditor. We were privileged to have our lawyer in attendance and our candidate remained on the ballot with a unanimous vote by the panel.
- With our major party status, we will now be involved in the June 2018 primary election. We currently have 14 announced candidates that will be participating in the primary with over 50 that have given verbal commitments to run. Most notably is two candidates running for Governor, which we will need 2% in the general election to maintain party status.
- The state fair has a straw poll every year. The Secretary of State's offices has included our Gubernatorial candidates in the poll. In a field of 12 candidates across all parties and including independents, Jake porter is polling at 4%.
- Lastly, we are having outreach events every weekend across the state that have been very well received. We had a Pride Fest booth in one of the larger cities that had well over 1,000 people stop to visit with us in one day. We had 8 volunteers working the booth, and had people in line to talk with us.

## 4 MINNESOTA

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Chris Holbrook  
Chair LPMN

I was elected to Chair the Libertarian Party of Minnesota on April 29 and have just passed the 100-day mark. The work load for me and new Executive Director Matt Kowalski has been overwhelming. Here is a recap of what we and your LPMN party have been doing so far:

- Moved to a new physical office location (bigger space, less cost)
- Lost our IT department and services, to which we are finally almost done repairing and upgrading regarding our database, emails, website, and media
- Held 15 LPMN, affiliate, and candidate recruitment meetings, roughly half have had double digit participation levels (I have attended 12 of them)
- Manned LPMN information and recruitment booths at 4 major festivals (I participated in 2 of them) generating approximately 100 new contacts
- We have increased our marketing and messaging presence, with Facebook and Twitter 'chiefs', letters from the Chair, press release statements, this newsletter, and new prominently branded booth displays
- We have raised over \$10,000 in contributions to the LPMN

This is what is on our radar going forward into the next 100 days:

- State Fair marathon
- Finish IT upgrades and remediate website woes
- Rebuild inactive CD affiliates
- Begin serious 2018 candidate discussions and recruitment efforts
- Raise over \$10,000.

Please help us help you. This is your party. As a volunteer, I am working 20-30 hours a week and need help. I need help in our Political Department with candidate discussions and vetting. We need help in our IT Department. We need help in our Communications Department. We need folks to build affiliates and run for office. And we need more donations to fund the tools to do these things. Please get more involved. Contact any of us in the EC anytime to find out what needs to be done. Then pick something and do it. Please and thank you and live free.

## **5 MISSOURI**

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Bill Slantz  
Chair LPMO

LPMO report provided courtesy of Sean O'Toole, LNC Region 6 Alternate:

The Missouri LP held its annual convention on July 22nd in Jefferson City, MO. Approximately 50 attendees enjoyed presentations by Bill Redpath, Will Coley, and libertarian author Aya Katz. Several new members of the party were in attendance and many have volunteered to serve on the state committee.

Plans are to hold our 2018 convention at the same venue on February 24, 2018 as a nominating convention for statewide races on the 2018 schedule.

The Missouri State Fair is underway (August 10 - 20). The State Fair is traditionally one of our largest outreach events in Missouri. Early reports indicate great interest in the party from fair-goers.

## 6 NEBRASKA

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Scott Zimmerman  
Chair LPNE

State Senator Laura Ebke, the highest ranking Libertarian public official in the nation, introduced LB34 as her priority bill to add a 10,000-registered-voter threshold as an additional means of maintaining major party status. LB34 was approved unanimously on final reading and passed into law without the Governor's signature.

With the passing of LB34, the LPNE has been able to focus 100% of our efforts in supporting Libertarian candidates. The top priority is getting Laura Ebke Re-elected in 2018. Our second priority is to aggressively grow our registered voter count of 12,000 that (just passed 1% of total registered voters). Our third and fourth priorities are to establish a robust fund-raising program and build a challenging slate of grassroots Libertarian candidates in 2018.

The number of LPNE county affiliates has increased from just one in April of last year to 11 today, an inspiring 11-fold increase. The county parties have held several successful events, including a tremendous rally at the state capitol in Lincoln featuring Mike Knebel and Laura Ebke among other top-notch speakers. Libertarian voter registration numbers continue to soar.

The LPNE will maintain its focus on the "re-register" campaign and has adopted "Give Your Independence a Name" motto for this project that has been well received. We continue to add support at each event by leveraging technology that allows individuals to re-register on site and to make donations electronically.

District 1, centered on Lincoln in Lancaster County, is led by Michael Knebel, District Coordinator. The Lancaster County LP will man the Big Red Welcome booth at the University of Nebraska Lincoln. The event is held the last week in August with a focus on welcoming new students but is open to all students. Nearly 100 advocacy groups and vendors have booths at the event that typically draws 10,000 students. Experience has shown that the World's Smallest Political Quiz works wonders to attract potential Libertarians to our booth. This year's LPNE booth will feature a #ReRegister banner and handout materials package provided courtesy of the LNC Affiliate Support Committee chaired by Daniel Hayes, LNC At Large Representative.

District 2 is centered on Omaha and led by Joe Hedlund, District Coordinator. The Douglas County LP led by Chair Joe Hawk and Sarpy County LP led by Nathan Porata, continue to aggressively grow their programs.

District 3 Coordinator Ben Backus, Gering City Council member elected as a Libertarian, continues his astute management of Nebraska's third district that encompasses 76 of Nebraska 93 counties.



## 7 NORTH DAKOTA

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Marty Riske  
Chair LPNORTHDAKOTA  
701-371-8347

North Dakota information was provided by Roland Riemers, Immediate Past Region 6 Representative:

I continue to work on updating our bylaws. I feel bylaws are like our American Constitution. Without clear and usable bylaws, we do not have an effective organization. We Libertarians like to promote our government following the Constitution, but we run our party usually completely ignorant of our own rules. As a former state chairman, I will admit that I was just as guilty.

On the political side, there is a movement to put together a new initiative measure to legalize recreational marijuana, which many of the Libertarians in ND support, including myself. Last year we helped pass a measure to legalize medical Marijuana, but the state is still going through the learning curve to put this measure in force. Biggest problem we have is the state keeps on wanting to regulate it to where it is meaningless, such as requiring payment of a \$5,000 fee just to show you are interested in being a provider.

On April 8th, North Dakota held a statewide meeting in Bismarck to elect new officers. Eric Olsen temporarily filled the gap after Tony Mangnall retired as chair. Marty Risky, a former chair, was elected as our new state chair. A full set of state officers was elected and immediately discussed plans for the 2018 election as well as updates to our state bylaws. The new leadership is highly computer-literate.

North Dakota is pushing national membership, and contributing another \$10 for state membership. Confederation did not work to well for our founders, as independent states running amok does not a country make.

Roland Riemers was appointed by Marty as the state representative to the LNC and was also appointed as a non-voting member of the LPND executive committee to facilitate information flow between state and national. To the best of Roland's knowledge, this is the first time a state party has delegated that responsibility to ensure state and national communication.

North Dakota is continuing a search for statewide candidates for 2018, as well focusing on legislative districts with high Libertarian vote tallies. Districts are going to beat the bushes for strong Libertarian legislative candidates. An offer was made to help finance the cost of one of our young members to attend the next national convention so that ND can encourage young people to get involved in the state Libertarian Party.

## **8 SOUTH DAKOTA**

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Aaron Alyward  
LPSD Chair

Information provided by Sean Metz, LPSD West River At Large, and James Schneider, LPIA Chair.

LPSD held a successful state convention Saturday, July 22 at Monk's House of Ale Repute in Sioux Falls, SD:

- Laura Ebke was the featured speaker. Senator Ebke represents the 32nd District of Nebraska as a registered Libertarian. Other distinguished speakers included James Schneider, LPIA Chair, and Elizabeth Dahl, Crystal Minnesota City Council member.
- The convention was live-streamed for those who were unable to attend and questions were answered via social media.

Minnehaha County LP participated in the 2017 Big Sioux River Greenway Cleanup event on Saturday, April 22 to spruce up the community park.

South Dakota is continuing their rebuilding effort and statewide county affiliate creation campaign. LPSD is targeting joining Region 6 in time for the 2018 New Orleans national LP convention in New Orleans over July 4<sup>th</sup> week and is working with LP officials to make that happen.

## **9 WISCONSIN**

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Phillip Anderson  
Acting Chair LPWI  
608 361-8608

The Libertarian Party of Wisconsin has increased in membership by approximately 20% in the last 4 months, as well as added 3 new county affiliates. LPWI has adopted NationBuilder as its web and IT platform, and has embarked on an ambitious fundraising program.

LPWI's goal is to have at least 30 candidates on the ballot for state and local elections in 2018. So far, we have 3 officially declared State Assembly candidates, 2 city council candidates, 2 county board candidates, with many others still arrange their personal and professional affairs before jumping into campaigns. As State Chair, I am running our Candidates and Campaigns Committee, and while this is not yet official, I will be running for Governor, with our current treasurer and former Johnson/Weld campaign coordinator Patrick Baird running for Lt. Governor.

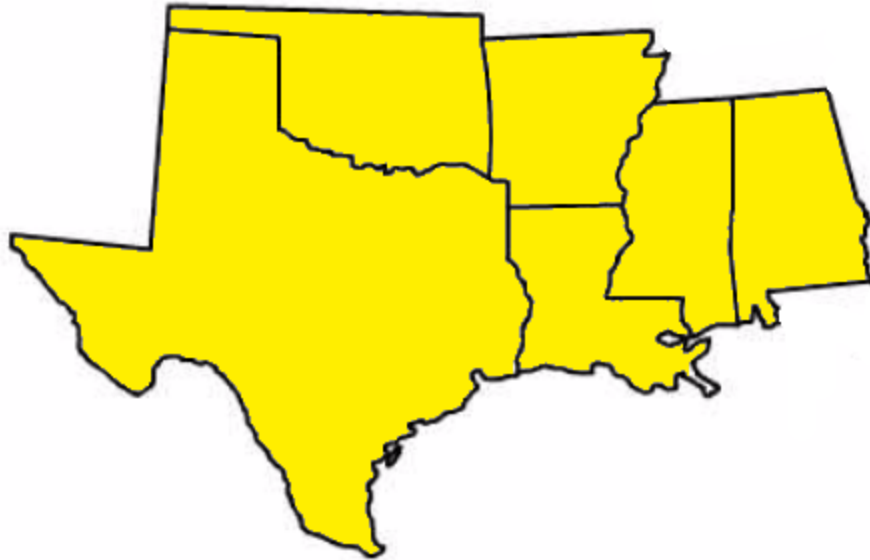
LPWI will be participating in the Great Midwest Marijuana Harvest Fest in September, featuring the biggest booth at the event, and plenty of LP swag to distribute. LPWI has also already planned our 2018 Convention, which will take place at a conference center on the Capitol Square, April 13-15, 2018. National speakers have already committed, and will be announced once contracts are finalized.

Check out our new website at [LPWI.org](http://LPWI.org), and join us next April. I challenge my fellow District 6 Chairs to throw a better convention than LPWI will. Please send us invitations, as we will be sending you all invitations to ours.

See the following 5 pages for the Region 7 Report

# Libertarian National Committee Region 7

*Region Representative - Whitney Bilyeu*  
*Region Alternate - Erin Adams*



AUGUST 19-20, 2017

KANSAS CITY, MO

❖ **ARKANSAS - Michael Pakko**

➤ STATE ORGANIZATION

➤ STATE LEVEL MEMBERSHIP

➤ COUNTY NEWS

➤ ELECTIONS

- On July 10th Arkansas Secretary of State Mark Martin declared The Libertarian Party of Arkansas a “New Political Party” for the fourth consecutive time. Now that the Libertarian Party of Arkansas (LPAR) is officially on the ballot for 2018, candidate recruitment will be the party’s next major task.
- According to Stephen Wait, the party’s Treasurer, “Petitioning to become a new political party again cost over \$25,000 and a lot of volunteer hours. Despite the obstacles the old parties put in our way, we are happy to provide freedom loving Arkansans the opportunity to vote for candidates who will represent their views.”
- The Libertarian Party of Arkansas is currently seeking liberty minded individuals who are interested in running for office. The LPAR’s elections committee has already been contacted by numerous people interested in seeking the party’s nomination for various positions.

➤ BALLOT ACCESS

- The Party had submitted 15,108 signatures to the Elections Division of the Secretary of State’s office on June 12th. After spending almost three weeks verifying the submitted signatures, the Secretary of State notified the party that its new political party petition was sufficient. Leslie Bellamy, the Director of Elections, informed the party that 12,749 of the signatures were valid.
- In accordance with Arkansas Code Annotated § 7-7- 205, new political parties are required to file a petition with the Secretary of State. The party has 90 days to collect signatures from at least 10,000 registered Arkansas voters. To retain ballot access, the party’s candidate for Governor will have to receive 3% of the votes cast for Governor.

➤ ACTIVITIES/EVENTS

➤ FINANCE & FUNDRAISING

➤ MEDIA

➤ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

➤ OTHER

❖ **LOUISIANA - Rufus Craig**

➤ STATE ORGANIZATION

➤ STATE LEVEL MEMBERSHIP

➤ COUNTY NEWS

➤ ELECTIONS

- Joseph Little, of Ponchatoula, will run for State Treasurer in the Special Election on October 14th. Joseph is a Navy veteran, with a degree in Economics. He is highly qualified for the position, and represents the LP very well.

➤ BALLOT ACCESS

➤ ACTIVITIES/EVENTS

- LP Louisiana is looking forward to entertaining us at the 2018 convention.

➤ FINANCE & FUNDRAISING

- MEDIA
- INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
- OTHER
  - Louisiana moved up a rank in National Membership.

❖ **MISSISSIPPI - Denise Cranford**

- STATE ORGANIZATION
  - We have grown by 20% since April.
- STATE LEVEL MEMBERSHIP
- COUNTY NEWS
  - We have established 3 new counties.
- ELECTIONS
  - Big news is the election of our first Libertarian in the state, Mayor Steve McCluskey.
- BALLOT ACCESS
- ACTIVITIES/EVENTS
- FINANCE & FUNDRAISING
- MEDIA
- INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
- OTHER
  - An election commissioner plans to switch parties, and join the LP.
  - The newly formed Libertarian Youth Caucus of Mississippi is seeking members to across the state's high schools, homeschool groups, college campuses, and other youth/young adult organizations.

❖ **OKLAHOMA - Tina Kelly**

- STATE ORGANIZATION
  - As new affiliate groups have been organizing and active members around the state have been looking to next year's gubernatorial primary, the decision to open primaries to Independents or keep them closed to registered Libertarians has become a hot topic. The State Executive Committee will decide which course to take at a special meeting on Saturday, October 7. In the meantime, party leadership is working to organize public events that will help both party members and Independents share their opinions and concerns about each alternative.
  - As the countdown to 2018 continues, the Oklahoma Libertarian Party is diligently establishing local organizations and recruiting candidates.
- STATE LEVEL MEMBERSHIP
- COUNTY NEWS
- ELECTIONS
  - With the announcements of Chris Powell for Governor, William Cagle for House 84, and William Weaver for House 26, we now have 3 declared candidates for

governor; 5 other candidates for US House, State Senate, and State House; and many more working to organize their teams.

- Traci Baker Chair of the OKLP candidate support Committee submits the following: In the last few months as head candidate liaison, my committee and I have successfully recruited candidates to field for statewide, federal, and local offices. We have equipped these candidates and organized press conferences where they received significant media attention. We are presently working to organize the first ever libertarian debate in Oklahoma and we have primaries for both the governor and Lt gov races.

➤ **BALLOT ACCESS**

- Registration drives will continue to be a priority as upcoming events targeting Independent engagement offer new opportunities to interact with politically active Oklahomans who are finished playing the old parties' games.

➤ **ACTIVITIES/EVENTS**

- Rose State College will host a point-counterpoint panel discussion from 11am-1pm on Tuesday, September 12, for any interested parties to attend.
- On Oct. 7 th at Highland park in Guthrie Oklahoma there will be a special meeting. This is a special meeting of the Executive Committee called for the sole purpose of discussing and voting on the issue of whether to allow Independents to vote in the 2018 OKLP primaries. The meeting is open to the public and all are encouraged to attend.
- The Oklp along with the Outright Oklahoma caucus and the YOUTH outright Oklahoma caucus, participated in in PRIDE festivities with a booth and Float entry in the Parade. Both were well received and re-registration efforts afforded some success.

➤ **FINANCE & FUNDRAISING**

➤ **MEDIA**

- The OKLP hosted its second candidate press conference last month to showcase top candidates within the state.

➤ **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

➤ **OTHER**

- State Question 788 WILL be on the ballot next November. A “yes” vote supports this measure to legalize the licensed cultivation, use, and possession of marijuana for medicinal purposes. A “no” opposes this measure to legalize the licensed cultivation, use, and possession of marijuana for medicinal purposes.
  - Signatures for the measure were certified in September 2016. However, the date of signatures submission, a rewrite of the ballot title, and an ensuing court battle meant the initiative was not certified for 2016. On March 27, 2017, the Oklahoma Supreme Court resolved the lawsuit, ruling in favor of the organization supporting the initiative. The finalized ballot title was certified by the secretary of state on June 15, 2017. The



governor will issue a proclamation setting forth an election date for the initiative. A governor has not selected a date different from the general election for an initiative since 2005.

- The OKLP is proud to announce that Oklahoma's own Erin Adams has been elected with overwhelming support to fill the LNC Region 7 Alternate seat recently vacated by Danny Bedwell. Erin has been very active in the party, serving in multiple roles and positions.

❖ **TEXAS - John Wilford**

- STATE ORGANIZATION
- STATE LEVEL MEMBERSHIP
- COUNTY NEWS
- ELECTIONS
- LEGISLATIVE ACTION
- BALLOT ACCESS
- ACTIVITIES/EVENTS
  - LPBexar is hosting an LP Leadership Retreat at the YO Ranch Headquarters October 13 - 15 in Mountain Home, TX. LNC members are invited to attend. The purpose is to develop the leadership across the state, and help our County Chairpersons understand the function of each level of the LP, and the related resources.
- FINANCE & FUNDRAISING
- MEDIA
- INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
- OTHER



## Region 8 Report

*Submitted on 8/16/17 by Regional Representative Patrick McKnight*

### **Massachusetts:**

We have local groups meeting around the state. Sometimes a good crowd (in Boston) but often just three people. We have ten such meetings listed on the web site. We had two where the leaders didn't show, not good but unfortunately we have the libertarian malady of trying to do everything ourselves so when one person can't run the meeting he just tries to cancel, but people showed up anyway because we had promoted them.

We invited volunteers to attend the state committee meeting. Last month for the first time, we had two, a couple who had also run a local group in Danvers. We signed up for a Pride festival in Salem (not the big one in Boston - we missed the deadline for that). We had seven volunteers participate, used the World's Smallest Political Quiz and collected 32 names.

We have ongoing discussion between state committee and volunteers on Slack.

Our Executive Director Bruce Skarin quit. He became demoralized. He set up a tiered membership tied to Nation Builder and we had a membership drive with the goal of 200 new members. We had 3 volunteers actually making phone calls but we only got 30 new by the self-imposed deadline. I think that's pretty good for us, maybe not very good in general but unfortunately that leaves the stuff he was doing undone. We had someone say he would take over membership and we voted on it, but it's someone who doesn't really get much done other than rewriting the bylaws, so I'm not counting on him to fill Bruce's shoes in any meaningful way.

We are planning our convention for October 14th. We have Carla Howell and Jeffrey Miron, Harvard economics professor as the main speakers. We had a good convention last year with a variety of workshops and speakers, lunch and dinner, and about 80 people attending. We're trying to reproduce that without losing money this time around.

### **New Hampshire:**

On June 27, 2017 the Libertarian Party of New Hampshire welcomed the third sitting State Representative into the Party when Representative Brandon Phinney formally announced he had left the Republican Party to join the LP. Phinney joins Rep's Stallcop & Dyer in the Libertarian Caucus of the New Hampshire General Court, the only such caucus in the nation.

The LPNH Executive Committee on July 23, approved the affiliate application from the newly formed Libertarian Party of the Lakes Region NH, which is comprised of the entirety of both Belknap and Carroll Counties, and Grafton County except for the towns of Bath, Bethlehem, Franconia, Lisbon, Littleton, Lyman, Monroe, and Sugar Hill. Tony Jankowski was elected Chair of the LP Lakes affiliate during their organizational meeting on July 19. LP of the Lakes joins LP Seacoast as the second regional affiliate in NH.

LP Western NH, which was officially organized on February 18, held their Annual Meeting on August 12. During that meeting the members voted to amend the bylaws to reduce the number of officers from 5 to 3, and voted to consolidate the region to only include Cheshire County. The membership of LP Western NH submitted a petition for affiliation to the LPNH EC immediately following their Annual Meeting. Darryl W. Perry (LPNH Chair) was re-elected Chair of LP Western NH, he had served as interim Chair since the organizational meeting in February.

The LPNH Membership Committee is working on organizing the remaining parts of the state into regional affiliates, with a goal of having regional affiliates for the entire state before the 2018 convention.

### **Maine:**

We now officially have ballot status as a Major Party in Maine! At the end of the last legislative session an updated law was passed that gave us status on par with the R's and D's, however it also set the bar for maintaining it the same as the other parties. A blessing and a curse of sorts as we are recognized and treated as a Major Party but we have little time to grow and meet the requirements for keeping that status. Our candidates this fall/election cycle will be listed as Libertarian which is a huge win, it is the following cycles we need to plan and work for. We now have a challenge in that the voter registration cards used by many towns are ones they purchased before the new law so they do not specifically state Libertarian on them. They do have an open line for folks to write in a party, this has caused some discussion from some members and candidates feeling that it is unfair to the party registration efforts. The alternative argument is that towns buy these cards so asking or expecting them to throw them out and buy new versions is not reasonable or respectful. We are talking with the Sec of States office to ensure that all town clerks have communication that will help to ensure they notify folks that they can write in Libertarian on the card. We are also developing a social media campaign to educate as well.

Our chief goal is registrations – we must achieve the same level/number as the R's, D's and Green Independents in order to keep our status and official ballot listing. Maine needs help in doing this, registration drives, candidate and event support to gather new registrations, GOTV funding and

support come election time as well as overall visibility and support both in funding and in boots on the ground help. Support from National and other New England states in planning and holding a weekend blitz drive of registrations or funding and staffing a booth at a place like the Fryburg Fair would be a significant boost for us and our efforts.

Maine will be taking part in the #ReRegister drive in September and we are meeting with multiple office holders and prominent people who have expressed interest in changing registration to the Libertarian party and part of our conversations involves the public media announcement, press conference, etc of them doing that in September as part of the campaign. We will have a kit from the Ad Hoc committee that we will use as well.

Event planning around and outgrowing from this is still in the planning stages but one significant event we are working on is a public forum that would be billed as a “civil discussion” (playing off the recent government shut down and the overwhelming public feeling that the two major parties cannot even discuss or negotiate together anymore) where a discussion on an issue of the day is moderated with members of the various parties taking part to show that a civil and polite discussion can take place and that Libertarians are the sane middle voice in this state. Jim Bouchard has agreed to be the Libertarian panel member and we are talking with friendly members of the other parties to build a panel that is appealing yet not polarizing. Hope would be to have this event in late September or early October and then launch follow ups afterwards.

Maine has a slate of candidates forming, while still early we have declared candidates for Governor and US Senate and a private announcement for the 2nd Congressional District (public announcement to come in the next few weeks). At this time no final decision has been made by Jim to reenter the race for the 1st CD which would be an exact rematch of the race last year as both the D and R candidates are the same. We also are talking with some state and local level candidates as well. It is still early in the cycle for announcements and expect most to announce after Labor Day. There has been a little media coverage for our current Gov candidate around a public event held recently to clean up discarded needles in public spaces. We expect increased coverage as summer ends as Maine traditionally does not “campaign” in the summer as part of the media culture.

We have begun planning for our convention and the ideas forming are excellent. More information coming in the next couple of months, any assistance on speakers and possible funding, even for travel expenses would be greatly appreciated.

The biggest help from National right now is support around the registration efforts both in helping with folks to collect and the public education to raise awareness and then as always any targeted money support to help fund the drives and public events, etc.

#### **Connecticut:**

Town committee meetings April 12, (Norwich) 20th(Plainfield) / Rally April 15th @ Capitol/ May 7 town committee formations (Vernon, Manchester, East Windsor)

South Windsor and East Windsor Manchester and Vernon Town Committees May 7th, South Windsor Library Friends Room 1-430PM.

- April 22nd Meriden Town Committee - Meriden public library 2 pm to 4 pm

Several state rep district, Congressional District 2/ Senate/ President locked in.

Leadership Changes:

Dan Reale Chair, Paul Passarelli Vice Chair, Carol McMahon Treasurer, Heather Gwynn Secretary

### **New Jersey:**

Registered LP voters is at a record of 7,090. Peter Rohrman has had several TV and radio interviews covering his race for Governor. The following candidates are on the ballot:

2017 Candidates:

Governor and Lt. Governor – Pete Rohrman and Karese Laguerre

12th District Assembly - Dan Krause and Anthony Storrow

13th District: Assembly – Eveline Brownstein

27th District: Assembly – Damien Caillault & Jeff Hetrick

37th District: Assembly – Claudio Belusic

39th District: Senate – Jim Tosone

39th District: Assembly – Jason McKenna

West Milford: Town Council– Michael Chazukow

Hunterdon County: Freeholder – Dan Heitkamp

Berkeley Heights: Town Council – Tom Maciejewski

Manalapan: Town Council – Hisham Hamed

Northfield City Council – John Ordille

Westfield: Town Council – Valerio Brusciannelli

New Board members elected include Jeff Hetrick, Rich Bowen, Dorit Goikhman and Kevin Lowery.

Patrick McKnight Chair

Jim Tosone Vice Chair

Hunter Romach Secretary

Richard Bowen Treasurer

Jeff Hetrick VP Marketing

Jay Edgar VP Membership

Kevin Lowery VP Programs

Joe Baratelli Central NJ Representative

Dorit Goikhman North NJ Representative

Tim O'Brien South Jersey Representative

### **Vermont:**

No candidates this year. In September we will begin reorganizing towns so that we can maintain our recognized party status which allows us to run candidates.

We need to successfully reorganize at least 10 towns to complete the process. This is usually very difficult for us and we usually just barely make it in time.

### **New York:**

The LPNY endorsed a Divisional Structure at its April convention. The divisional structure seems to be working well. The divisional directors are stepping up to the plate and starting initiatives in their fields.

We have three new chapters so far this year, bringing our total number of chapters to 18. We now have 16 TCC working to create chapters. That leaves 28 more counties to go and we will finally have what I consider a complete backbone for the LPNY to grow on. You can follow the development now yourself on our new website [www.LPNewYork.org](http://www.LPNewYork.org). The older URLs ([www.ny.lp.org](http://www.ny.lp.org) and [www.lpny.us](http://www.lpny.us)) will redirect you to the new site. If you click on the Action tab and then on "find an affiliate" the map is self explanatory. It will be kept current as new chapters and new TCCs are added.

**Candidates:** On the campaign trail, we have 62 candidates attempting to get on the ballot. We still have to wait to see how many actually make it. There are 43 candidates in Suffolk county alone that are trying to get on the ballot. They are listed on our new website [www.LPNewYork.org](http://www.LPNewYork.org) under "About Us".

Larry Sharpe has been doing a fantastic job supporting the candidates around the state

**Upcoming Event:** The Long Island Cook Out will be on Saturday August 26th. It is generally well attended by people from the NYC area. I have attached the flyer if you are interested.

Chapter Adjustments: We had one of our multi-county chapters downsize. The Greater Rochester Libertarian Party is not the Monroe County Libertarian Party. I used to be comprised of six counties in 2012. In 2013 Genesee split off. In 2016 Livingston split off. Realizing that there was no activity in the other counties and that the other counties had no paid members in the chapter, the chapter shed three of the remaining counties and is now just the Monroe County Libertarian Party. One of the counties (Wayne County) has already had a TCC assigned.

The State Committee finally agreed that Niagara County LP chapter's charter should be pulled, and they did so a couple of months ago. There has been no success in locating a new TCC to reorganize the group.

Membership: While our LPNY new membership is still going up, a large number of people from 2016 have yet to renew this year. This is a concern because it represents more than 40% of the membership. As of today the 2016 members who have not renewed for 2017 represent over 35% of our membership. My earlier assessment was that our growth in 2016 was real and not a presidential year blip. The growth was attributed to the growth to the growth in the number of chapters and the TCC's efforts. Now I am wondering if there is some other problem or concern that I am overlooking. I believe we should be doing a better job with retention.

#### LPNY membership

April 27, 2016 April 7, 2017 August 16, 2017

271 current paid members 299 current paid members 348 Current members

74 members lapsed 12/31/15 213 members lapsed 12/31/16 186 members lapsed

#### Chapters

April 27, 2016 April 7, 2017 August 16, 2017

13 Chapters 18 Chapters 18 Chapters

7 Temporary Chapter Chairs 15 Temporary Chapter Chairs 16 Temporary Chapter Chairs

Voter Registration: How many registered voters are affiliated with the Libertarian party still remains a mystery because for many counties, the NYS BoE records do not agree with the county BoE records. We know for sure we have 6,619 individuals in NYS that are officially affiliated with the Libertarian Party on NYS Board of Elections files as of 2/27/17. This is about 1,000 over our all-time high, but it is impossible to determine a trend because of the BoE database reformatting activity. We had over 5,000 active voters in December of 2015, but by January 6, 2016, we had dropped to 3,031 active voters. By April the active voters affiliated with the Libertarian Party rose to 4,519. The increase is due to the BoE in some counties capturing earlier corrupted records and to an actual increase in LPNY registrations. It is difficult to get a good count, but an estimate is that the New LBT registered voters to corrected records is about 50/50.

It has also been established that there are many more people whose records have been corrupted by the County BoE's. This issue has been investigated. After meeting with several of the county commissioners of the BoE, collecting many examples, and pursuing the correction of records it is clear that the errors are egregious and border on being deliberately fraudulent in nature.

Report filed with NYS BoE: A 25 page report to the Board of Elections has been delivered to the NYS Board of Elections during the first week of August, 2017. In a brief conversation with one of the Co-directors and one of the NYS BoE commissioners, they indicated that they are willing to have their staff sit down and discuss the details in the report, which I plan to do during the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> week of August. The report discusses the quality of a sampling of 48 individual voter registration records from 28 of the 62 counties. (Investigations into the other counties is still pending.) If I can get the BoE to willingly address these issues I believe it will help tremendously in the growth of the party. If I can't, more dramatic action will need to be taken because it is clear that the errors being made are knowingly being made and are deliberately not being fixed or properly addressed by the county Board of Elections.



## Candidate Support Committee Election Details

### Signed Ballot Details

Voter	Bittner	Goldstein	Hagan	Harlos	Hewitt	Sharpe	Starchild
Bilyeu	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Bittner	X	X	X	X	X		
Demarest				X			X
Goldstein	X	X	X		X	X	
Hagan	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Harlos	X	X	X	X		X	X
Hayes	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Katz	X	X		X	X	X	
Lark	X	X	X		X	X	
Marsh	X	X	X		X	X	
Mattson	X	X	X		X	X	
Redpath	X	X				X	
Sarwark	X	X		X	X	X	
Sharpe	X	X		X	X	X	
Starchild				X		X	X
Starr	X	X	X		X	X	
Vohra	X	X		X		X	
<b>Totals</b>	15	15	10	11	12	15	4