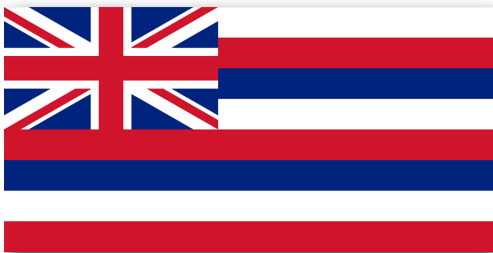


## *Region I Report*



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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*

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### Region 1 Representative

Ms. Caryn Ann Harlos, Colorado  
Libertarian National Committee

T: 561.523.2250 E: Caryn.Ann.Harlos@LP.org

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### Region 1 Alternate

Mr. Steven Nielson, Washington  
Libertarian National Committee

T: 253.329.0279 E: Steven.Nielson@LP.org

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## CONTENTS

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<b>Region 1 Overview</b>	<b>7</b>
National Memberships	8
State Party Memberships	9
Key Election Percentages	10
Ballot Access Requirements and Retention	10
State Conventions	12
Membership Growth	12
Other	13
<b>Alaska Libertarian Party</b>	<b>14</b>
State Organization	14
At a Glance Statistics	14
Board Meetings	16
State Convention	16
State Level Membership	16
Sub-Affiliates	16
Elections	16
Ballot Access and Party Status	17
Activities	18
Finances & Fundraising	18
Media Coverage	18
Other	18
Statement from the Chair	18
<b>Arizona Libertarian Party</b>	<b>20</b>
State Organization	20
At a Glance Statistics	21

Board Meetings	21
State Convention	22
State Level Membership	22
Sub-Affiliates	22
Elections	22
Ballot Access and Party Status	23
Activities	24
Finances & Fundraising	24
Media Coverage	24
Other	24
Statement from the Chair	25

## **Libertarian Party of Colorado** **26**

---

State Organization	26
At a Glance Statistics	27
Board Meetings	27
State Convention	27
State Level Membership	28
Sub-Affiliates	28
Elections	28
Ballot Access and Party Status	30
Activities	31
Finances & Fundraising	31
Media Coverage	31
Other	31
Statement from the Chair	31

## **Libertarian Party of Hawaii** **33**

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State Organization	33
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At a Glance Statistics	33
Board Meetings	34
State Convention	34
State Level Membership	35
Sub-Affiliates	35
Elections	35
Ballot Access and Party Status	36
Activities	36
Finances & Fundraising	36
Media Coverage	36
Other	37
Statement from the Chair	37
<b>Libertarian Party of Kansas</b>	<b>38</b>
State Organization	38
At a Glance Statistics	39
Board Meetings	39
State Convention	39
State Level Membership	40
Sub-Affiliates	40
Elections	40
Ballot Access and Party Status	41
Activities	41
Finances & Fundraising	41
Media Coverage	41
Other	41
Statement from the Chair	42
<b>Montana Libertarian Party</b>	<b>43</b>

State Organization	43
At a Glance Statistics	43
Board Meetings	44
State Convention	44
State Level Membership	44
Sub-Affiliates	45
Elections	45
Ballot Access and Party Status	45
Activities	46
Finances & Fundraising	46
Media Coverage	46
Statement from the Chair	47
<b>Libertarian Party of Utah</b>	<b>48</b>
State Organization	48
At a Glance Statistics	48
Board Meetings	49
State Convention	49
State Level Membership	49
Sub-Affiliates	49
Elections	49
Ballot Access and Party Status	50
Activities	50
Finances & Fundraising	50
Media Coverage	51
Other	52
Statement from the Chair	52
<b>Libertarian Party of Washington</b>	<b>54</b>

State Organization	54
At a Glance Statistics	54
Board Meetings	55
State Convention	55
State Level Membership	55
Sub-Affiliates	55
Elections	56
Ballot Access and Party Status	56
Activities	57
Finances & Fundraising	57
Media Coverage	57
Other	57
Statement from the Chair	57
<b>Wyoming Libertarian Party</b>	<b>58</b>
State Organization	58
At a Glance Statistics	58
Board Meetings	59
State Convention	59
State Level Membership	59
Sub-Affiliates	59
Elections	60
Ballot Access and Party Status	60
Activities	60
Finances & Fundraising	60
Media Coverage	60
Other	61
Statement from the Chair	61

## *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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### 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

### 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

#### YEAR OVER YEAR TRENDS

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%

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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%

---

<sup>2</sup> The AKLP Bylaws defines members as registered voters who pay dues (there is an ambiguity as to whether 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.

---

## 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.

---

## 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.

---

## 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.

---

## 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.

---

## State Convention

---

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

---

## State Level Membership

---

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

---

## Sub-Affiliates

---

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://amandacoyne.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.

---

## 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.

---

## 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.

---

## Elections

---

### 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-contentends-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 race), 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 use 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

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

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

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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 Cristopher (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 took 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	<p>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.</p> <p>Montana has mandatory open primaries.</p>
Number of Candidates 2014/2016	7 / 9
Estimated Budget	About \$1,500/year.
Website / Facebook Current?	<p>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.</p>
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**

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**

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**

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-seek-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



## State Organization

### 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.

## 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

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

The 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the LPUT is in October and a special event is planned.

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## Finances & Fundraising

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*



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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, cspoa@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.

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## 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