

Libertarian National Committee

Region I Report

Submitted by Norm Olsen & Ron Windeler

November 9, 2015

Overview

- The nine affiliates which comprise Region 1 are: Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Hawaii, Kansas, Montana, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.
- Aggressive election activity has produced continued ballot access for the 2016 general election in eight (AK, AZ, CO, HI, KS, MT, UT, WY) of the nine states in the region are currently ballot qualified for 2016.
- Ballot access in Washington State requires 1,000 valid signatures; a rather reasonable threshold compared to other states. Over the years, the Washington State affiliate has routinely obtained ballot access without assistance from the national committee.
- Significant increases in voters registering as Libertarian have been experienced in several of the states in the Region. This trend of several years remains strong in the region.
- Due to the geographic nature of this region, which spans five time zones and extends from 19 to 71 degrees north latitude (some 3,000 x 3,000 miles), personal contact between the Regional and Alternate Representatives and the individual affiliates is quite rare.
- Region statistic update appears on the next page in landscape orientation.

Alaska

Rob Clift, State Chair

Annual meeting planning in progress, no date set as yet. ALP believes it could raise funds for media buys if national could perform/fund the production work. Ads need not be Alaska specific. Monthly “dump” is not helpful; too much invalid information.

Arizona

Michael Kielsky, State Chair

The Arizona Libertarian Party Annual Meeting (Convention) will be on Saturday, January 23, 2016, in Tucson, Arizona. Details TBD.

We are gearing up to sue the state because of the significant new burden in ballot access (20 to 50 times more signatures on nominating petitions).

Our petition for cert to the US Supreme Court on our voter registration form suit is going to the printers.

Also, I'm running for County Attorney again <http://Kielsky.com> ... looking for help and support.

Colorado

Lily Tang Williams, State Chair

LPCO grew over 28% in 2014. We added 1955 registered Libertarians in the first 7 months of 2015. There are now 32,312 registered Colorado Libertarians. And just as important, there are over 1 million unaffiliated voters in Colorado. Our Facebook page likes are currently at 6199. Our full 11 people board are working hard together to reach out to the public, recruit volunteers and raise money.

This local newspaper article recently covered Chair Lily Tang Williams' opposition to Parker Ballot Initiative 2A which seeks to increase the sales tax from 8% to 8.5% and take on new debt of \$39 million. Her opposition is published in the BlueBook [Ed note: “BlueBook” is booklet describing local and statewide ballot initiatives mailed to every voter in the state per CO statute]:

<http://parkerchronicle.net/stories/Residents-debate-proposed-tax-increase,200742>

2016 is going to be a big year, and LPCO is proud to represent Libertarians in a state that has already made history twice on Libertarian issues. One of those issues is marijuana legalization, which has been a huge win for our state. It reminds us of other times in which freedom eventually won, and that is why the theme of our 2016 convention is going to be the Roaring Twenties and Prohibition. The prohibition of alcohol in this country was

such a monumental failure that it has its own mythic iconography that resonates to this day. But this convention is not just about Speakeasies and jazz music, it is about taking back victories that Libertarians played a big part in creating. It is also about creating momentum for a very important election cycle. All Libertarian presidential candidates are also invited to debate their opponents, and a few have already confirmed. Even if you're not a Coloradan yourself, this would be the perfect excuse to visit the Rocky Mountain State. Tickets are on sale now, and sponsorships and ads are also available. Please check out our web site for more info: www.lpcolorado.org

[Ed Note: LPCO 2016 Convention March 11-13, 2016, Double Tree by Hilton, Colorado Springs, CO]

Hawaii

Tracy Ryan, State Chair

Libertarian Party of Hawaii State Convention to be held on Sunday, November 8, 2015 beginning at 8:45 AM. The convention will be held at two locations simultaneously using teleconferencing. On Oahu, the event will be held at the Ala Moana Hotel, 410 Atkinson Drive, Honolulu. On the "Big Island", Hawaii, Libertarians will be gathering at the Hilo Hawaiian Hotel, 71 Banyan Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720.

The Libertarian Party of Hawaii has made legalization of marijuana in Hawaii a top priority. The time is right for this as two more states and the District of Columbia have now passed pro-marijuana referendums. The LP feels that Hawaii, as a marijuana producing state with much to gain financially, should now be ready to take the leap and get this done.

Kansas

Rob Hodgkinson, State Chair

On July 29, 2015 Jury Nullification came to Sedgwick County Kansas. The jury in the trial of Kyler Carriker acquitted him of felony murder even though the same jury found him guilty of the felony of distribution or sale of a quarter pound of marijuana. This is clearly an example of nullification of a law by a jury that choose not to apply the Kansas felony murder statute in this case despite the fact that all the elements of the charge were present.

Local members of the Kansas Libertarian Party may have helped Sarah [Carriker's attorney] and Kyler in this victory for justice and the power of the jury. LSOCK members have for many years been handing out information about jury nullification at the Sedgwick County Courthouse around September 5th, Jury Rights Day, and many other times of the year as well since 1996. Recently other groups have done so as well so that many people here in Sedgwick County have been educated on this vital issue. Maybe one or more members of this jury had some knowledge of the power of the jury and shared it with the other jurors?

Every month, the Libertarian Party of Saline County spreads the message of personal freedom, personal responsibility, and limited government to TV viewers and voters in Salina, and online throughout the world. Liberty TV is a co-production of the Libertarian Party of Saline County (LPSC) and The Liberty Papers, a media

project managed by DC Hannah, the LPSC chairman. Party members provide ideas, work in the studio and production, and promote the program throughout the community.

Montana

Mike Fellows, State Chair

Worked hard to defeat \$158 million school bond initiative (i.e. tax hike); results not available as of this report. Montana Libertarian Party continues to use local access TV and letters to the editor to gain free publicity.

Utah

Andrew McCollough, State Chair

Candidate nominating convention will be held on April 23, 2016 at the Salt Lake County Complex. Please note, that's at the County Complex.

Washington

Steven Nielson, State Chair

2016 Annual Convention: April 8-10, 2016, Embassy Suites, Sea-Tac, WA

Wyoming

Lawrence Struempf, State Chair

Annual Meeting: May 2016