

LIBERTARIAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE



REGION 3 REPORT



INDIANA



KENTUCKY



MICHIGAN



OHIO

REGIONAL REPORT FOR REGION 3
LIBERTARIAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 16TH - 17TH, 2013
SUBMITTED BY JILLIAN A. MACK

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LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF INDIANA



State Organization

Party Leadership Structure

ELECTED POSITIONS

Chair: Sam Goldstein (chair@lpin.org)

Vice Chair: Jerry Titus (vicechair@lpin.org)

Treasurer: Dale Wedel (treasurer@lpin.org)

Secretary: John Schick (secretary@lpin.org)

Office Space

LPIN has relocated its permanent office space from downtown Indianapolis to the north side of the city. The new space is much larger and will provide the ability to host LP 101 sessions, County Chair training sessions, and Central Committee meetings.

Paid Staff/Contractors

The Libertarian Party of Indiana is in the process of changing from an Executive Director model for staff organization to a Divisional model. The following are recent or upcoming hires/appointments:

Business Manager: Alyssa Salgado

Communications Consultant: Lauren Rumpel

Political and Development Director appointments are anticipated soon.

State Level Membership

LPIN state level membership is defined by those who contribute \$25 annually to the National LP.

Sub-Affiliates

UNKNOWN

Elections

Current Election Cycle (2013 & 2014)

UNKNOWN

Ballot Access

Recent Ballot Access Activity

LPIN has automatic ballot access because they have surpassed 2% in the in the last Secretary of State (SOS) race.



Upcoming Ballot Access Activity

Ballot access is determined every 4 years by the SOS race results; as long as LPIN continues to reach or surpass the 2% mark it will retain ballot access for another 4 years. No problems are expected with maintaining ballot access in the near future, as LPIN hit 5.9% in the last SOS race and continues to grow.

Activities

State Level Activities

2013 STATE CONVENTION

The 2013 convention is scheduled for April 19-21 at the Clarion Hotel and Conference Center in Columbus, IN.

Local Level Activities

UNKNOWN

Finances & Fundraising

Current Initiatives

UNKNOWN

Future Initiatives

UNKNOWN

Media Coverage

UNKNOWN

Information Technology

LPIN's website is currently running on WordPress. There is no Constituent Resource Management (CRM) system for data management – all data management is currently handled through the use of spreadsheets.

Other

None



LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF KENTUCKY



State Organization

Party Leadership Structure

Chair: Ken Moellman (Newly Elected as of Feb 2013)
Vice Chair: David Patterson (Newly Elected as of Feb 2013)
Treasurer: James Bozman (Newly Elected as of Feb 2013)
Secretary: Frank Harris (Newly Elected as of Feb 2013)
At-Large: Mark Gailey

Office Space

LPKY does not currently have any office space or plans to acquire any. Mail can be sent to LPKY at P.O. Box 432, Independence, KY 41051.

Paid Staff/Contractors

None

State Level Membership

Membership at the state level is represented by the number of people who pay the \$30 annual dues to the state. By this definition, the number of state level members is less than 50.

Membership requirements haven't changed since 2009, but the requirements are determined by the state executive committee which, as a body, can change the requirements at will.

Party Registration

In Kentucky, it is possible to register as a Libertarian, but to do so a voter must complete a registration card, check the "Other" box, and fill in the blank with "Libertarian." This process has its obvious challenges, but in spite of this, LPKY has experienced a 33% organic increase in registered Libertarians in the last 9 months (from 2,109 to 2,816). LPKY is currently working on methods to reach out to these new registered Libertarians, one of which includes purchasing phone numbers for the voter list and starting a volunteer phone banking effort.

Sub-Affiliates

The State of Kentucky does not officially recognize any party structure below the state level, however LPKY is actively working to grow its own sub-affiliates by congressional district and then by county, similar to how the Republicans and Democrats are formed in KY.

Between the previous Regional Report and this one, a significant amount of growth has been occurring in LPKY.



LPKY has increased from 2/6 active congressional district affiliates to 5/6 active congressional district affiliates. The remaining unorganized congressional district is not even organized by the Republican Party of Kentucky.

In addition to 5/6 organized congressional districts, there are 2 organized counties (up from 0 at the time of the last Regional Report), and 8 more counties in the process of forming (up from 1 at the time of the last Regional Report).

Elections

Past Election Cycle (2012)

PRESIDENT

Gary Johnson received 0.94% statewide with approx. 17,000 votes. This was the best Libertarian presidential showing ever in Kentucky, 2nd best vote total statewide in KY history. This was almost 5 times the previous best Libertarian presidential candidate in Kentucky!

Current Election Cycle (2013)

Nothing is planned for 2013 unless special elections come up. Congress, senate, state legislature, and county executive branch are in 2014. No candidates have been identified at this time but LPKY is always looking to ensure ballot access.

With no upcoming races, LPKY is using this time to focus on organization building at the congressional and county level.

Recent Ballot Access Activity

The state of Kentucky defines a "political party" as getting 20% or more in KY the presidential race, a "political organization" as getting 2%-20%, and a "political group" as getting less than 2%.

Ballot access for the party label is possible on a race by race basis with signature gathering requirements. However, as a "political group", LPKY candidates are required to gather significantly more signatures to get on the ballot than their R & D counterparts. For example, a statewide LP candidate must gather 5000 valid signatures, a congressional candidate must gather 400, and a county or local candidate must gather 100, while the R's and D's only need to gather 2 (two) valid signatures for any of these races.

Upcoming Ballot Access Activity

LPKY has recently begun filing state campaign finance reports. This gives LPKY the ability to donate to state campaigns on the same level as R's and D's, whereas previously they had a much lower limit of how much the party could contribute to candidates.

If Governor Johnson had received 2% of the vote for president statewide in 2012, LPKY's signature requirements would have dropped to the same levels as the R's and D's, thus reducing signature gathering time and costs, while most likely increasing the number of candidates who would be willing and able to run on the LP ticket in Kentucky.

Since this did not occur, LPKY plans to use the fact that they are starting to file state campaign finance reports as leverage with the state to argue for recognition at the "political organization" level, thus dramatically reducing signature requirements.

Activities



State Level Activities

2013 CONVENTION

The 2013 convention was held in Bowling Green, KY (southern region of the state) and was well-attended. I attended the post-convention dinner and mixer and was able to meet a large number of new LPKY activists and leaders. As of the time of this report it is expected that the convention approximately broke even on expenses vs. revenues.

Local Level Activities

LP DOOR HANGERS

LPKY has a door hanger initiative planned for this spring, specifically targeting houses with registered "Others" who have a strong history of voting. The plan is to assign a set of houses in neighborhoods around LPKY leaders and volunteers so the task of distributing the door hangers is easy to accomplish and never takes anyone far from home.

Finances & Fundraising

Future Initiatives

None planned at this time.

Media Coverage

LPKY has been featured in a couple of articles recently, both detailing their recent growth and influence in Kentucky politics.

<http://wfpl.org/post/libertarian-party-kentucky-holding-annual-convention-weekend>

http://nky.cincinnati.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/AB/20130219/NEWS010802/302190026/&nclick_check=1

Information Technology

The current website is running on Drupal for content management and spreadsheets are used to keep track of donors and registered members.

LPKY is currently in the process of deploying a new email system which will help them increase their professionalism in communications by allowing them to provision email accounts to all LPKY leaders at their domain.

Other

None



LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF MICHIGAN



State Organization

Party Leadership Structure

ELECTED POSITIONS

State Chair – Denee Rockman-Moon, chair@michiganlp.org

Vice Chair – Larry Johnson, michlibertarian@gmail.com

Secretary – Mary Buzuma, mary.buzuma@att.net

Treasurer – Kim Moore, sashaphoenix@gmail.com

Libertarian Executive Committee At-large Directors:

- Andrew Hall - halla12@ferris.edu
- Jim Fulner - fulner@gmail.com
- Christopher Sharer - christopher.sharer@gmail.com
- Keith Butkovich - sirkeith17@hotmail.com
- Gregory Creswell - i.am4_gcreswell@yahoo.com

Judicial Committee:

- Keith Edwards - keithmarni@wowway.com
- Bill Gelineau - freedomlover59@hotmail.com
- Shyler Engel – shyler.engel@gmail.com

APPOINTED POSITIONS

- Webmaster – Brian Wright - brian_r_wright@yahoo.com
- Political Director – Bill Gelineau – politics@mi.lp.org

Office Space

LPM has office space located at Columbia Center II, 101 West Big Beaver, Suite 1400, Troy, MI 48084. The lease for this space is up in June and LPM is exploring several options, including extending, finding a new space to lease, and discontinuing a leased office to save money. The executive committee expects to vote on this matter within the next couple of months.

Paid Staff/Contractors

LP Michigan has a paid contractor who maintains their current website.

State Level Membership

LP Michigan currently has 175 paid members with the state (a 5% increase since the last report).



At the state level, membership is determined by dues paying members (\$25 annually) who affirm the statement of principles.

Sub-Affiliates

Affiliates are currently being formed by groups of neighboring counties. There are currently a total of 13 sub-affiliates:

- 4 very active
- 4 active
- 4 forming (2 of which are due to new volunteers who have offered to start a local group since the last report)
- 3 inactive

Elections

Current Election Cycle (2013 & 2014)

PARTY ORGANIZATION PLANNING

Chairwoman Rockman-Moon is organizing a Political Team which will be tasked with candidate recruitment, candidate vetting, gaining support for the party from local businesses, and fundraising. This is the next step in ensuring a slate of successful candidates in 2014 with more active candidates and fewer paper candidates, which is another goal of Ms. Rockman-Moon's.

SPECIAL ELECTION FOR STATE SENATE

District 27 State Senator resigned from office recently and LPM has identified a candidate to run in the special election – Robert (Rob) Nicholls. Local organizing efforts are underway to help identify campaign volunteers in the area and Mr. Nicholls is interested in running a fairly active campaign.

Ballot Access

Recent Ballot Access Activity

No work was required this year to obtain/retain ballot access.

Upcoming Ballot Access Activity

No work is expected in the near term to retain ballot access.

Activities

State Level Activities

GARY JOHNSON COLLEGE TOUR VISIT

The Our America Initiative is resuming college tours for Governor Johnson in the spring of 2013 and LPM is organizing an event at Hillsdale College on April 2 as part of the tour. The space secured for the event accommodates 300+ people and



LPM plans to hand out print advertisements for its upcoming convention to try to increase registration and bring in new faces to the convention.

2013 STATE CONVENTION

The 2013 convention is planned for June 15. Registration is expected to open on March 15 with the first promotional email slated to be sent shortly thereafter.

Local Level Activities

Nothing known at this time

Finances & Fundraising

Future Initiatives

There are no fundraising activities planned in the near future besides the Convention. Last year, the convention brought in about \$2200 in profit and LPM is hoping for a similar profit this year.

Media Coverage

LPM leaders have been featured in 3 radio interviews since December of 2012.

Information Technology

LPM currently uses a SharePoint platform for its website. LPM feels the appearance of their website is at about a 5/10 while the content is about a 7/10 because it is kept fairly current. The website is estimated to get about 50-100 hits per day.

LPM is currently in the process of having a new website developed by a volunteer with a 50% reduction in monthly costs for hosting and management of the site (down to \$50/month from \$100/month). The new site is planned to launch on April 1, 2013.

Other

Challenges

Ms. Rockman-Moon was able to motivate her team and increase their participation later in the 2012 election cycle, but her primary concern now that the election is over is finding ways to keep her team motivated and engaged so that the growth does not stop or decline. In her opinion, there is no time for a break – LP Michigan must continue to build on the current momentum.

Help Requested

Chairwoman Rockman-Moon is seeking help with affiliate support from the LNC in the areas of organization building, training, fundraising, and media outreach.



LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF OHIO



State Organization

Party Leadership Structure

ELECTED POSITIONS

Like the Republican and Democratic Party counterparts in Ohio, the Libertarian Party of Ohio (LPO) is managed by a state Central Committee (CentCom) which is a body of members elected through the formal election primary process.

The CentCom operates like a board of directors which elects the state Executive Committee (ExCom) which runs the day to day operations of the LPO.

After the most recent primary election, the state CentCom elected the following leaders to the ExCom:

- Chair: Kevin Knedler (kevin.knedler@lpo.org)
- Vice Chair: Bob Bridges (bob.bridges@lpo.org)
- Secretary: Daryl Olthaus (daryl.olthaus@lpo.org)
- Treasurer: Bryant Callaghan (bryant.callaghan@lpo.org)
- At-Large: Aaron Harris (aaron.harris@lpo.org)
- At-Large: Michael Johnston (michael.johnston@lpo.org)
- At-Large: Jillian A. Mack (jillian.mack@lpo.org)

APPOINTED POSITIONS

The LPO bylaws specify a divisional structure for the LPO and allow for the ExCom chair to appoint division directors to lead each division. The LPO believes the divisional structure provides a strong set of leaders, each of whom is focused on an area of expertise and responsibility.

The divisions and appointed leaders are as follows:

- Communication Division – Director Aaron Harris, Deputy Director John Fockler, Social Media Manager Libby Brandt
- Field Development Division – Director Brad Lowry, Deputy Director Jason Tyson
 - 9 regional liaison positions available (6 currently filled)
- Finance Division – Director Joe Hassen
- IT Division – Director Scott Pettigrew
- Political Division – Director Bob Bridges, Deputy Direct Paul D. Hinds

Office Space

The LPO maintains its two-room, fully-functional office of approximately 240 sq. ft. at 2586 Tiller Lane, Suite 2K, Columbus, OH 43231-2265.

Paid Staff/Contractors



The LPO currently has one paid contractor who is paid on a commission basis as Finance Director. The Finance Director is responsible for tracking and soliciting contributions, managing the benefits to the contributors, keeping personal contact with higher level donors, sending thank you cards, planning income-generating events and activities, managing LPO branded apparel, etc.

State Level Membership

In Ohio, as an officially recognized political party by the SOS, membership is determined by the number of voters who request a Libertarian ballot in the primary election.

The LPO experienced surprising growth in membership between 2010 and 2012.

The LPO had legitimate concerns that it would lose a significant amount of registered Libertarians in 2012 due to the "Ron Paul Effect" (i.e., voters formerly registered as Libertarians who would request a Republican primary ballot so that they could vote for Ron Paul in the primary election). While the LPO did lose a number of voters because of the "Ron Paul Effect," it actually gained far more new registered Libertarians than it lost.

Over all, the LPO pulled equal votes from former Republicans and former Democrats, even more from former Independents, and a handful from the minor parties on the ballot (Socialist, Green, and Constitution).

Sub-Affiliates

Ohio law recognizes sub-affiliates by county. Ohio has 88 counties in total.

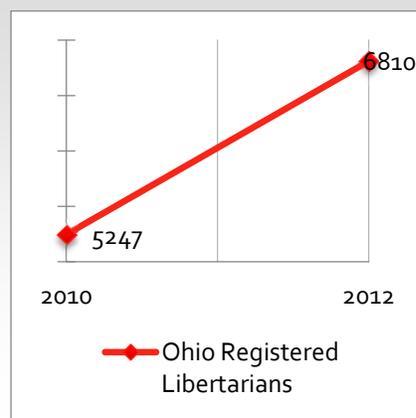
The LPO Field Development Division is responsible for growing county affiliate parties. It does this with a stepping stone model, first starting with County Development Groups (CDG's) which are technically part of the state party and not recognized by the state of Ohio.

Once the CDG has enough dedicated members, it begins the legal process of becoming a county affiliate which is officially recognized by the SOS and BOE as its own party organization, autonomous from the LPO, but still guided and assisted by the LPO as needed.

The LPO currently has 11 official county affiliates and 11 CDG's. This is a significant increase from 2008 when the LPO only had 2 official county affiliates and 5 CDG's.

2010-2012 MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

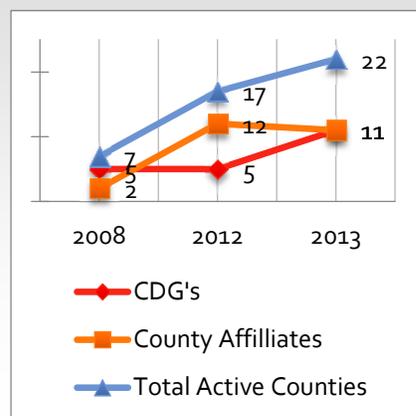
▲ STATE MEMBERSHIP UP 30%



2008-2012 SUB-AFFILIATE CHANGES

▲ COUNTY AFFILIATES UP 600%

▲ TOTAL ACTIVE COUNTIES UP 230%





Elections

Past Election Cycle (2012)

There were 23 LP candidates on the Ohio ballot in 2012. The LPO's goal is to exceed the previous election cycle (4 years) each time.

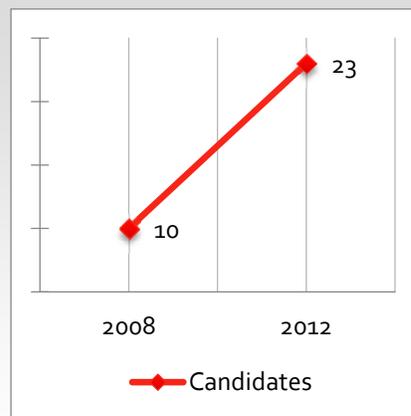
The more county affiliates that the LPO has formed, the more locations the LPO can host our POTUS candidates; in 2008 we had 2 county affiliates and in 2012 we had 12 county affiliates.

Current Election Cycle (2013)

The LPO is now looking for 2013 candidates for local office and 2014 candidates for statewide offices with the expectation of providing the voters with the second statewide slate of Libertarian candidates in as many election cycles.

2008-2012 CANDIDATE STATS

▲ NUMBER OF CANDIDATES UP
230%



Ballot Access

Recent Ballot Access Activity

The LPO had ballot access in 2012, but not without ongoing challenges from the GOP.

The Ballot Access appeal in Federal Court was on July 24 in Cincinnati, Ohio. The Ohio Assembly (led by the GOP), not the (GOP) Ohio SOS, was appealing the 6th circuit court ruling of October 2011 in which the court ruled in LPO favor once again.

The court ruled that decision of the court last fall was moot so therefore they dropped the latest case. Ultimately this just means that there is still no clearly established law on petitioning requirements to get the LP label on the ballot.

Upcoming Ballot Access Activity

LPO requested and received a new directive from the SOS which clarifies that the LPO is still a valid party and should be allowed on the ballot in 2013 (since no clearly defined law currently exists).

Later in 2013 the LPO will start requesting a directive or other action from the SOS regarding 2014 because the LPO plans to have its 2014 statewide candidates lined up by Memorial Day of 2013 and needs assurances of 2014 ballot access in the absence of any constitutional legislation from the state assembly.

Activities

State Level Activities

2013 CONFERENCE

LPO has conventions in even years and conferences in odd years. The 2013 conference is scheduled for April 26-27 in historic Granville, OH. Judge Jim Gray will be present for a socializer and dinner on the evening of Friday, April 26. On



Saturday, April 27th, there will be several exciting speakers such as Garrett Quinn of Reason.com, Howard Rahtz of LEAP, Michael Newbern of Students for Concealed Carry, and LNC Chairman Geoffrey Neale, as well as seminars by experienced LPO members to help activists advance the cause of Liberty in the coming months and years. Convention tickets include access to the days' events and also include a buffet lunch.

Local Level Activities

UNKNOWN

Finances & Fundraising

Finance Director Joe Hassen is doing a tremendous job increasing contributions through direct contact and event planning. He held a very successful fundraiser dinner in February with a featured LEAP speaker and is planning several more events around the state in the coming year. He also tasked with managing a new line of LPO branded apparel and planning the annual summer fundraiser cookout.

Media Coverage

No recent coverage to report

Information Technology

The LPO has selected the Libertas Platform provided by Libertas Web Services (owned and operated by me, Jillian A. Mack) for its new Content Management System and Constituent Relationship Management system (CRM). The process of installation and configuration for LPO has begun.

Other

LP Direction & Focus

Chairman Knedler is a strong advocate for national budget dollars to be allocated to rebuilding the Libertarian Party Brand/Image, Affiliate Support, and IT.

REBUILD LP BRAND/IMAGE

The message is principled and solid, but the brand/image that the general public has of the "product" is missing the mark. Either people don't know who we are or they have a misconception about who we are. Chairman Knedler would like to see consumer focus groups, a marketing plan which should include a focus on the youth and re-branding ourselves as "cool".

AFFILIATE SUPPORT

Chairman Knedler believes that a critical task for 2013 is allocating funds to support trainers to visit states or regions to provide seminars, how-to guides, and general assistance and leadership in the areas of organization building, volunteer recruitment, candidate recruitment and vetting, media outreach, etc.

IT UPGRADES/SERVICES



Chairman Knedler would like to see a national platform that is available to the states and makes it easy to interface with national for data exchange.

LP Policy Changes Requested

NATIONAL CONVENTION APPOINTMENTS BY HOST STATE

Chairman Knedler would like a policy change for the national conventions which allows the host state to appoint at least one person to the convention committee.

NATIONAL CONVENTION SEATING FOR HOST STATE

Chairman Knedler would like a policy change for the national conventions which guarantees that the host state delegation is seated near the front of the convention hall.