Libertarian National Committee



Region 3 Report



Regional Report for Region 3
Libertarian National Committee Meeting
November 17th - 18th, 2012
submitted by Jillian A. Mack

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# Region 3 Overview

Region 3 maintained its member-affiliates at the 2012 Libertarian National Convention: Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, and Ohio. This Region is comprised of States with similar constituencies and similar approaches to Party growth.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| National Membership for the RegionThree of the four states in the region experienced growth in membership numbers between October 2011 and October 2012.October 2011 National Membership Summary

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Total Members | Total Sustaining Members | Sustaining Membership Rank |
| Indiana | 2723 | 319 | 14 |
| Kentucky | 998 | 97 | 33 |
| Michigan | 4829 | 469 | 9 |
| Ohio | 4530 | 600 | 4 |

October 2012 National Membership Summary

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Total Members | Total Sustaining Members | Sustaining Membership Rank |
| Indiana | 2839 | 349 | 14 |
| Kentucky | 1048 | 114 | 33 |
| Michigan | 4930 | 443 | 10 |
| Ohio | 4717 | 604 | 5 |
|  |  |  |  |

 |

|  |
| --- |
| Year over year national Sustaining membership trends |
| * indiana membership up 9.4%
* kentucky membership up 17.5%
* michigan membership DOWN 5.5%
* ohio membership up 0.6%
 |

 |

# Libertarian Party of Indiana

## State Organization



[www.LPIN.org](http://www.LPIN.org)

### 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)

#### Appointed Positions

Executive Director: Chris Spangle (cspangle@lpin.org)

### Office Space

LPIN has permanent office space in downtown Indianapolis at 156 E. Market Street Suite #405, Indianapolis, IN 46204.

### Paid Staff/Contractors

The Libertarian Party of Indiana uses the Executive Director model for staff organization and management. Chris Spangle is the current, full-time, paid Executive Director for LPIN.

LPIN also has interns but does not currently have any paid contractors.

## State Level Membership

LPIN has 349 national and state members. Its state level membership is defined by those who contribute $25 annually to the National LP.

## Sub-Affiliates

LPIN organizes its sub-affiliates by county. It currently has 47 active county parties and 45 inactive county parties (an increase of one active county party since the last report).

LPIN plans to have district-wide training and vetting meetings to find interested and qualified individuals to start up new county parties. Through the interest already expressed by new volunteers and the plan to hold these training/vetting meetings, LPIN expects to add 5 more counties as affiliates over the next few months.

## Elections

### Past Election Cycle (2012)

#### 2012 General election

In total, 35 Libertarians appeared on the ballot in Indiana.

On the Federal side, the ticket was led by Gary Johnson and Judge Jim Gray for President and Vice President, respectively. Andrew Horning represented the party in the race for United States Senate. Six candidates represented the party for U.S. Congress.

On the state level, the ticket was led by Survivor TV Star and philanthropist Rupert Boneham (pronounced “bone-em”) for Governor and Brad Klopfenstein served as his running mate for Lt. Governor. The LPIN was be represented by 14 candidates for State Senate and House.

On the local level, 10 candidates appeared on the ballot for the Libertarian party.

You can view the complete list of candidates at <http://lpin.org/candidates/>.

#### 2012 Indiana Debate Commission Included Libertarians in Televised Debates

Indiana’s three gubernatorial candidates appeared in three televised debates this fall through the Indiana Debate Commission. The IDC is made up of most of the major Indiana media outlets insuring consistent coverage of the three televised debates. US Senate candidate Andy Horning also participated in one televised debate this fall.

#### 2012 Raw Election Numbers Show Exciting Growth Over Last Four Years

<http://lpin.org/2012/11/08/raw-election-numbers-show-exciting-growth-over-last-four-years/>

Article by mwittlief Published: November 8, 2012

*(Numbers based on reporting by Clerks and the IED as of the evening of November, 8, 2012. Numbers and percentages will fluctuate slightly until results certified.)*

**US President**: Gov. Gary Johnson posted results just below 49k votes. This is a 68% increase over Barr in 2008 and a 172% increase over Badnarik in 2004. His percentage is coming in at 1.9% (Barr was 1.1% in 2008 while Badnarik pulled 0.7%).

**US Senate**: Andrew Horning received about 145k votes and 5.8%. His vote totals represent a 53% increase over Rebecca Sink-Burris in 2010. Sink-Burris did pull 5.4%, so presidential turnout did help Horning’s gross vote total. However, the last time the LPIN had a US Senate seat up in a presidential cycle was 2004 when Al Barger cleared just 27k votes (1.1%). Interestingly, Horning is just 24k votes short of Steve Osborn’s total in his 2-way race with Lugar in 2006.

**US House Races**: The LPIN’s five candidates combined for 59k votes which is a 25% increase over 2008 which was also a presidential cycle featuring five LP candidates on the ballot. The 59k is 25k short of the party’s gross vote record in 2010 when the LPIN filled the entire US House slate. Statewide, LP candidates achieved 2.4% of the total US House vote; that number goes up to 4.2% for just the contested races. This is down, however, from 4.8% in 2010. Rex Bell is the first LP Congressional candidate in Indiana to win four precincts in Wayne County and tied for first in one. Bell also won a precinct in Henry County.

**IN Governor**: Rupert Boneham has just cleared 100k with the latest totals which is good for 4.0%. This is a 75% increase over Andy in 2008, and a 217% increase over Kenn Gividen in 2004. The 4.0% nearly doubles Andy’s 2.1% in 2008 and is far better than the 1.3% of Gividen in 2004.

Results over the last Decade for Libertarians:

**US Senate**:

Hager 2000: 33,992; 1.6%
Barger 2004: 27,334; 1.1%
Osborn 2006: 168,820; 12.6% (2-way)
Sink-Burris 2010: 94,562; 5.4%
Horning 2012: 144,806; 5.8%

**Combined US House** (percentages include all 9 races in each year):

2002: 37,270; 2.4% (9 candidates)
2004: 35,470; 1.5% (7 candidates)
2006: 17,324; 1.0% (2 candidates)
2008: 47,306; 1.8% (5 candidates)
2010: 84,518; 4.8% (9 candidates)
2012: 59,088; 2.4% (5 candidates)

**Governor**:

Gividen 2004: 31,664; 1.3%
Horning 2008: 57,376; 2.1%
Boneham 2012: 100,335; 4.0%

**President**:

Badnarik 2004: 18,058; 0.7%
Barr 2008: 29,257; 1.1%
Johnson 2012: 49,194; 1.9%

**Auditor**:

Parisi 2002: 49,030; 3.4%
Knipe 2010: 78,098; 4.6%

**SOS**:

Sink-Burris 2002: 60,937; 4.1%
Kole 2006: 54,381; 3.3%
Wherry 2010: 100,847; 5.9%

**IN House 54**:

Bond 2004: 1194; 4.4% (3 way)
Bell 2006: 2775; 14.3% (3 way)
Bell 2008: 8374; 33.5% (2-way)
Bell 2010: 3846, 20.8% (3 way)
Morrell 2012: 5834; 26.9% (2-way)

### 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

Date and location still to be determined.

### Local Level Activities

UNKNOWN

## Finances & Fundraising

### Current Initiatives

#### Texas Hold'em Tournaments

LPIN is able to hold Texas Hold’em tournaments through the state's charity gaming license program. It is very successful in raising money with these annual events.

#### 1994 Society

This is the monthly pledge program and it brings in the majority of the income for the party.

#### License the Statewide Voter Registration

LPIN licenses the Statewide Voter Registration to several data companies for a good profit.

### Future Initiatives

UNKNOWN

## Media Coverage

* Rupert Boneham named one of the “Top five political superstars to watch this election season” in the Washington Times
	+ <http://communities.washingtontimes.com/neighborhood/making-waves-hawaii-perspective-washington-politic/2012/nov/2/top-five-personalities/>
* News & Tribune article: “Indiana’s third party sees progress beyond its wins”
	+ <http://newsandtribune.com/local/x1200641862/Indiana-s-third-party-sees-progress-beyond-its-wins>
* Indianapolis Business Journal article: “Libertarian presidential candidate stumps in Indiana”
	+ <http://www.ibj.com/libertarian-presidential-candidate-stumps-in-indiana/PARAMS/article/37449>

## 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



[www.LPKY.org](http://www.LPKY.org)

### Party Leadership Structure

Chair: Eric Cranley

Vice Chair: Actively seeking a new vice chair after the untimely death of the prior vice chair

Treasurer: Matthew Holder

### 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.

## 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.

There are currently 6 congressional districts in Kentucky, 2 of which have active LPKY affiliates, 3 which have LPKY groups in the development phase and 1 with no activity yet.

District 1 (southwest) is an example of a congressional district in the development phase and is very close to becoming an affiliate. It is currently led by someone interested in being the chair, who is actively recruiting other people to fill the other leadership positions.

District 4 (northern) has been a well-organized affiliate for several years now, and they have the first county party organized in the state – Boone Count.

Campbell County (Newport, Alexandria, etc.) has an organizational meeting in a few weeks, should be online by the end of the year.

## 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!

#### Craig Astor, US Congress 2nd District

Craig Astor achieved 1.74% of the vote with 4,914 votes, just slightly behind the Independent candidate in a 4-way race.

#### Harlen Compton, City Council

This was a partisan city council race, which is rare in KY. Mr. Compton projected that he could win with as few as 600 votes, and considering his long established ties in the community, he had a very strong chance of winning. While he did achieve 632 votes, this was not enough to put him into any of the winning seats.

### Current Election Cycle (2013 & 2014)

Nothing is planned for 2013 unless a 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.

### 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 will start filing state campaign finance reports to the state within the next several weeks. This gives LPKY the ability to donate to state campaigns on the same level as R’s and D’s, whereas today they have a much lower limit of how much the party can 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

#### Fancy Farm

This is an annual picnic at a church in south western KY, the largest political event in the state. Ken Moellman (state coordinator for the Johnson campaign) was able to speak at the event on behalf of Governor Johnson. There was media coverage at the event but the media paid most attention to the R’s and D’s – not much attention for Libertarians.

### Local Level Activities

#### Picnics

LPKY had several well-attended picnics around the state in 2012 which brought out a number of new people who are getting engaged in the party.

## Finances & Fundraising

### Recent Initiatives

2100 letters went out in July to registered Libertarians which asked for contributions, and which included petitions for letter recipients to sign and return in order to get Governor Johnson on the ballot. About 100-200 signatures came back in the mail with this effort, but unfortunately the donations were negligible.

### Current Initiatives

No current initiatives.

### Future Initiatives

None planned at this time.

## Media Coverage

Nothing recent

## 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 evaluating the Libertas platform from Big L Solutions.

## Other

### Voter Registration Issues: County Clerks Breaking the Law

LPKY continues to have trouble with the County Clerks offices around the state not properly registering Libertarian voters.

For years now, KY law has required that they record the party affiliation of anyone who checks "Other", and there are over a dozen counties that still have only “Independents,” "Other," and the two old parties listed in the voter rolls. LPKY knows of several cases in which someone attempted to register as a Libertarian but is still currently listed as “Other.”

…This issue will be ongoing for years to come.

Help Requested

LPKY has plans to move forward on this issue, but is curious if the LNC has any guidance or assistance to offer on getting the voter registration forms in KY converted to listing Libertarian as its own option.

# Libertarian Party of Michigan

## State Organization



[www.MichiganLP.org](http://www.MichiganLP.org)

### 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](http://test.michiganlp.org/mailinglist/view3.asp?email=mary.buzuma@att.net&cat=&p=1)
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.

### Paid Staff/Contractors

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

## State Level Membership

LP Michigan currently has 166 paid members with the state (an 8% increase since the last report) and 454 with national.

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

### Past Election Cycle (2012)

#### Johnson/Gray Campaign Assessment

Chairwoman Rockman-Moon thought that for all the fences that Gary Johnson’s campaign endured they did a fantastic job. Gary’s team was able to get his name out there even though he was not part of the main stream media.

Ms. Rockman-Moon personally helped the Michigan Rep for Gary by doing a mass mailing of signs and materials to over 30 other LP material distributors within Michigan.

#### LP Michigan Results

LP Michigan ran 50 candidates in the 2012 election cycle (not including top of ticket with Johnson/Gray as official write-in candidates). Their results are shown below.

The most notable result is State Rep candidate Michael J. Perry who received 13% of the vote in a 3-way race, achieving 4,843 votes.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Office** | **District** | **Candidate** | **Votes** | **Percent %** | **Reporting %** | **# of Candidates** |
| US Senate |  | Scotty Boman | 83,434 | 2.00% | 96 | 6 |
| Representative in Congress | District 01 | Emily Salvette | 10,917 | 3.00% | 100 | 4 |
| Representative in Congress  | District 02 | Mary Buzuma | 8,728 | 3.00% | 99 | 5 |
| Representative in Congress | District 03 | Bill Gelineau | 10,483 | 3.00% | 99 | 3 |
| Representative in Congress | District 04 | John Gelineau | 4,251 | 1.00% | 99 | 5 |
| Representative in Congress | District 05 | Greg Creswell | 4,764 | 2.00% | 99 | 4 |
| Representative in Congress | District 06 | Christie Gelineau | 6,182 | 2.00% | 97 | 4 |
| Representative in Congress | District 07 | Ken Proctor | 8,086 | 3.00% | 100 | 4 |
| Representative in Congress | District 08 | Daniel Goebel | 8,079 | 2.00% | 100 | 4 |
| Representative in Congress | District 09 | Jim Fulner | 6,100 | 2.00% | 100 | 5 |
| Representative in Congress | District 10 | Baghwan (Bob) Dashairya | 4,796 | 1.00% | 100 | 3 |
| Representative in Congress | District 11 | John J. Tatar | 9,309 | 3.00% | 100 | 5 |
| Representative in Congress | District 12 | Rick Secula | 9,297 | 3.00% | 99 | 3 |
| Representative in Congress | District 13 | Chris Sharer | 6,076 | 2.13% | 100 | 4 |
| Representative in Congress | District 14 | Leonard Schwartz | 3,874 | 1.00% | 94 | 4 |
| State Board of Education |  | Andy LeCureaux |  |  |  |  |
| University of Michigan Board of Regents |  | Gregory Scott Stempfle |  |  |  |  |
| University of Michigan Board of Regents |  | James Lewis Hudler |  |  |  |  |
| Michigan State University Board of Trustees |  | Michael H. Miller |  |  |  |  |
| State Representative | District 14 | Loel Gnadt 1076 3.17% 100 3 |  |  |  |  |
| State Representative | District 16 | Steve Boron | 1,039 | 3.00% | 100 | 4 |
| State Representative | District 18 | Dan Flamand | 1,223 | 3.00% | 100 | 3 |
| State Representative | District 26 | James Young | 1,636 | 4.00% | 100 | 3 |
| State Representative | District 27 | John M. Wierzbicki | 1,636 | 4.00% | 100 | 3 |
| State Representative | District 31 | James Miller | 1,742 | 4.00% | 100 | 3 |
| State Representative | District 40 | Stephen A. Burgis | 1,312 | 2.00% | 100 | 3 |
| State Representative | District 42 | James H. Lewis II | 1,828 | 4.00% | 100 | 3 |
| State Representative | District 44 | Scott W. Poquette | 1,901 | 4.00% | 100 | 3 |
| State Representative | District 47 | James Weeks II | 1,607 | 4.00% | 100 | 3 |
| State Representative | District 72 | William Robert Wenzel, III | 1,481 | 4.00% | 100 | 3 |
| State Representative | District 73 | Ronald Heeren | 1,537 | 3.00% | 100 | 4 |
| State Representative | District 76 | Pat Steinport | 1,362 | 3.00% | 100 | 5 |
| State Representative | District 77 | Larry Warner | 1,300 | 3.00% | 100 | 3 |
| State Representative | District 87 | Joseph P. Gillotte | 1,450 | 4.00% | 96 | 3 |
| State Representative | District 88 | Michael J. Perry | 4,843 | 13.00% | 100 | 3 |
| State Representative | District 91 | Nick Sundquist | 1,856 | 5.00% | 100 | 3 |
| Kent County, County Clerk |  | Jamie Lewis | 13,371 | 4.91% | 100 | 3 |
| Livingston County, County Commissioner | District 09 | John Hargenrader | 1,586 | 17.92% | 100 | 2 |
| Macomb County, Sheriff |  | Scott Allen | 12,708 | 3.37% | 100 | 3 |
| Meridian Township Trustee |  | Will Tyler White | 1,397 | 1.88% |  | 9 / 4 |
| Oakland County, County Commissioner | District 21 | Richard Gach | 2212 | 8.13% | 100 | 2 |
| Oakland County, Prosecuting Attorney |  | Steve Afton | 18,160 | 3.01% | 100 | 3 |
| Washtenaw County, Prosecuting Attorney |  | Justin M. Altman | 21032 | 14.52% | 100 | 2 |
| Wayne County, County Commissioner | District 11 | Keith Butkovich | 2,161 | 4.41% | 100 | 3 |
| Wayne County, Prosecutor |  | David Afton | 74564 | 10.31% | 100 | 2 |
| Wayne County, Register of Deeds |  | Ben Bachrach | 71767 | 10.49% | 100 | 2 |
| Wayne County, Treasurer |  | William Rushlow | 80383 | 11.57% | 100 | 2 |
| Ypsilanti Township Trustee |  | Lawrence W Johnson | 3422 | 4.51% | 100 | 5 / 4 |
| Justice of the Supreme Court |  | Kerry L Morgan | 257,821 | 4% | 96 | 7 / 2 |
| Justice of the Supreme Court |  | Robert W Roddis | 177,997 | 3% | 96 | 7 / 2 |

### 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.

## 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

#### 2013 State Convention

A decision was made not to have a Region 3 Convention in place of individual state conventions, so Michigan is moving forward with its own convention planning.

Chairwoman Rockman-Moon is organizing a Convention Planning Committee in the hopes that having a team in place rather than one point person will provide greater success and less burnout in the convention planning process. This team will be formed by the end of December and will be tasked with securing a venue by the end of January with a planned convention date in June or July of 2013.

#### Detroit Contemporary Political Art Display

LP Michigan recently had a large interactive display at Detroit Contemporary, a division of the Contemporary Art Institute of Detroit. The display was focused around political posters for the 2012 election and it was open to the public Nov 2, 2012 – Nov 9, 2012 with performances and discussions centered on the election.

Attn: KT Andresky Political Art
Detroit Contemporary
5141 Rosa Parks Blvd
Detroit, MI 48213

### Local Level Activities

#### Sign Bombing

Local leaders coordinated to place 500+ Gary Johnson yard signs around the state in one day.

#### Protest in Brighton

Local affiliates held a protest in Brighton, MI when one of the local candidates was excluded from a forum. They had about 30 supporters show up for the protest.

#### Liberty Fest

Liberty Fest is an annual event in LP Michigan which is held by a different local affiliate each year. The purpose is to recognize dedicated members of LP Michigan. The event includes an award presentation for a Promoter of Liberty, a Defender of Liberty, and a Behind the Scenes Liberty Activist. This is a chance for LP Michigan leaders to congratulate and express their gratitude for the hardest working and most successful members and celebrate recent LP Michigan successes.

## Finances & Fundraising

### Past Initiatives

LP Michigan collected donations for the infamous Gary Johnson lawsuit against the state of Michigan for excluding him from the ballot for filing paperwork 3 minutes late.

LP Michigan collected donation for 3 billboards which were placed around the state, each with a “Vote Libertarian” message with LP Michigan logo on them.

### Current Initiatives

None active

### Future Initiatives

None planned currently

## Media Coverage

LP Michigan candidates and court cases made the news many times during the November 2012 election cycle.

Candidate Bill Gelineau:

http://abcnews.go.com/blogs/politics/2012/11/meet-the-gelineaus-michigans-libertarian-family-slate/

Candidate Nick Sundquist:

<http://video.mountainlake.org/video/2293836727>
<http://michigan.onpolitix.com/news/162679/profile-nick-sundquist>
<http://www.wzzm13.com/video/default.aspx?bctid=1918316249001>

Candidate Scotty Bowman:

<http://www.gravispolls.com/2012/10/michigan-senate-poll.html>

Candidates Steve & David Afton:

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20121025/METRO/210250370/1409/metro/From-politics-professional-careers-brothers-share-ambition>

## 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 evaluating multiple new web and database platform options with a target decision date of Dec 15, 2012.

## Other

### Legal Actions

The LPM LEC filed two lawsuits (in East and West Michigan) which were both appealed and dismissed repeatedly.

Ultimately, Gary Johnson was an official write-in candidate for president in Michigan.

Michigan was one of only two states in which Governor Johnson’s name did not appear on the ballot; Oklahoma being the other state which did not even allow him as a write-in candidate.

### 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



[www.LPO.org](http://www.LPO.org)

### Party Leadership Structure

#### Elected Positions

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

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

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. With this approach, no one person needs to know or be responsible for too many different activities.

The divisions and appointed leaders are as follows:

* Communication Division – Director Aaron Harris, Deputy Director John Fockler, Social Media Coordinator TBD
* Field Development Division – Director Brad Lowry, Deputy Director Jason Tyson
	+ 9 regional liaison positions available (5 currently filled)
* Finance Division – Director Jillian A. Mack
* 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, etc.

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| State Level MembershipIn 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). |

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| 2010-2012 Membership Changes |
| * State membership up 30%
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| Sub-AffiliatesOhio 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 12 official county affiliates and 5 CDG’s. This is a significant increase from 2008 when the LPO only had 2 official county affiliates and 5 CDG’s.  |

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| 2008-2012 Sub-Affiliate Changes |
| * County Affiliates up 600%
* Total Active counties Up 230%
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| ElectionsPast Election Cycle (2012)There were 23 LP candidates on the Ohio ballot in 2012. The LPO’s goal is to exceed the previous cycle (4 year) each time.2012 Presidential nominee Governor Gary Johnson came to Ohio 4 times:* March 2012 Ohio LP Convention Fri-Sun
* June 2012 to Columbus Ohio Tea Party event and two fundraisers
* October 2012 to speaking events at University of Cincinnati and Centerville High School
* November 2012 to speaking events at BeaverCreek High School, Bowling Green, and Streetsboro.

Post nomination: 3 trips and 8 locationsVs. 2008 with Bob Barr: 5 trips or 3 locationsThe 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.  |

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| 2008-2012 Candidate Stats |
| * Number of candidates Up 230%
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## 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

Just after the November 2012 election, LPO Chairman Knedler instructed Political Director Bob Bridges to get a directive issued from the SOS within the next couple of months, 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).

Before the middle of 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

#### 2nd Team Building Event: LPO Field Development & GJ2012 Ohio

In August, the LPO held a 2nd coordination / team-building event between LPO leaders and the GJ2012 team. There were about 20 people in attendance at the second event which continued its focus on understanding LPO organization structure, GJ2012 campaign structure, the tools available from the LPO, and how the GJ2012 team can request and obtain assistance form the LPO. This was another very successful effort similar to the 1st event.

#### Governor Gary Johnson Visted Ohio Two more Times

Governor Gary Johnson visited Ohio in October of 2012 and November of 2012.

Gov. Johnson spoke at events at the University of Cincinnati and Centerville High School in October with record crowds.

Those previous record crowds were shattered in November of 2012 when Gov. Johnson spoke at Beaver Creek High School to over 600 participants, at a community event in Bowling Green to over 200 attendees and countless media outlets/interviews, and at a community event in Streetsboro with over 720 attendees and crazed fans who discovered the location of his hotel and showed up all day trying to meet him and get his autograph. The consensus was that Gov. Johnson had officially reached “rockstar” status in Ohio!

#### Annual LPO Picnic

The LPO held its annual picnic on July 28th at the Tiller Lane complex (where its offices are located). The picnic was family friendly with plenty of food and drink, and featured the always popular fundraiser, “pie in the face of your favorite LPO leader.” The LPO also used a “dunk tank for your LPO leaders” as a new fundraiser which also proved financially successful. The event had a net income of about $1,100 including attendance fees, games, and goods sold.

### Local Level Activities

#### County Fairs

The local affiliates had a presence at 5 county fairs (at least), all with very good attendance and successful outreach for new volunteers.

#### Upcoming Training and Team Building

The LPO plans to ramp up its local and regional team meetings with training and team building to continue the upward trend in county affiliate formation and local activism.

## Finances & Fundraising

The LPO is in a strong financial position again this year, and is undertaking a new initiative to specifically target potential high-dollar contributors. Finance Director Jillian A. Mack is heading up this project and will report on the successes and failures of the endeavor once the campaign is complete.

Phone banking is currently going on in Ohio with 2-3 active phone bank workers making calls on a daily basis to registered Libertarians in the state, raising voter awareness of LPO activities, trying to get voters engaged in the LPO or in local affiliates, and asking for donations.

## Media Coverage

LPO leaders, Governor Gary Johnson, and Judge Jim Gray have been featured guests on a number of radio shows and TV newscasts throughout the state in the past several months. Based on the incomplete list of media coverage below, the LPO is proving that it is learning how to arrange media coverage for big events in Ohio.

* Columbus radio host Brian Wilson had Gov. Johnson on his show 5 times and Judge Gray on 1 or 2 times (WSPD).
* The LPO ran radio commercials in Columbus, Lima, and Cincinnati to promote the LPO and local candidates.
* LPO IT Director / Warren County Chair Scott Pettigrew sat on a televised panel with local Fox News host Ben Swann. The panel was a Q&A session for undecided voters who were able to ask questions of a representative of the Libertarian Party, the Democratic Party, and the Republican Party of Ohio.
	+ <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EHpvqH4Ckr8&feature=g-upl>
* NorthwestOhio.com: “Libertarian candidate Gary Johnson speaks in Bowling Green”
	+ <http://www.northwestohio.com/news/story.aspx?id=820870#.UKLJ34fuXng>
* HudsonHubTimes.com: “Libertarian presidential nominee Gary Johnson to visit Streetsboro”
	+ <http://www.hudsonhubtimes.com/news/article/5224619>
* Boston.com: “Gary Johnson's Closing Statement In Ohio”
	+ <http://boston.com/community/blogs/less_is_more/2012/11/gary_johnsons_closing_statemen.html>
* The Review Online: “President Obama, Bill Clinton set Ohio stop”
	+ <http://www.reviewonline.com/page/content.detail/id/262444/President-Obama--Bill-Clinton-set-Ohio-stop.html?isap=1&nav=5038>
* TheGatewayNews.com: “Libertarian Presidential hopeful Gary Johnson shares vision for country in Streetsboro”
	+ <http://www.thegatewaynews.com/news/slideshow/5226460>
* World News on RFI: “Interview with the Libertarian presidential candidate Gary Johnson”
	+ <http://www.english.rfi.fr/americas/20121103-interview-libertarian-presidential-candidate-gary-johnson>
* Toledo Blade: “Libertarian campaigns to 150 at Bowling Green nightclub”
	+ <http://www.toledoblade.com/Politics/2012/11/03/Libertarian-campaigns-to-150-at-Bowling-Green-nightclub.html>
* Toledo Free Press: “Libertarian candidate Johnson speaks in Bowling Green”
	+ <http://www.toledofreepress.com/2012/11/02/libertarian-candidate-johnson-speaks-in-bowling-green/>
* Examiner.com: “Libertarian presidential candidate visits the swing state of Ohio tomorrow”
	+ <http://www.examiner.com/article/libertarian-presidential-candidate-visits-the-swing-state-of-ohio-tomorrow>

## Information Technology

The LPO is evaluating a number of IT platform options to upgrade their website and database. A platform decision is expected before the end of 2012 with implementation expected in early 2013.

## Other

Chairman Knedler is a strong advocate for national budget dollars to be allocated to rebuilding the Libertarian Party Brand/Image, Affiliate Support, and IT. A summary of his points can be found below, but Appendix A is a direct message from him to the LNC regarding these and other critical points about the actions and future direction of the LNC.

### 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.

## Appendix A: Message to the LNC from Ohio Chairman Knedler

A message to the Libertarian National Committee, November 2012

From: Kevin Knedler, Ohio LP Executive Committee Chair; former member of the LNC 2010 thru 2012; and winner of the Samuel Adams Award in 2010.

I write this as a result of seeing recent emails on the state chairs list, seeing the recent comments from the national office on campaigns in both Indiana and Ohio, plus a post-election story about Gary Johnson on IPR.

WHERE is the LIBERTARIAN PARTY in 2016?

FOCUS and BUDGET MONEY NOW

* Rebuild the Libertarian Party BRAND and improve COMMUNICATION
	+ The message stays principled and the message is fine
	+ We need the LP Brand to be repackaged
	+ We need a marketing plan
	+ We need consumer focus groups
	+ We need to market ourselves to Generation Y Millennials and younger
	+ We need the LP to be “cool” and “hip” to voters OUTSIDE of the LP
	+ We need the LP National office totally onboard with this
	+ We need to consider hiring a professional marketing team or find talent inside the LP
* We need IT development NOW
	+ Same issue I pushed back in 2011
	+ Very frustrated with all the drama and posturing
	+ A national platform available for states to use and interface with national
	+ Get out of the 20th century and into the 21st century
* Affiliate Support is critical for the states to succeed
	+ Agree that many states don’t have leadership and organization in place to succeed for Federal candidates and LP POTUS team
	+ Build a field team and put them in the regions and states
	+ Training on LEADERSHIP, BUILDING ORGANIZATIONS
	+ Training on IT, DATABASE, SOCIAL MEDIA, FUNDRAISING
	+ Make training available online
	+ We go outside and hire professionals or find talent inside the LP
* Fundraising
	+ Create a vision and direction the national party wants to go
	+ Target projects for the future and again present a marketing plan
	+ If we need a building fund, PLEASE agree to a price range we want and then AGREE to a set amount of money we have in the bank, BEFORE we even start to look. I would rather prefer this approach to setting calendar deadlines
	+ PLEASE implement the new contribution levels that were approved in 2011. No more excuses
* The LNC and staff
	+ Accept that the LNC does not have all the answers via the Board Members
	+ But, they have the ability to secure talent AND funding
	+ Need to change the culture NOW and get with building a plan and vision
	+ Set goals and expectations, and measure results of LP staff
	+ No more talk about the LP being a “spoiler”. Please, we EARN votes
	+ More talk about Roberts Rules and the “paper shuffle” at LNC meetings does nothing to drive the LP Brand—NOTHING
	+ It reminds me of the hamster on the spinning wheel in the cage. All that energy is used but at the end of the day the hamster is still in the same place
* If the LP does not get with it and address the above, I will make some predictions:
	+ The LP will continue to be irrelevant in the minds of most voters in the USA
	+ The LP will NOT attract or retain top-level candidates. IE: Gary Johnson
	+ The LP will be REPLACED by a new alternative party that appeals to the mainstream voters of America—the middle of America which is fiscally responsible and socially accepting
	+ The LP might continue but would not grow and could wither and die
* So, where will the LP be in 2016?
* Will it be like that hamster?
* Or worse, will it be like the dinosaurs that didn’t adapt to a changing environment?
* Time to get serious